

Dulles Faces His Gravest Assignment

AS RECENTLY AS April 26, BUSINESS WEEK, one of the better informed U. S. publications, was praising Secretary of State Dulles for his activities preceding the Geneva Conference. In an editorial, "Diplomacy at its Best," BUSINESS WEEK said:

"In the past three or four weeks, Dulles almost singlehandedly, has saved the situation in Indochina and prevented Geneva from being a walkaway for Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov. By bold and skilful diplomacy Dulles reformed the united front he had with Britain and France at Berlin, and is now in a position to press for an Indochina settlement that would halt Communist aggression in Southeast Asia."

Against the backdrop of the Geneva conference, that estimate was clearly optimistic.

Item: Britain has refused to join a Southeast Asia defense pact pending the outcome of negotiations between the French and the Communists on ending the war in Indochina.

Item: Senator Knowland's demand that the U. S. go ahead with a "united action" program without British cooperation had been ruled out by the Eisenhower administration.

Item: Mr. Dulles' reliance upon our "capacity" for "massive retaliation" to meet aggression has been put on the shelf, at least temporarily.

Item: In spite of numerous statements on the strategic importance of Indochina by President Eisenhower, Vice President Nixon, Secretary Dulles and others, the President said last week that representatives at Geneva are trying to reach a "modus vivendi" in the Far East. That points to the acceptance, how-

ever reluctantly, of some kind of cease-fire arrangement that would leave Viet Nam divided between the French and the rebel Vietnam forces.

Item: Although the free nations lack harmony, the Communist nations have been forged into a solid front and hold the initiative at Geneva.

In fact, it is beginning to appear that the U. S. has not only lost its leadership of the free nations for the moment, but that it also must undertake an "agonizing reappraisal" of its whole Far Eastern policy. With "instant retaliation" on the shelf and with "united action" an impossibility, Mr. Dulles finds himself without a policy. That may explain his quick return to Washington for White House conferences.

As we noted some days ago, Mr. Dulles went to Geneva with his hands tied. Thanks largely to Republican campaign oratory, U. S. public opinion was frozen hard against either recognition of Red China or admission of Red China to the U. N. Either would have been a potent bargaining instrument. Moreover, Congress has been cold to all proposals for increasing trade between the East and the West, thus denying Mr. Dulles another vantage point. Finally, the suggestion that U. S. troops might be used in Indochina, even in a "united action" with the French, has met with strong opposition.

In sum, the U. S. seems to have painted itself into a diplomatic corner, in which there is no room to maneuver and from which there appears to be no easy exit. Mr. Dulles faces the gravest assignment of his career as he seeks to fashion a new and realistic policy toward the Far East and to restore the unity that is the free world's best hope of survival.

Fees May Be Answer To Park Problem

THE Great Smoky Mountains National Park is in trouble. The number of its visitors is increasing faster than the money for its upkeep. There aren't enough park attendants, and appropriations are not adequate to maintain the park, much less modernize roads and buildings. Many of the national parks are in a similar predicament.

There are three ways by which the park can be gotten out of its dilemma. One is by a substantially increased federal appropriation. That's not likely.

Another is by operation of the park by North Carolina and Tennessee. Kelley E. Bennett, chairman of the North Carolina National Parks Parkway and Forest Commission, has recently suggested this alternative. This method would require the two states to put up about three million dollars between them, in order to restore the park to its 1940 status.

The third method is by charging an admission fee, as many parks do. But there are some hitch to this proposal.

First, Great Smoky Mountains National Park is unique in that its land was donated and did not come from the public

domain. Mr. Bennett says the land was turned over to the federal government with the understanding that it would comprise a "free" park.

Second, members of the park commission have almost unanimously condemned the fee system.

Third, at least some parks which charge admission fees are required to turn them in to the U. S. Treasury, and must rely solely on congressional appropriations.

We would like to see the park continue admission-free. But the important thing that it continue to operate, with safe roads, decent facilities and adequate fire-fighting equipment. And if provision of these things requires more money than Congress will appropriate, the fee system offers an answer. Since those who use the park would pay the fees, it would be more equitable than general appropriations by Tennessee and North Carolina, and we doubt that the donors of the park land would object to a slight restriction on the free use of the park, when the very existence of the park is at stake.

A Correction And A Suggestion

IN AN EDITORIAL last Saturday, THE NEWS suggested that the county commissioners issue bonds without a vote of the people to buy school sites for both city and county school systems.

The editorial was based on the constitutional amendment permitting local government units to issue such bonds in an amount not to exceed two-thirds of the bonded indebtedness retired the previous fiscal year.

The editorial overlooked one big fact: The county government, said \$2,325,000 in school bonds in the 1952-53 fiscal year. Even though the bonds had been authorized by a vote of the people, the N. C. Supreme Court has held that in any fiscal year in which a county's net indebtedness is increased, even with the approval of the people, the provisions

of the debt retirement amendment to the Constitution do not apply.

Hence, the county is unable to issue any bonds on its own authority this year, even though \$468,000 in debt was retired last year. To that extent, our editorial was in error.

