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'Peace Offensive' Goes On

STALIN'S REPLY to Wallace's 'open letter' on the question of a Russian-American settlement strengthens the impression that the Soviet's gestures toward peace may be a part of a propaganda campaign, a new phase in the diplomatic and ideological competition between the two big powers.

In quickly answering Wallace's letter, the Soviet Premier goes over the head of President Truman to speak to the American people. He hardly expects that this conspicuous recognition of Mr. Truman's political rival would inspire more White House confidence in the master of the Kremlin.

The letters will also be widely regarded as propaganda designed to portray Russia before the world as the peace-seeker and the United States as the obstructor of a settlement. This aspect of the current diplomatic struggle for peace talks is discussed in alarming accents by Sumner Welles, former Undersecretary of State, in an article appearing in adjoining columns.

GOP Exploits Red Hunt

STASSEN and Dewey, in their radio debate Monday night on the question of outlawing the Communist Party, succeeded mostly in proving that the Republican Party is directing America along a mistaken and dangerous course in its big Red hunt.

By our scoring system, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey won the first fall with showing that the proposal to outlaw a political party is unconstitutional and undemocratic, and that driving the Communists underground simply increases revolution-

Stassen threw Dewey in the second clutch when he made the point that the Republican Congress right now is engaged in an operation to outlaw the Communist Party with a measure known as the Mundt Bill. The New York Governor tried to squirm out of this one, but the former Minnesota Governor had a hammer lock on him and won handily. As he said, the Mundt bill would go even farther than Stassen's own proposal to outlaw the Communist Party.

The Mundt bill would make a potential outlaw not only of Communists but also of

enough that we should proceed with extreme caution at every step in this strange approach to "peace" and accept nothing at face value. However, the Welles article also has some of the aspects of propaganda, or of counter-propaganda against the Russian peace offensive. His evidence of Soviet intentions may be exaggerated by suspicion and fear. None of the Welles article is derived entirely but we should have something more in the way of absolute proof that the Russians are engaged in an elaborate deception before we abandon the hope for rapprochement.

Any attempt on our part to negotiate an over-all settlement before the Politburo knows that American rearmament has been placed would be a fatal mistake," Mr. Welles writes. That is a sound point which none will dispute.

"The Soviet Government will only conclude the kind of a settlement that can make for lasting peace when it has become convinced that the strength and tenacity of the West are equal to its own," the Undersecretary adds.

A significant fact is that there already is much about the situation which supports the thought that Russia now is "convinced that the strength and the tenacity of the West are equal to its own," and that's why Stassen is so confident for peace talks. It is worth noting that his letter to Wallace reads like a direct response to recent statements by Secretary Marshall in which the Soviet dictator asserts that he shares our Secretary of State's view that "different economic and ideological systems can co-exist peacefully in the same world."

At any rate, it seems too early to call off this exciting diplomatic game.

so-called fleep-travelers. It provides powers so sweeping that it could be used to drive trade union members and liberals underground too.

Both Presidential candidates questioned the constitutionality of certain features of the Mundt bill but Dewey straddled when challenged to give a clear-cut indorsement of the measure. He went down insisting that it would not outlaw the Communists, a position he had to take to avoid repudiating the House Un-American Activities Committee, which sponsored this measure. That left him considerably short of a firm stand on the principle which he had so eloquently expounded of fighting Communism by the use of democratic means instead of totalitarian clubs.

The great match ended as a draw when both wranglers knocked themselves out in the third fall while trying unsuccessfully to prove that the Communist internal menace to America is big enough to justify all the excitement and fear which the Republicans have worked up over it. However, the interest in the show provided impressive evidence that the Red scare is contributing mightily to the political aggrandizement of the GOP.

Who Murdered George Polk?

A GREEK Government spokesman declares that it is "1000 per cent certain" that Communists murdered George Polk, American correspondent whose body was found in Salonika Bay three days ago. That statement, made while an official investigation of the mysterious slaying was being undertaken by the Greek Government, was at least 900 per cent too much about the crime or nothing at all. It also indicates they are more interested in making political propaganda than in solving the murder.

Polk, Columbia Broadcasting System correspondent in the Middle East for two years, was reported to have told friends that he was seeking an interview with a Communist Greek Guerrilla leader shortly before he disappeared. Such an assignment would have exposed him to danger but not, it is believed, to murder. The Greek Government also could have made him the object of attack by rightist terrorists who object to giving publicity to the guerrilla version of the struggle in the Balkans.

From The Rocky Mount Telegram

'Dixiecrats'

CREDIT The Charlotte News with a new expression which is so catchy that it may stick. It's "Dixiecrats" and it applies to that group of Democrats fighting against President Truman and his civil rights program. After the news, like other papers, had struggled along with such phrases as "States Rights Democrats," "Dixie Democrats," "Southern Democrats," and other long titles, the inevitable "Dixiecrats" occurred.

the reactionary character of the Greek regime, the inefficient administration and black market operations. But like the most persistent reports that the Greeks have used various forms of pressure, including attempted intimidation, in an effort to influence American news-journalists to write stories that would create a favorable impression abroad for the Athens regime. In these circumstances, the Greek Government allows intolerable suspicions to exist when it aims its investigation of the Red murder exclusively at the Communists.

