

**The Stark, Fundamental Issues In Asia**

POSSIBLY before this decade is over poetic justice may be done to the Republicans. Gov. Dewey, Sen. McCarthy and a host of other influential Republicans have attributed to the Democrats the "loss" of China and other Western setbacks in the Far East. Ere long, more of Asia may be "lost" to communism, and if this does happen, leading Democrats will surely associate the blow to freedom with the Republican administration.

Neither party, of course, can rightfully be held responsible for what has happened or will happen on that distant, seething continent. Asians will make the big decisions. What the United States does and does not do in Asia will, however, have some bearing on the outcome of the struggle there. But both parties—perhaps with the backing of a substantial majority of Americans—have shied away from making those decisions that must be made if U. S. objectives are to be reached in Asia.

THE Truman administration sought to contain communism in Asia by "limited objective" warfare, such as in Korea, and to reduce communism's appeal through Point IV aid. The Eisenhower administration prefers to reduce military and economic aid and rely on the threat of atomic retaliation against Russia or China. This new doctrine, as enunciated by Secretary of State Dulles, may or may not be successful in deterring a Pearl Harbor type of attack. But it is hardly suited to the situation in, say, Indochina. There, if present Communist policy is pursued, native Reds, supplied by the Chinese, will continue their relentless push. There will be no overt and clear act of aggression that will warrant all-out atomic retaliation and the full-scale war that probably will ensue.

As Joseph Alsop put it after his re-

**Let Them Earn The Right To Vote**

SHOULD the voting age be lowered from 21 to 18, and if so, should it be done in all states, via an amendment to the federal Constitution, or only in those states that choose to amend their own constitutions? These two related questions are due for another go-around, so let's have a look at them.

In his State of the Union message the President asked for a constitutional amendment that would extend the franchise to 18-year-olds. He relied on the oft-quoted argument that 19 to 20-year-olds have been summoned to fight for America, and "should participate in the political process that produces this fateful summons."

Presently, Georgia is the only state which permits 18-year-olds to vote. In other states the minimum is 21. Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, who thinks the 18-year minimum is working out quite well in his state, opposes an amendment to the federal Constitution that would extend the right to 18-year-olds in other states. He voices the usual objection that to do so would be a violation of states' rights.

We frankly cannot work up much enthusiasm for the issue one way or the other. The reasons for our somewhat phlegmatic attitude are:

- (1) Chronological age is no real indication of a person's ability to take part in government, and
- (2) Many 18-year-olds, like their elders, don't seem to give a hang whether

**'Wash-Outs' Aren't Always Wash-Outs**

BACK in the days when the posters in front of the post office featured P-40s and read "You Too Can Be A Flying Cadet" there were many poignant stories about "washed-out" pilots. They were the boys who didn't make the grade in flying school. A cashiered pilot, a fellow who, on his wings test, was kicked out of the air for unsemely conduct in bar or barracks (like Dogie Hogan in the STEVE CANYON strip) was an object of awe among embryo birdmen. The cadets who washed out because they buzzed a girl friend's house, or looped a bridge when the C.O. happened to be driving across it, or a desk or hanger job. They had lived up to the rules, but apparently didn't have what it takes.

Their buddies pointed out that instructors had it in for certain cadets, and that some people admittedly could be some excellent pilots, if the Air Force only had a little more time to spend on them. But these arguments did little to save a cadet's wounded pride and assuage the pain in the hearts of dads and girl friends back home.

**'Come In, Ezra — How's The Weather Out There?'**



**Dulles' Speech Raises Questions**

**'Retaliation' Is Inadequate**

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON  
 THE MAIN question raised by Secretary of State Dulles' outburst of change in American military strategy and, in part, foreign policy is: Will it work? He explained the change this way against this background: One of the most important speeches of his career: "This country realized how poorly it was equipped to fight a war when it had to fight suddenly in Korea. Then it began hastily to rearm and build up its ground army."

Either way the Communists could win through America's bankruptcy in men or money. Further, such a policy would let the Communists call the shots and pick the battleground. He didn't mention retaliation with atomic weapons but it seemed implicit. This is intended to be a long-term policy. "Maximum protection," he said, at a "bearable cost." This has been referred to in Washington as "more bang for a buck."

THE first question this raises is: Will the United States carry out the threat if there is a new Korean war in Korea, would it face the possibility of sudden attack by Russia, coming to the aid of her Chinese ally. That would well mean

**Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round**

WASHINGTON  
 THE Eisenhower Administration almost seemed the shirt off big business the other day. It did so when the Justice Department showed its teeth in anti-trust prosecutions in a more glowing manner than Thurman Arnold and Franklin D. Roosevelt. What it did was bring out against Pan American Airways, long considered the sacred cow of both Republicans and Democrats.

**Struggle With Reds Mainly Economic Now, Not Military**

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON  
 JOHN Foster Dulles as secretary of state has a strong conviction of the vital importance of continuity in American foreign policy. It was in the framework of this essential continuity that Dulles put his latest analysis of the chief adversary of his speech before the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

For both Europe and Asia this is a practical decision that can mean savings in the American military budget with no serious reduction of security. But even as this decision was taken by the National Security Council, it was becoming evident that the content of communism had changed in its principal emphasis from the military to the economic. That is to say that the threat is on balance greater through the growth of Communist parties, aided by all the techniques of Communist infiltration, inside countries with weak and unstable governments and shaky economies.

ITALIAN EXAMPLE  
 In Europe a prime example is Italy. During her recent visit, shortly by her return to Rome because of the fall of the Italian government, Ambassador Clare Luce painted a gloomy picture of the growth of Communist strength in poverty-ridden Italy. In Asia new and uncertain democratic governments are struggling against heavy odds to overcome grave economic and social problems. This is equally true in India, Burma, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and in Japan where the submerged power of communism is growing. And at the same time a ruthless consolidation of its hold on China with that hold goes over an ever greater influence over the Chinese colonies, largely carrying on the economic life of Southeast Asia, and as yet a built-in fifth col-

**There Is Too Much Public Kissing, Which Is Messy**

By ROBERT C. RUARK

FARELY how rushes up and drapes a carmine grace job on you and murmurs "Hello, baby." "Doll, where were you? I've been waiting for you." She knows damn well she saw you day before yesterday in "Toots" joint, and the week before that at the Saturday night party. And here she laid the same carmine on you with the same amount of purplish Passion Fruit or whatever the brand name of the lip-salve is. This is just after you have finished getting off about half of Mrs. Smith's Ties Ltd., which is more on the rose side.

ERSATZ MOUTHS  
 It may improve the lady's look, but only if the lady follows her lip-line, and she is trying to camouflage the kisser by drawing an ersatz mouth outside the arc of the lip. I presume for her, she thinks the same right knows to think a scumpled cigarette with a half-inch of red goo on the end, wrinkled and stuck into a pot of face cream or toothpaste, mangled and dead in an ash tray. The next messiest is the blurred red of lipstick on the rim of a glass, or the bloody streak on the napkin. And a close running mate is the poor bloke who's just made his red tie, party and appears to have been smitten in the mouth with the flat of an ax.

Now do you have to go to a party. Just go to lunch in a cafe and there will be six people you got to kiss before you sit down. You may kiss the women and the women kiss each other and among the more sentimental gentlemen, a little gone in drink, even the gentlemen kiss the gentlemen. I draw the line at this. I do not mind a little mild kissing, but it strikes me that this public busting is strictly messy, unsanitary, and a dreadful waste of time. Some babe you

**Crackdown On Pan Am A Surprise**

WASHINGTON  
 Lined both Ed and Joan Tripp and also like Pan Am. The latter got the heaviest mail subsidies—and still does. And, when well of the Eisenhower Administration, Pan Am was rewarded for violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act, he was stopped dead in his tracks.