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MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1950

'I Agree With You 100 Per Cent'

Genius Needed To Plan For Total Diplomacy's Economy

By STEWART ALSOP

ACHESON'S CRITICS

DIPPING here and there into one of the know-it-all tell-it-all Washington 'News Letters' the other day, we ran across this paragraph:
'Acheson is honest and in most matters he is entirely competent. Trouble with him is that his high-brow, intellectual, lacks common touch, also horse sense. His popping out on this was just a big dim/pumper.'

Acheson's blunder. This particular news letter pulled one of the biggest blunders of the century last year. It not only confidently predicted Dewey's election, but had prepared a special booklet telling U. S. businessmen what to expect from the Dewey Administration. Advertisements plugging that booklet ran in national magazines a couple of days after Truman's re-election was assured—and the motive behind its publication, we are confident, were somewhat less unselfish and less Christian than those which prompted Acheson's remarks about Hiss.

SECRETS ON CAPITOL HILL

HOW MUCH of the affairs of government should be kept secret and how much should be released to the public? How long may the Government keep a secret about foreign policy, a policy affecting the lives of us all?

We would pass this up as unworthy of editorial comment were it not so typical of the continuing campaign of insinuation and innuendo against Secretary of State Acheson, a campaign carried on by people who are intellectually and politically his inferiors and who neither understand nor want to participate in a sincere and lofty effort to repair the damages of a shattered world while guarding it against Communism.

Peoples Platform

TO OBTAIN the Q.M. Depot is a wise move. May I turn to a centralized truckers' depot?

Reston indicates two reasons for the Washington secret:
(1) Acheson and other officials are just plain ornery about reporters, think the press would rather have the story first than hear it.

'The Government of course must protect its right to private discussions and private negotiations. The consequences of premature disclosure in certain cases would be serious.
'But the people have to be adequately informed in a democracy in spite of all these problems, and the Government is not doing what it ought to do to keep informed the people. These complex problems become, the more dangerous they become, the more they must be explained to the people, but the opposite procedure now prevails.'

There is no answer in the back of the book for this question; it cannot be solved with a map of the world. There is too much truth on each side.
Yet, as members of the public, we do feel quite helpless in the shaping of our own destinies. If there is to be war, the people will not have had their say about it. War, if it comes, to use our words before Congress has a chance to consider it. The decisions now being made in Washington are in secret, and the decisions which will mean war or no war, and the most important of recent decisions—the go-ahead on hydrogen bomb construction—did not only not get to the people. This is not a happy time for freedom. A democratic government, responsible to the people, is a bulky government compared to the spindly, authoritarian of the Communist dictatorship. But it is still a democratic government, responsible to the people; it will require the active and informed interest of the people to keep it democratic.

LAUGH AND THE WORLD LAUGHS

NEW YORK — A group of College of the City of New York students have organized The Laughter Society. They meet each day at 10 or 11 a.m. and each other in a circle. Then they sit and look at each other for a while. Comes the first laugh and they're off.
—News Item

It seems to me. If public opinion is to remain anything but the power of protest: after the reporter has to move into action much earlier in the development of policy than he does. The State Department would like to keep him out of the picture and the backs of an agreement is reached with other countries and the tentative agreement is sent

MAN OF THE SEAS

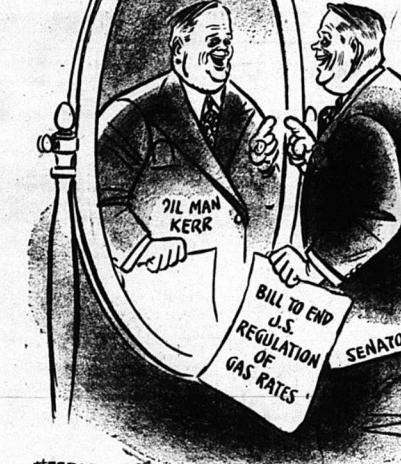
THE LATE O. MAX Gardner made many wise and generous contributions in his life. One of them, the annual O. Max Gardner Award, which accompanies the Dr. Robert E. Coker, best typifies Max Gardner's progressive spirit and his unswerving devotion to North Carolina. It recognizes "that member of the faculty of the Consolidated University, who, during the current scholastic year, has made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race."

MAN OF THE SEAS

AND priceless investigations into the unappreciated treasure of the ocean. A paragraph in the city edition which accompanies the Gardner Award sheds interesting light on this activity:
Challenged by the basic facts that the sea covers 70 per cent of the surface of the earth, that 90 per cent of the world's population lives within 50 miles of the sea, and that the sea contains about 25 per cent as much tonnage of living matter as an average square mile of land, the man gets lost in the sea. Dr. Coker has crusaded for the sea, for the understanding of the population, the method of the distribution of the products of the seas.

MAN OF THE SEAS

There is more talk about getting the Red out of the government than there is about getting it out of the Red.
—Pittsburg (Tex.) Gazette.
Baseball fans will soon begin to read the morning newspapers again—Columbia (Miss.) Courier.



Needed: A Truckers Depot

Editors, The News:
I HAVE been reading in The News that 50 or more Charlottians have requested parole for James P. Elliott, which is all right, but I don't see anything about the issue of Kimbro. It seems he deserves a chance as well as Elliott; I would like them both to be paroled. I would like this letter published to see how many others feel the same way.
—HARVEY THREATT.

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How About Kimbro?

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Forget The H-Bomb!

Editors, The News:
THE American people and the world are long overdue for a change in the direction of their government. Never in all the history of the world since creation has the people been deceived and misled such as they are today.

Selling Isopon

Editors, The News:
I WONDER who you think of a city that makes it legal to sell a habit forming drug for revenue from has to build a hospital to take care of the addicts.

State Dept. Frowns On Peace Promotion

Tragedy is that instead of leadership, they sometimes give us a bunch of young men and women. Last year, for instance, the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Charlotte, W. Va., worked out a plan to bring to the attention of the State Dept. a group of young men, including Iron Curtain curators, and give them combined work and training in West Virginia. Various anti-Communist employers were delighted that they, with friends, and the young men were even picked for the trip.

Lossing Our Freedom

Editors, The News:
IS America losing its freedom? No politician ever stands before the public and with plain language tells his listeners that he is trying his level best to take their freedom from them. If he can accomplish in this manner, his chances of being elected would be nil.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

A DELUGE of mail has poured into this office lately on a similar idea on how to win peace. This mail highlights one of the most important problems of the world, but is so largely neglected—how to mobilize the energy of millions of Americans behind the peace goal of peace.

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Marshall Plan Of Ideas

UNDOUBTEDLY this has been the stream of peace ideas which has deluged this writer since a brief mention, one week ago, that we set up a Marshall Plan of ideas to win the peace.

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WASHINGTON
IF PRESIDENT TRUMAN approves a proposal which has been advanced to him, the help of American sign will not be out for a moment. It will require a genius to fill the shoes of the late Secretary of State Acheson's doctrine of "total diplomacy."

WASHINGTON
The scope of the task envisaged in this plan is downright breathtaking. The new organization would be charged with evolving a coherent over-all world economic policy. To gain acceptance for the new policy, a non-political economic commission like the pre-Marshall plan Harriman commission may be appointed—a step which was approved months ago by Acheson and approved by the State Dept. Hoffman, but which has since been smothered in the usual red tape.

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