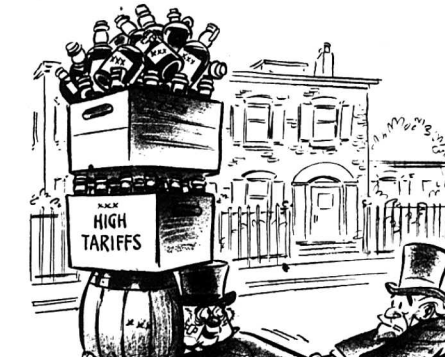
This bold and fearless American reporter, George Polk, told the unpleasant facts about the Communists and the Greek reactionaries. Long before his death, Polk's dispatches and the reports of other correspondents had made it all too clear that our Greek ally is ruled by an authoritarian regime which has pronounced corrupt and terroristic features. The shock created by this murder should bring action for a democratic house-cleaning in Athens at the expense of the United States. The Greek Government are taking energetic steps to clear up the mystery and bring the criminals to justice.

styles and sizes of type and each must be considered by the headline-writer who must strive to find not only words that will fit a specific spot, but also words that convey the proper meaning.

Headline-writers grow greayer when they run upon an important public official for a long and unwieldy name because they know they're going to have trouble fitting the name into the headlines. The Roosevelt Administration saw a great avalanche of abbreviations of names and titles and the abbreviations of the various Federal bureaus to the shorthanded "FDR" for the Chief Executive.

So "Dixiecrats" will mean, if adopted, fewer headaches for the unsung hero who writes the heads. In addition, it's a good term, too.

'I Won't Touch It Again—I Just Want Some On Hand'



HIGH TARIFFS
GOP OLD GUARD

Backfire On Peace Feelers

Rumors Revive Fear Of Soviet

BY SUMNER WELLES
Former Undersecretary of State
NERVOUSNESS and uneasiness in Western Europe. Molotov's success in making it appear that the Soviet Union is willing, and the United States reluctant, to negotiate a settlement is merely one phase in a cleverly executed war of nerves.

The uneasy confusion of the moment is the outbreak of the period between Munich and the outbreak of the second World War.

While many correspondents report an apparent abatement there, as in reality states of intensified Soviet activity in every part of Europe, in Asia and the Near East, and in the Americas.

The Kremlin's immediate purpose is the conversion of the Black Sea into a Russian lake. The next, step toward this traditional Russian objective will be a "request" by Rominia and Bulgaria for incorporation within the Union Soviet Socialist Republics.

These recent instances of a speeding-up process are evidence that tends to confirm the reports of flooding credit in the West.

IT LOOKS AS IF the nation's gas bill will be boosted after all. After first taking a defeat the gas lobby by a vote in the parliamentary desk-of-hand, later secured a victory when every housewife using natural gas.

Joseph Alsop
Oregon: The Men
further innovations unless I have to. This credo, scorred by fools, is a kind of a credo of classic conservatism, without which democratic politics could not be carried out. In foreign politics this approach is much the same—to do better, more rapidly and more firmly just as things now being done.

There is precious little love lost between the rivals in the great struggle for the Oregon throne. Dewey and Harold E. Stassen are fighting each other here for political supremacy. Each is a sharp elitist. Each has mobilized his chassis operatives and thrown in paintfully in the background.

REPRESENT GOP FUTURE
In prospects as well as in age, therefore, these two matter-would may be taken as standing for the Republican Party of the future.

MOLOTOV'S announcement of his willingness to begin a discussion and settlement of differences existing between Russia and the United States is added proof that the Kremlin has studied the tactics so successfully employed by Hitler during the years 1932-1939.

THE murder of George Polk, of the Columbia Broadcasting System, in Greece is like a sudden lightning flash which has lit up a sphere of that troubled country.

THE People's Platform
Editorial Logic
MONROE
NOTICED an editorial in The News May 9 that should be first 200 words, approximately editorial. It is well-written. It was due respect to the character of the news and it arrives at its conclusion by indisputable logic.

THE People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be sent to Ed Martin, Republican Chairman, 1000 Main Street, Portland, Ore. You gave me your word this morning!

PARLIAMENTARY TRICKS
WHITE asked that Buchanan "shouldn't be opposed on political grounds" whereupon Brewster came back with a rather parliamentary trick—a motion proxies.

ROOFTOP TOOTIN' RANKIN
MISSISSIPPI'S unformed belief. Rep John Rankin, was looking at a statue of Gen. U. S. Grant the other day in the Capitol's Hall of Fame.

RIGHT-WING APPEAL
The other men who have watched Stassen for a long time believe that he is making these appeals to the Republican right-wing in the spirit of Henry IV of France, who accepted conversion with the Roman Catholic faith to save his life in Mass. But it cost the Frenchman nothing to have one man if he is more than one can estimate, if he is more than one can estimate, if he is more than one can estimate.

Marquis Childs
Murder-In Greece
WASHINGTON
The murder of George Polk, of the Columbia Broadcasting System, in Greece is like a sudden lightning flash which has lit up a sphere of that troubled country.

PROTEST REJECTED
Dendramis' protest was politely rejected by Polk in his capacity as president. It was forwarded to Polk in Athens, who considered it a more or less important matter to bring about his discharge. Davidson Taylor, vice-president of the CBS, has expressed his confidence in Polk's leadership.

KEPT EYE ON STORY
The news behind the surface of the story, he was not content to take the news as it came. He had a keen eye on the whole situation. In the midst of the intrigues of Athens, he kept his eyes on the main thing. He had an American people the whole story regardless of who might be hurt or offended.

NO STEEL FOR VET PANTS
WAB veterans got another kick in the pants the other day when 23 vice-presidents of steel companies voted the resolution that they would not buy steel from the government.

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