

60th Anniversary Year

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U. S. Overture To Russia

IN THE MARSHALL and Austin statements before Congress this week on the question of revision of the United Nations, we have seen indications of a new foreign policy toward Russia which has undergone an important modification and the groundwork is being carefully laid for some sort of an understanding between the two big powers.

First, the emphasis of both declarations is entirely on co-operation, preservation of the United Nations, a rational "balance of power" in the world and rather than the anti-Communism and ideological differences.

Second, there is a definite assurance that the American Government regards a settlement of a settlement and accepts these overtures and what is impossible in the relationship between the Soviet Union and the world at large.

Secretary Marshall does more than deliver a lecture to the Russians over the head of Congress when he declares "that serious misconceptions prevail in the world as to the intentions of the United States concerning the Western civilization and the possibilities for developing stabilized working relations between the Soviet Union and other members of the community of nations." He is also telling us that the American leaders do not entertain these misconceptions.

"It is a misconception to suppose that domination of the world by a single system is inevitable," Secretary Marshall said. There hardly can be a plainer statement that the United States recognizes and accepts limits in its opposition to the Soviet Union for world influence.

Fire Chief Earns A Rest

THE time has come for Charlotte's Fire Chief W. Hendrix Palmer to hang up his uniform. At 64, he has announced his intention to retire after 45 years of service in the Fire Department. Recruits of the United States Firemen's Association.

This announcement will be received with regret not only in Charlotte for Chief Palmer is nationally known and his friends are legion. He belongs in the great tradition of American "smoke-eaters," a fireman from the ranks who developed into one of the notable leaders of his profession and a national figure.

Fire Chief Palmer infused his department with the spirit of team play, devotion to duty and courage which he demonstrated on many occasions during his long service, in which he filled virtually every position of responsibility and honor. He has lived in his dangerous work but he also exhibited an uncommon measure of cool judgment.

Chief's work with the department here soon commanded wide attention, and emerged as an important threat in the contest, the Ohio Senator was going along serenely as the hero of the conservatives and isolationists. Now he is working overtime to represent himself as a great liberal.

Who won in Ohio? Both Senator Robert Taft and ex-Governor Harold Stassen are claiming victory on the basis of primary returns showing that Stassen defeated the Republican Presidential delegates and Taft took forty in 23 districts where there was a contest between them. That's never for Stassen than the number he predicted and won more than Taft conceded him before the election.

By this count, the Ohio contest showed as a draw but it comes out a clear victory for the Minnesota challenger under one condition.

In the first place, Senator Taft needed to deliver a knockout to stop young Mr. Stassen and he missed doing that by a considerable margin. He was running on his home grounds and he expected himself to the limit to make a clean sweep.

In the second place, Stassen succeeded in his main purpose, which was to demonstrate Taft's unpopularity with the voters in the industrial sections.

In the third place, the Stassen campaign has forced Taft to change his style. Before the young progressive from Minnesota

Planning Farms And Homes

ONE of the most significant recent developments in agriculture is the farm-and-home planning program now reaching its fourth year in the United States, according to testimony recently given the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Forestry. These farm-and-home plans are practical operating plans worked out for each farm by a farm farmer and his wife with the help of planning specialists on the staffs of Agricultural Extension Services on other agencies.

Most headway has been made in Missouri, but the movement is spreading over the South, the Midwest, and into New England. The plans indicate how the farmer can manage his farm and stand of timber and contain a carefully designed budget showing the farm's probable receipts and expenditures under the plan of operation chosen by the farmer.

Complete plans such as these, and home plans to go with them, are needed for all the farms of the United States, say leading agricultural economists. It will take many years to make such plans for the entire nation, but they are being made in the meantime plans less adequate can be highly useful. Simple farm plans are indeed feasible and desirable.

"It is a misconception to suppose that differing systems cannot live side by side in peace under the basic rules of international conduct prescribed by the Charter of the United Nations," the Secretary added.

In other words, the Secretary of State has unequivocally rejected all suggestions that we are embarked on a world crusade for the extermination of Communism. His statement, and the declaration of Warren Austin, United States delegate to the United Nations, define the lines for spheres of influence upon which the Administration believes that a rational and stable international order could be constructed.

The invitation to Moscow to abandon the wasting East-West rivalry is clear and unmistakable. The question now is whether the Russians will see the advantage of a settlement and accept these overtures in good faith. Their response may be determined in large part by the manner in which Congress, the Republican leadership and the American people receive this news.

