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The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON
AS President Truman and Secretary of State Byrnes prepare for the Big Three conference, significant light can now be thrown on an extremely important phase of our foreign relations—the Russian-Soviet Russia, which still remains the most important question facing the Berlin treaty.



One of the chief criticisms we have made of the Russians is that they have not lived up to the Yalta agreement. Among other things U. S. and British diplomats have claimed that the Russians established the Renner Government in Austria, and have been feeding out anti-Soviet stores at San Francisco, dropped word to the press that the Russians had taken the bit in their teeth and set up Karl Renner, former Socialist leader, as the new Chancellor of Austria—without consulting us.

Significant British Note

The highly significant British document follows: "Soviet Government has informed us through His Majesty's charge d'affaires in Moscow that they have been approached by Karl Renner, ex-Chancellor of Austria Republic and last President of Free Austrian Council, with suggestion that he be allowed to form provisional Austrian government, to consist of representatives of all Austrian political parties.

"From what we know of Renner so far we have no particular objection to him. At proper time he might, apart from his age, be a good candidate for leadership of Austrian Provisional Government."

The Nine Old Men

Reassignment of Justice Owen D. Roberts from the Supreme Court has caused speculation among court insiders as to its effect upon Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone.

But under the Roberts influence, Stone's opinions have changed. The Chief Justice sees much less of the Democratic Justices, even though Justice William O. Douglas was once his student at Columbia.

Capitol Chaff

Congratulations to the St. Louis Star-Times on its exposure of the Fascist-minded "eleventh hour" which claimed that German atrocity pictures were fakes.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Some of the women in the club like to loaf—if they start conversing how many war bonds they have, just say we've got them stacked all over the house!"

Sacrifice Of Science By Marquis Childs

NEAR the top of the honors list in this war is the Office of Scientific Research and Development, headed by Vannevar Bush.

But now an extraordinarily stupid thing is happening. With the war in a new phase, OSRD is being asked to do more and more tests and laboratory projects.

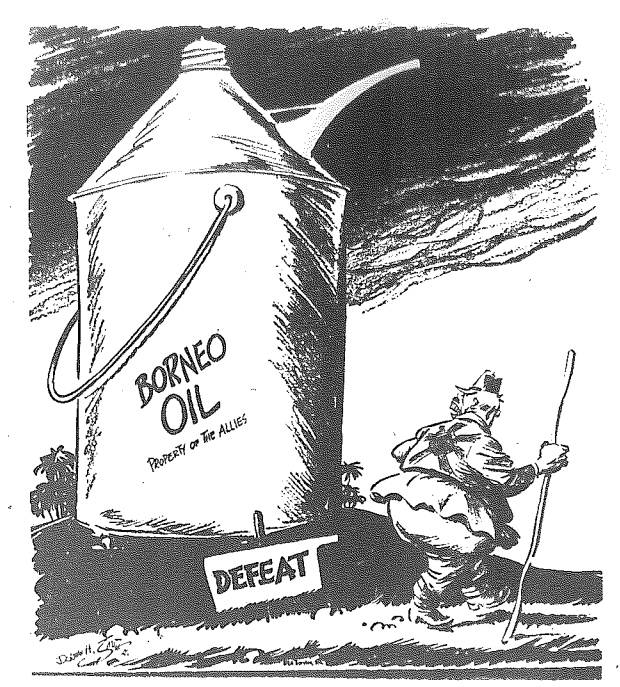
But this great national asset is frittered away. We are all aware of the fact that the OSRD is one of our great national assets. It would be hard to measure it in terms of gold or of dollars.

Same Old France By Dorothy Thompson

THE French expression "Paris greater than the city" has long been a truism. It is a truism because Paris is a city of a city.

France is a weak country, not a strong one. It has been weakened by the German invasion and the loss of its colonies. It has been weakened by the loss of its industrial base and its scientific resources.

Another Marker Along The Road



The Heat On Hirohito By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK
I'ME proposed that we should promise to keep Hirohito on the throne of Japan, to abrogate the war, to help keep order afterward, is certainly an unlaudable one.

A Boomerang

Only a few weeks ago the Office of Price Administration brought cheer to millions of motorists with the news that the value of a gasoline coupon was to be doubled, and the amount of gas available on B and C coupons greatly increased.

Brave Man

Judge Vinson, the new Secretary of the Treasury, must be a brave, not say intrepid man. We hope he is, at any rate, for the job he has taken over isn't one for a fellow who seizes easily.

When Judge Vinson scans his daily balance sheets he sees there a figure which isn't even in the arithmetic books. This figure reaches over into the thousands of millions of dollars, which is to say over into the uncalculable.

But we suspect those were few. Everyone knows, OPA least of all, that people wouldn't be buying this extra gasoline if they didn't have the coupons and everyone knows who gave them the coupons.

The Refugees

A recent Army survey reveals that 35 per cent of the white Southerners in uniform do not intend to return to the South after the war. That's not good, and now that they're buying and breaking every quota in sight, they're wondering just what OPA expected, anyhow.

Invasion Now?

More than once our fiercest fighting men have come to grief with their predictions of the war's end, and their estimates of the strength of the enemy. There were bad guesses in Germany, and there have been bad ones here.

Statesmen At Work

THE House was debating the matter of President Truman's temporary disability. Mr. LEWIS (Iowa) introduced a resolution that the President should be declared temporarily disabled if he is unable to perform the duties of his office for a period of 30 days.

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