While the suggested solution cannot be adopted, the importance of providing funds for buying school sites in advance cannot be stressed too heavily. Delay means less desirable and more expensive sites.

If the commissioners believe it would be politically unpopular to raise the tax rate enough to provide all \$300,000 of the needed amount in one year—an opinion that we would question—they could spread the burden by stretching it over two years or even three. That would be better than no action at all.

From The Raleigh News and Observer

UP IN THE AIR

J. T. WILLIAMS of Birmingham, Ala., who makes his living climbing trees to trim them, says he has no intention of quitting his work just because he is 81 years old. That would seem to be a sound decision. If he climbed trees at 90 why not at 81 and if he can shimmie up, why not at 82. The young have always been unduly critical of their elders in such matters. And the elders have not lacked reply. Mr. Williams should have referred his questioners to his better known Father William of Lewis Carroll's poem. It is only required to change Father William to Mr. Williams to note that time and good silliness have not changed:

"You are old, Mr. Williams, the young man said,
"And your hair has become very white;
And yet you incessantly stand on your head—
Do you think, at your age, it is right?"

"In my youth," Mr. Williams replied to his son,
"I feared it might injure the brain;
But, now that I'm perfectly sure I have none,
I'm glad it would, if it could, return."

"Why I do it again and again."

"You are old," said the youth, "one would think your eye was as steady as ever; That you balanced an eel on the end of your nose."

"I have answered three questions and that is enough,"
Said his father, "Don't give yourself airs; Do you think I can listen all day to such stuff?"

"Be off, or I'll kick you downstairs!"
It is much to be hoped that Mr. Williams of Birmingham goes on climbing trees and that he never does fall out of them, will be upon the untamed faces of the enquiring and disapproving young.

No cost is mentioned for the new metals stockpiling program, but a trip to the grocery for a canned-goods supply may give a rough idea.—ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT.

Divorce papers frequently are served when both parties ditch it out but neither cares to take it.—ELLAVILLE (GA.) SUN.



"It's impossible to handle since someone told him he was 'molding public opinion'."

Reaction To Children's Programs

The Television Generation

(From The Information Service of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America.)

EDUCATORS and psychologists, among others, have made numerous public statements warning of the possible dangers to the health, character, and education of children from two or more hours a day spent viewing a TV screen. Others have replied that the dangers are exaggerated, non-existent, and that television is simply a new medium of great potentiality for use or abuse.

The few studies available of the effects of television on children are inconclusive except at one point: they show that children are watching a lot of television.

The study reported here attempts primarily to fill the gap by reporting the attitudes of parents in one American city toward television in their children's lives.

Metropolitan New Haven has for the past two years been conducting a study of religious radio, television and motion pictures conducted by the Communications Research Project under the auspices of the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

The basic group studied and reported on here was a 3 per cent random sample of all New Haven households. The sampling was originally developed by August B. Hollingshead, professor of sociology at Yale University, and was by tests of faithful reproduction of the total population. The actual size of the sample was 3,550 households.

HOWDY DOODY POPULAR
There were minor children in 62 per cent of the 3,550 households interviewed in the sample. While only about four-fifths of all households had television sets, virtually all the families with children four years of age and older reported that the children watched television regularly, at a neighbor's home if none were available in their own.

Twenty-five per cent reported any regular radio listening. The average time spent by children under 15 years of age in watching their regular programs was 13 hours per week. Time spent listening to radio and watching television was more than 2 hours per week.

The 11 most popular children's shows, and the percentage of all households reporting these programs regularly seen by their children, were as follows:

Program	Per Cent of Households
Howdy Doody	21.6
Hopalong Cassidy	7.2
Super Circus	4.1
Lone Ranger	4.4
Roy Rogers	4.2
Tubby Hayes	4.1
Kukla, Fran and Ollie	3.9
Space Cadet	3.3
Clotel Kid	3.3
Keaton Keanie	3.3
Gene Autry	2.6

Six of the first 11 were cowboys. However, no single western show—not even Hopalong Cassidy—had a regular audience comparable to that for Howdy Doody, and it seems probable that the cowboy program looked much like any other to the children interviewed.

New Haven parents who own television sets liked TV. They liked it for themselves, and the majority of them approved of it for their children. The approval was not always wholehearted. There was a great deal of agonized soul-searching about what television ultimately would do to the characters and habits of their children, and who are the first to be exposed to it.

Of the families who expressed their attitudes toward television sets, 69 per cent indicated they generally favored children's programs as they are, and 26 per cent generally disapproved of them. Five per cent favored some aspects of children's broadcasting and opposed others.

Almost half (48 per cent) of the families responding gave simple, unadorned answers favoring the present programs: "They're good," "I'm satisfied with them," "I wouldn't change them." All of these terse replies were favorable. The rest (52 per cent) made detailed comments.

Dulles' Vision, Congress' Mood, Affect Foreign Policy

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON
JOHN Foster Dulles returns home today for a quiet quizzing by Congress, which has questioned him often on his intentions and policies since he became secretary of state. This time it will be on Indochina, where Mr. Dulles must have a great deal to say, and a successful one, if he ever can be said to have set his heart on being secretary of state, and a successful one, if he ever can be said to have set his heart on being secretary of state.