It is a heartening sign that the Marshall and Austin testimony has had the effect of dampening Congressional enthusiasm for a hasty revision of UN which would have force Russia out of that organization. There is reason to hope that a turn toward compromise and reason is under way. At any rate, the Administration has made an important effort to save the peace.

People's Platform

WITH the ever increasing demands on municipalities for more and better services of all types, it is most obvious that cities and towns not only have additional sources of revenue, but at the same time must present outmoded inconsistencies in their tax levies. What, for example, does the tax levied on the ad valorem tax that today pays the county? Has the time not long since passed when we can justify the levying of taxes within State funds available for capital outlay in such a manner as to justify itself?

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Charlotte's good wishes for health and happiness will go with Chief Palmer in his retirement, and with them the community's gratitude for his long and distinguished service to the city's safety, fame and general well-being.

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Senator Taft asserts he still is the leading Republican contender for the nomination, and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey makes similar claims. But the striking contrast, such as making to head off Harold Stassen, tell us the name of the man they actually regard as the leading candidate at this time. Unless they can take the wind out of Stassen's sails in the remaining primaries, it will be exceedingly difficult to keep the Minnesota out of the Republican Presidential nomination. Taft and Dewey might get together at the convention to throw their delegates to a dark horse in a last effort to stop Stassen, but the convention isn't apt to reject lightly the man who has so conspicuously demonstrated that he is the party's best runner.

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Home Rule Means Saving

It is most sincerely hoped that the present study of home rule by the commission appointed by the Governor will go into the matter much farther than merely local legislation. It is a far greater and much more important matter than that, and such a strong group as the Governor has appointed, we feel most confident that the commission will make several definite recommendations which will greatly benefit local government in North Carolina. Home rule can be obtained only through Constitutional amendment.

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THAT shadow across the sky, if you are at all interested, is the shadow of a darkening storm which is growing darker as the suspicious men on Capitol Hill let their fears and their prejudices spur them on.

The latest move originates with Rep. Charles McNary, who has the very prejudicial-sounding rating as high as any in the House. Under a bill introduced by McNary, any divulging confidential information from a committee of Congress could be put in jail for a year and fined \$10,000.

Quickly the House Rules Committee has passed a measure under a green light. The little group of men on the Rules Committee, who sit at the toll gate, who decide how the House what it can and cannot consider, has passed many important legislative matters. But this they voted worthy of admission.

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Communion Is A Pipe dream

MONROE, Mayor of Monroe

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Ohio Footnotes

AS usual in such cases, the immediate results of the Ohio primary are being analyzed by the press. Robert A. Taft has not vastly improved his Presidential prospects, but he has not been completely discredited. Gov. Harold E. Stassen has not been completely discredited, but his bandwagon is not rolling any faster either. A law of the motion picture industry says that winners must roll faster and faster as the end nears.

Behind the obvious confusions, however, the wisecracker read the Ohio results certain deeper meanings that are a little more complex and rather more interesting. Here, curiously enough, there is a rag of never-ending for Stassen's defeat.

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The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be sent to the publisher, if possible, and on only one side. If Libel and obscenity will be deleted—otherwise the publisher will be obliged to print it, though, in exceptional cases and upon request, will withhold the writer's name.—Editor.

Drew Pearson's: New Dust Bowl Disaster Faces Min.-West

WASHINGTON, bluntly warned President Truman the other day that we are heading for a "dust bowl" disaster unless we begin rethinking our policy on the West.

"I have just returned from a trip to Wyoming and can tell you that the dangers are very real," reported Goss. "There has been too much plowing of the ground developed as insurance against future dust storms."

"Our farm production is now 35 per cent greater than before the war, while domestic consumption is only 25 per cent more. Goss reported that the West has a bumper crop abroad in the next year or two and our

exports undoubtedly decrease, prices are likely to dive with those recommended fluctuating support prices (sub-parity prices guaranteed by the Government) from year to year, and the Government will be forced to buy up the surplus for wheat and certain other major crops to prevent disastrous price plunges.

"The President," Goss promised to think it over.

Hitler's Bankers  
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that vote on Abs was 7 to 4 and vote on Schleinwiler was 8 to 3. . . . No easy method exists for determining what voting record is being made by the various members of the Reichstag.

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