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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1950

HOOVER'S PLAN FOR AMERICA

FORMER President Herbert Hoover's health would permit, he ought to get aboard a fast Constellation and find out how long it takes him to whip around the earth, with no stops except for refueling. His ought to climb into the cold belly of a new snorkel-type submarine and discover how easy it is to glide for tremendous distances below the surface, defying all known methods of detection. He ought to drop in on the Pentagon's huge command center and note how the world is tied together with split-second transmission networks.

He ought, in brief, to learn what he has never known, or what he has forgotten—that the earth has shrunk in a terrifying fashion, and that all basic concepts of U. S. security have altered accordingly. For what Mr. Hoover advocated in his celebrated address Wednesday night was a return to U. S. foreign policy of the pre-World War I period, that is, a policy based on geographical isolation of this hemisphere by its two broad oceans. That such a policy has been utterly outdated by scientific progress goes without saying. That such a policy would ruthlessly and crudely junk the whole concept of a world and a brotherhood of free men should be obvious to everyone. That such a policy should stir the excited comment that followed the Hoover speech is a tragic commentary on the confused and chaotic state of the collective American mind at a time when it desperately needs clarity and sanity and calmness.

Mr. Hoover's plan to fashion an iron curtain of our own extending all the free world beyond the seas, has been hailed as a "new" policy. There is nothing new about it. Its origins date back to George Washington. It was the theme song of Lodge, Borah and Hiram Johnson when they successfully fought U. S. participation in the League of Nations. North Carolina's Bob Reynolds has been urging it since 1922, and Col. Bertie McCormick of the Chicago Tribune has been demanding it since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. The American Flyers of the 1940 era asked the same thing.

And by that ironical juxtaposition of anti-Communists and pro-Communists that we have seen so often in these confused days, the New York Daily Worker and Harlequin's cartoonist, Vito Marcantonio have been playing substantially the same tune.

There are so many things that can be said and done to know that we scarcely know where to begin. The ex-President took another crack at appeasement of Communism, saying, "We want no more Teherrans and Stalin's."

Yet the concessions to Stalin at Teheran and Yalta were more modest than the wholesale land grants Mr. Hoover would make—all of Europe including Scandinavia, all of Africa, the oil-rich Middle East, all of the Far East. Mr. Hoover would let Russia take over the whole world without firing a shot.

Mr. Hoover now says it would be disastrous to commit American armies to land battles against Communists anywhere in the world. Yet he would have us in the forefront of those who were bitterly excoriating the Administration because it would not go all-in aid to Chiang Kai-shek, an ally that would have committed U. S. to the aid of the Chinese Communists in an area least valuable to our security.

Mr. Hoover would cross off the United Nations because it has not managed, in the

short space of five years, to become perfect. Neither has Christianity become perfect, and it has had much longer to try. Mr. Hoover would revoke our solemn pledges to the U. N. Charter, and more recently to the United Pact nations, although those pledges were given after full debate in the best democratic tradition.

Mr. Hoover would mark off as a bad investment the billions of dollars we have poured into Europe, although this investment would restore Europe's shattered economy, was a necessary prerequisite to the very thing Mr. Hoover insists upon, European rearmament.

Mr. Hoover would hand over to Russia the vital coal and iron and the huge industrial capacity of Western Europe to a Russia rich in manpower and relatively weak in productive capacity. As long as Europe's productive capacity is kept out of Russia's hands, Stalin can't hope to win a major war. With it, and with the oil of the Near East, he can and probably will.

Finally, Mr. Hoover would tacitly confess that democracy and freedom are peculiarly American institutions, that they can not hope to exist anywhere else in the world except in our own favored land. By inference, he would abandon all efforts to enlarge the area where freedom thrives to a most undemocratic and a most un-Christian attitude.

Mr. Malik and Mr. Vishinsky, and their various predecessors, never hoped to accomplish what Mr. Hoover, with bland arrogance and selfishness, would do.

WE SHARE some of Mr. Hoover's concern over what appears to be a slowness on the part of our European allies to rearm. The Russian aggression, but the charge that they have been slow is only a half-truth. One reason they have been slow is that they have not been sure that the U. S. would stand firm, and Mr. Hoover's speech is hardly calculated to strengthen their conviction. Furthermore, our own preparedness record is not good. Less than a year ago the Truman-Johnson economies in the defense establishment were being roundly cheered, and no one was more vocal in their praise than Mr. Hoover, whose commission to reorganize the government had urged such economies. Not until the Korean adventure turned into defeat a few weeks ago did the United States really get busy on a realistic defense program.

The Hoover policy is a policy of defeatism. Because we have suffered a temporary military setback, Mr. Hoover thinks we have to have a more realistic attitude. He is not perfect, they should be abandoned. Because the road to freedom is long and difficult, we should turn back. Philosophically, the Hoover policy turns back the pages of history, and utterly ignores the lessons of the past. It is a policy fought in a way, at a time, and by a method chosen by our enemy rather than by us.

In opening his address, Mr. Hoover said: "And I speak tonight under the anxieties of a time when we are fighting and dying on a mission of peace and the honor of our country." It has a grim irony in his subject of rejection of peace and his demand that we benchmark the honor of our country by breaking all the sacred vows we have given to the world of free men.

This was the year when the President of the United States threw a rock at a music critic in the groin, at least by inference, and directly promised him a biopsy.

This was the year when the Army and Navy football teams,

allowance for the shortcomings of even the best drivers, viz., the elimination of all road hazards. In the final analysis, as the committee says, the success or failure of the state's traffic safety program will depend upon the improving of driver education. Those recommendations that touch the individual driver ought to be given top priority by the General Assembly and the administrative agencies concerned.

Among Franklin D. Roosevelt's published letters to his son, the late Park Farm manager, written in 1943, in which he said he was rather horrified by the cost of a new auto. But of course Mr. Roosevelt was paying for the auto himself—Arkansas Gazette.

A backward area is the one that hasn't a telephone pay station—Rocky Mount Telegram. We know a man who spent his last cent to buy a wallet, and another one who bought a wallet on credit—Kingport (Times) News.

Nature herself presents the best argument in our favor. Why run and hurry when there's always a perfectly good day coming tomorrow that hasn't been touched and tarnished—Frankfort (Ky.) State Journal.

Remember this next Spring: The way to make your garden a success is to plant more to your wife can manage—Fort City (Ark.) Times Herald.

Economic angles threaten Security of Both Americas

By MARQUIS CHILDS

THE DECISION to hold the Security of the Americas as a public prevailing before the K... This is the chief source of foreign earnings for Bolivia, is another... and supply began to come into balance with Malayan mines in full production... Bolivia's... were fearful that their mines would be closed with resulting serious... was made to the Reconstruction Finance Corp. for long-term contracts for which would go into the Government stockpile.

The primary example is Argentina. In Argentina the price of U. S. policy was first to try to obscure means to invest the doctor, Juan Peron. Without far more drastic measures than this country was willing to apply, the effort was bound to fail. It left behind chiefly a sense of nagging irritation with the friends of freedom in Argentina, disappointed and disillusioned. Recently the Import Bank led, the main objective of which is apparently to encourage the United States to do a re-doing business in the Argentine.

In the present period, with everybody looking around for someone else to blame, it is easy enough to point the finger of scorn at that of the price of copper. But during the years, where pressure groups have busy lobbying to serve their interests, must be made to bear a reasonable share of the blame. Copper is a beautiful example. About 70 per cent of the copper used in this country is imported, and the price of the metal during World War II the import tax of 2 cents a pound was suspended. The suspension was continued until June 30 of this year. The State Dept. worked hard to persuade Congress to suspend the suspension or wipe out the tariff entirely. The chief effect, it was pointed out, would be to increase the cost of copper to the American consumer by two cents a pound. The country would have to pay the increase in the cost of foreign copper to boost their own copper production. Today in the market copper is said to bring almost double the price of 20 cents.

THE SWEET season of peace on earth, good will to men, and good cheer to all, is upon us this year, as may be festooned all about, and sound and fury denounce the world. It seems to be a time of violence. A mass constraint of man to be forcibly muscular in the streets, as in the old 40 years ago, when the Italian Fascists, the "troops," on the Rhineland, and when the last butts were being worn down.

EVERYONE ON EDGE From the conversations I have heard around the city lately, nearly everyone's nerves seem to be on edge. Hoary reservists are talking war, as they take their young boys to the front. Army youngsters have tucked away their plans in mothballs, as they wait for the call to arms. The service in arms, Christmas, as it were, is not considered as a final festive of frivility.

THE PROBABLY answer to the touchiness of the Yule is that our country has been so long in a state of crisis after crisis and our judgment shaken by dumb bets on wrong sides of the market, by unwise and fidgety, and prone to quarrel. I doubt if you can blame him for that. He has been so long in a state of crisis after crisis and our judgment shaken by dumb bets on wrong sides of the market, by unwise and fidgety, and prone to quarrel.

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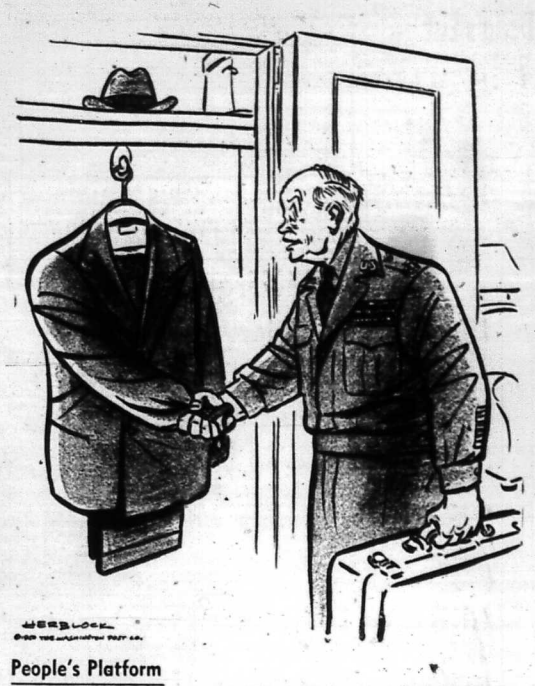
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'Well, It Was Nice To Have Met You'



People's Platform Fair Appraisal of Mr. Acheson

Editor, The News: WITH much interest I have read today (Dec. 18) your editorial titled "The Case of Dean Acheson." Your appraisal, not only of Mr. Acheson as a man and statesman, but of the events which during the past six or seven years have brought about the world situation which now confronts us. One could say that the thoughtful readers who want the unbiased facts, not half-truths and falsehoods.

You state that "we wanted to get along with Russia, and because of that we were slow to perceive the danger which was being created for ourselves, fighting the common enemy along with the Russians." The events which during the past six or seven years have brought about the world situation which now confronts us. One could say that the thoughtful readers who want the unbiased facts, not half-truths and falsehoods.

Yes, Mr. Editor, you are right. No doubt Mr. Acheson and others have made a few errors, but they are not to be blamed for them. We tried to be friends. Yet how many thousands of our people have believed the Pegasus, Big Little, and White Lies that have been peddled by the press and the radio. We tried to be friends.

And yet, as you say, we must have a scapegoat, and Mr. Acheson is at present just that. His political career has been decided to credit him just as they did Mr. Roosevelt before him. And we bet the person who dare to criticize him will be a Communist. The work pack is out for blood, and means to have it.

MRS. EDNA H. HENDRICKS. We Lose A Friend Editor, The News: FOR eight months now I have been a subscriber to your paper, but I can't afford two dailies, and so there is little choice left for me to make. However, I am forced to confess that I really hate to see the six-column paper of your paper compare most favorably with mine of the leading metropolitan dailies. It is independent, objective

and incisive. Your editorial today (Dec. 18) under the caption, "The Case of Dean Acheson," is typical of the type of journalism which you are practicing, embodying all of the aforementioned characteristics. Furthermore, you accord to the lay contributors sufficient space for them to develop their ideas. However, many more interested and informative communications in your People's Platform column, which column you have permitted me to clutter up much more than was deserved.

After all, my philosophy of life is most simple. My mother, my own department more than 42 years, was wont to tell us never to bite off more than we could chew and never to start at the forego we could not improve upon. While I have often ignored the foregoing wholesome admonitions, I have yet never failed to regret it. Had our people who followed such advice, we would not today be in the fix we find ourselves in. We have certainly bitten off more than we can chew. But we must make the best we can of the unfortunate situation. We must stick it out irrespective of the indignation and stomach ache that must follow. I shall make my punishment as gracefully and with as much fortitude as I can command.

Such Trash! Editor, The News: I subscribed to The Tampa Tribune. I had to suffer occasionally the Tampa A-100. Marquis Childs and Drew Pearson. I had to suffer occasionally the Tampa A-100. Marquis Childs and Drew Pearson. I had to suffer occasionally the Tampa A-100. Marquis Childs and Drew Pearson.

How To Win The War Editor, The News: FIRST destroy our idols, reject of our sins, quit the habit of sinning, and then we will win the war. Jesus saved from such sins. There is no other name under heaven by which we should be saved. Jesus Christ said, "And this day shall I be saved from such sins." There is no other name under heaven by which we should be saved. Jesus Christ said, "And this day shall I be saved from such sins."

Pro-Americans As Vital As Anti-Reds Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round (Ed. Note—Drew Pearson's column today takes the form of a letter to his daughter, Mrs. George L. Arnold of Los Angeles.) Dear Daughter, WELL you have made your father a grandpa again. It begins to make me feel a little old. Of course, we are all getting older, but you are getting older faster than I. You are a little older and a bit discouraged—discouraged over the state of the world. It is not a very promising world for my dear daughter, but I am sure you will make a fine woman of it. The only encouraging thing is that there will be twenty years or so for you to face the tangled web of world duality, and perhaps by that time we can untangle some of our mess.

B-29 Spy Ring I REMEMBER in September, 1947, having written an expose on Communist spy ring in a Washington post which stole the secret blueprints of B-29s. The story seemed so sensational that some editors at that time would not publish it. It was not until a year later, when the House Un-American Activities Committee finally got around to the story, that some of the editors of the Washington Post and Times Herald, who had been so skeptical, were now praising the story. At the time, I wrote the first story of the Canadian spy ring. I also called on the chief assistant of Jimmie Byrnes, who was then Secretary of the Senate. He asked me to make an investigation of Alger Hiss. It looked to me as if Hiss had been breaking information to the Russians—being paid for sure. Byrnes did not investigate and Hiss left the State Dept. It is not reasonable for me to tell whether he was a Communist—an extremely serious charge for a newspaperman to make, even though it is branded about so irresponsibly on the floor of the Senate. But I was sure that Hiss should not be in a high Government position, and my conviction has been justified.

Italian Communist Plot In the Summer of 1945, just after Fred Vinson, now Chief Justice, became Secretary of the Treasury, I went to