His whole life was a preparation for it. He's a lawyer, but he's his diplomatic work as long ago as 1917, when he was 19, and he's had a hand in it, on and off, ever since.

Although a Republican, he worked for years under the Democrats on special diplomatic assignments. He became secretary in January 1953 he has traveled 100,000 miles, evidence of his enormous determination.

Ironically, it may be the opinion of history that he would have done better to spend less time on the road and more in his office, thinking and laying groundwork, particularly with Congress, for major decisions.

But no judgment of his success or failure will be based not on his energy but on his vision, certainly, had to be tempered by the mood of Congress, which could be generally stated this way:

Great opposition to letting the Communists make any more advances but at the same time no assurance to Dulles that Congress would back him up anywhere, any time in specific moves aimed at stopping Communist advances.

The Eisenhower administration itself, helped into office by public distress over the Korean War, seemed to have no clear policy of its own to stop communist advances except in all-out attack.

Vice President Nixon said the United States is reaching the point in dealing with the Communists where it may have to put their shut up because its leadership, which suffered a blow at Geneva, is at stake.

It would disgrace her previous name, for I am preparing to meet my mother in Heaven some day.—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Recent Garden Tours Helped By The News
On behalf of the Charlotte Garden Club, I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Isabelle Howe and The News for their help and publicity for the recent garden tours. The pictures and the news articles were most helpful in bringing the tours to the attention of the public. The help of The Charlotte News both this year and in years past has helped us to build our garden tours into an attraction to gardeners both in Charlotte and other localities. We feel that these tours serve a fine purpose in showing the public examples of the best garden design and good horticultural practices.

We realize that this help required much time and effort on your part, and we are most grateful for your cooperation.—ELIZABETH T. ARMSTRONG, Charlotte Garden Club Inc.

Give Arabs Economic Aid, But Not Arms
MEMBERS of the local Charlotte Chamber of Commerce have expressed their opinion on the government's decision to give military aid to Iraq, the most vindictive and belligerent member of the Arab League in the continuing Arab-Israeli war. In times of mounting Arab-Israeli tensions, to arm Iraq is tantamount to a renewal of open warfare.

To win Arab friendship for America, we should give their people economic and technical assistance to raise their living standards. We should not give them arms to be used for war in the region or to bolster despotic military regimes.—MRS. DAVID HOFFMAN, President, Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah

Every Day Should Be Mother's Day
AS Sunday draws near it brings precious memories of my dear mother who lives on in Heaven, and no one knows but those who have lost their mother what a friend they have lost. Today many have a dear mother to honor Sunday. But every day ought to be Mother's Day, for you know as well as I know, I'm looking on her precious face for the last time on earth you will know how precious she was. When you have lost your mother, your best friend is gone. No one else will stand by you as long as you can go, and I know boys and girls are breaking their mother's heart every day, and some day when she is gone they will regret, for they can't bring her back.

I am so glad and happy that I had a Christian mother—one who prayed for me when I was sick—and I would not get out in this world and do anything written.—S. C. McMANUS

Quote, Unquote
The aim in the new atomic submarine seems to have been to make it as comfortable as possible for the crew and as uncomfortable as possible for our enemies.—Savannah Morning News.

Budding Musician
Schine referred to live alone, and though one year he did have a roommate, the rest of the time, by paying a little more he had a living room and bedroom all to himself. For the most part he was quiet, cold and uncommunicative, even to the point of being impolite. On one occasion, however, he came down to Schine's room and asked: "Your the tutor in this house, aren't you?"

"Yes," was the reply.
"Then tell me what you think of this," Schine said, producing a sheet of music. Schine's life is Frenchy and Spanish, not music, and he told Schine he didn't know what to think of the song he had written.

"Well, I'm going to have it published," G. David announced.
Schine how he had made out, and got the reply that he couldn't find anyone to publish the song, but he had solved that problem by buying his own publishing house.

Schine has written two songs: "All Of My Love" and "Please Stay Or It's Good-bye," published by Burke and Van Heusen.

At Harvard, young Schine seemed to suffer from an inferiority complex, took the attitude that people liked him only for his money. Schine was more friendly, Schine seemed to assume that they wanted to use him. He was a meticulous dresser and he went to a dance, he hired an artist's model to escort—interpreted by some as a way of compensating for his inferiority complex by saying: "Look, I have the most beautiful date on the campus."

Those at Harvard who read that Schine had gone to Europe with Roy Collins on an investigating junket to lord it over State Department officials, at first were surprised. For they had considered him a military aid to Iraq, the most vindictive and belligerent member of the Arab League in the continuing Arab-Israeli war. In times of mounting Arab-Israeli tensions, to arm Iraq is tantamount to a renewal of open warfare.

To win Arab friendship for America, we should give their people economic and technical assistance to raise their living standards. We should not give them arms to be used for war in the region or to bolster despotic military regimes.—MRS. DAVID HOFFMAN, President, Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah