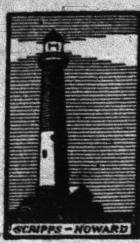


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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way.

JOBS FOR WAR VETERANS

IN THE Hoosier Forum on this page today Walter Frisbie, the able secretary-treasurer of Indiana's C. I. O., objects to what he calls our "inaccuracies and innuendoes" about the C. I. O. attitude toward soldiers getting their jobs back when they come home from the war.

Not too accurately himself, Mr. Frisbie denies that Philip Murray, "or any other C. I. O. member" ever even implied that the worker who stayed safely home at war wages has a better claim to a job than the soldier who left it to go out and fight.

Yes? Well, as Al Smith used to say, let's look at the record:

The Baltimore Sun quotes Victor G. Reuther of the C. I. O. United Automobile Workers as saying: "It would be a big mistake to get jobs for veterans by taking them away from someone else." It quotes Joseph A. Padway, A. F. of L. general counsel, as denouncing the view of Col. Paul H. Griffith of selective service that veterans are entitled to get their jobs back "even if they replace workers of greater skill and seniority." That, said Mr. Padway, was a "misinterpretation of the act." And it quotes Philip Murray, head of the C. I. O., as citing a court ruling that "seniority rights are property rights within the meaning of the fifth amendment to the constitution."

On the other hand, Sidney Hillman, who professes to know a lot about politics, took a different position from that of his labor colleagues quoted above. Speaking for his Amalgamated Clothing Workers, he said, "Certainly, all the veterans who left us to enter the services will get their jobs back." No quibbling about seniority. And, on this issue, we think Mr. Hillman is right as rain.

FURTHERMORE, in his letter, Mr. Frisbie adds: "As a matter of plain fact the law does not require an employer to take back a worker who has gone into the armed services..."

Well, as a matter of plain fact the law does require an employer to take back a worker who has gone into the armed services—and what the professional C. I. O. hierarchy from Mr. Murray on down objects to, is that it doesn't compel that soldier to join a C. I. O. union to get his job back. With the help of a friendly government the C. I. O. has managed to force through a lot of closed shop contracts since the war began, and a closed shop contract makes no provision for scab labor just home from Saipan or Verdun. The C. I. O. leaders have done a good deal more than imply their hostility to this federal safeguard for the men in our armed forces. Mr. Frisbie himself continues: "... It will not aid our country or the servicemen a jot if the 11,000,000 returning veterans are given jobs and 11,000,000 civilians are thrown in the streets..."

Maybe not, Mr. Frisbie, but a lot of us sleep better at night for knowing that the man who went out to fight for us does get back the job he left, without any strings to it, and without any argument about seniority, and without joining anything unless he wants to join.

We feel pretty sure that a vast majority of all union members feel exactly the same way about it.

MR. BIG GOES TO WASHINGTON

NO, NOT AS YOU thought. We are not referring, primarily, to Mr. Roosevelt. Rather, to Mr. Big Businessman. To Donald Nelson, Charles E. Wilson, Will Clayton, as specific and symbolic and spectacular examples.

In private life Mr. Nelson was executive vice president of Sears, Roebuck; Mr. Wilson, president of General Electric; Mr. Clayton, head of Anderson, Clayton & Co. All big businesses, very big.

Each was doing well at his job, very well. His associates liked him, his customers liked him, his stockholders were happy—all was serene.

Comes the war. And these men—along with many like them—are called to Washington to help out, war being big and their know-how being big. Each gets the full authority directive from the other Mr. Big.

THEN, IN THEIR new environment, brick-throwing and dagger practice starts.

Ambitious young lawyers "on the make," and bureaucrats and congressmen and lobbyists and general-purpose politicians and New Deal job-holders see in these big guys new and shiny and capacious targets. War or no war, this is too good to pass up. So the archery practice begins.

And finally, in disgust, resignations occur. The big boys go back to the good old desks. Dollar-a-year, or perhaps up to \$8000 are replaced by the good old \$100,000-plus salaries. And when you push a button you don't draw a bucket of slop. And life seems comparatively so sweet, and service in Washington just a bad dream. The bow and arrow brigade wins, but then doesn't know just exactly what to do with the victory after it is achieved. And so on.

But, generally speaking, the loss of this talent is very bad for the war, and for the country.

ANOTHER GRAB-BAG?

WHEN the war is over the government will own many billions of dollars worth of surplus property. Even at this stage the government has on hand several billions worth that will not be needed.

In disposing of surpluses, the government's first purpose should be to get the best price possible and apply the proceeds to reduction on the national debt. Here is a chance for the taxpayers to get some of their bait back.

But what shall we say of legislation, such as the senate has just approved, which directs that surplus property which is "appropriate for school, classroom or other educational use" or is "suitable for use in the protection of public health, including research," should be turned over to the federal security administration for "donation" to states and municipalities and educational and medical institutions? There is no limit on how much is to be donated—presumably as much as is wanted.

It looks like another Washington grab-bag.

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler



NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—You know how it is when you go to the library to look up one subject and get lost in another.

I never did get what I went for and almost forgot what it was I wanted, digging into old debates on Negro slavery.

These wrangles were only a hundred years ago, which is only twice your age when you are 50, and not such a formidable stretch of time as it seems when you are younger, and yet, in England, there was great agitation for the abolition of the slave trade from Africa and of slavery in the United States by men who were, in a political manner of speaking, slave-holders, themselves, in their own country. This point was brought out in one document by a man who was interested in the preservation of slavery and though I tried to chase it down I never found the reply, much less a refutation.

'Holding English Workers in Bondage'

HE SAID a certain noble lord who was agitating himself with humane tremors over a problem which many Americans held to be strictly our own affair, was actually holding white English workers in bondage in his coal mines, while living on the fat of the land himself.

The mines then, at least, were not equipped for ventilation and fire-prevention and the occupational risk of the miners was great, what with asphyxiation, explosions and fires. Moreover, the men worked a 12-hour day, which meant that for about eight months of the year they never did see daylight, except on Sunday and were becoming purblind like the ponies they worked with, or a deep-water fish. Their wages were peanuts although there might be some margin in the fact that, even down to 1914, a shot of Scotch in an ordinary London bar cost only four cents, and other necessities of life were proportionately cheap, and it seems that they couldn't lay up a cent for depression periods which came unexpectedly.

'Sometimes Suspected Uncle George'

MY UNCLE GEORGE, who seems to have been a Methodist clergyman and abolitionist of some importance in the country along toward the '60s, related in his life and Times, published by the Wesleyan Methodist publishing house, of Syracuse, in 1879, that his old man had two wives (consequently, of course) and 25 children, of whom Uncle George never saw more than 15 at a time, and that he went to work helping his mother spin hemp in his dad's rope-walk in London when he was only 4 years old. Then he ran away to sea at the age of 8 and he tells of some prodigious swimming around Bermuda when a small boat broke loose and he had to go after it; so I have sometimes suspected that Uncle George was a bit of a liar around the edges because you don't learn swimming in a rope-walk or working as a ship's boy. I don't mean he actually was my uncle, but, with that name, he couldn't have been very far removed.

This Englishman in the slavery debate insisted that the slaves in Jamaica, where his interests were, were better off than the white men in this noble lord's mines because they were fed enough to keep them in fair shape as property, whereas the miner had to feed himself and, when he went on relief in slack times, got only four cents a day. I gather that this four cents was for the whole family, not per head, and moreover, this mineowner didn't pay it, nor the government, but the parish or church.

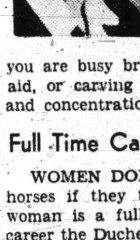
'Strictly Counter-Punching'

THEN, HE SAID, this lord had the gall to propose that during depressions the husbands should be sent elsewhere, away from their wives so that they wouldn't begot more children to grow up and complicate the problems of unemployment and over-population; and even to try to impose a rule forbidding men to marry before the age of 35, for the same reason. If a man did marry prematurely, he was blackballed from the mines.

Of course, this was strictly counter-punching, which is not the way to win a fight, and England continued to agitate against slavery in our country, a precedent for some of our later intrusion in certain affairs of European nations, while white Englishmen in their own country actually were much worse off than many of the Negro slaves. Here we are again, for example, running a terrible force over Ghettoes in Europe as though we had no Ghettoes of our own. And for another thing, like the noble English lord, here we are hollering down fascism, when our professional union leaders leading the chorus, while many of the loudest and angriest crusaders against the foul philosophy, notably Mr. Roosevelt and Sidney Hillman, are imposing on our country regulations and restrictions straight out of the book of Benito Il Bum.

We The People

By Ruth Millett



WALLIE SIMPSON told a reporter, "If there is one thing I hate it is that 'best-dressed' title. I am not and don't ever want to be a clothes horse."

Well, there is only one way a woman ever gets in the best-dressed ranks, or gets herself dubbed a clothes horse. And that is by making clothes paramount in her scheme of life.

You don't blunder into the ranks of the "best-dressed" while you are busy bringing up kids, working as a nurse's aid, or carving out a career that takes hard work and concentration.

Full Time Career in Itself

WOMEN DOING those things couldn't be clothes horses if they tried. Because being a best-dressed woman is a full time career in itself. And it is a career the Duchess of Windsor has consciously chosen.

Her clothes and jewels—even in wartime—are worth a fortune. When she first went to Nassau to live she imported a hairdresser from New York, to be sure to have her hair done exactly as she wanted it.

So it is a little bit late and a little bit silly for the duchess to object to the best-dressed title. It is about as silly as it would be for a prize fighter to spend his life training and fighting every challenger and then say when he had finally become world's champion, "If there's anything I hate it is being called 'Champ.'"

You don't get in any of the "best" lists—not even the best-dressed ones—without trying.

To The Point—

WE READ "elastic defense" is being employed by the Germans. Don't tell us they're down to their last slingshot.

ONE OF our bombers sank a Jap cruiser the other day. A fellow has to be pretty lucky to run across one of those things nowadays.

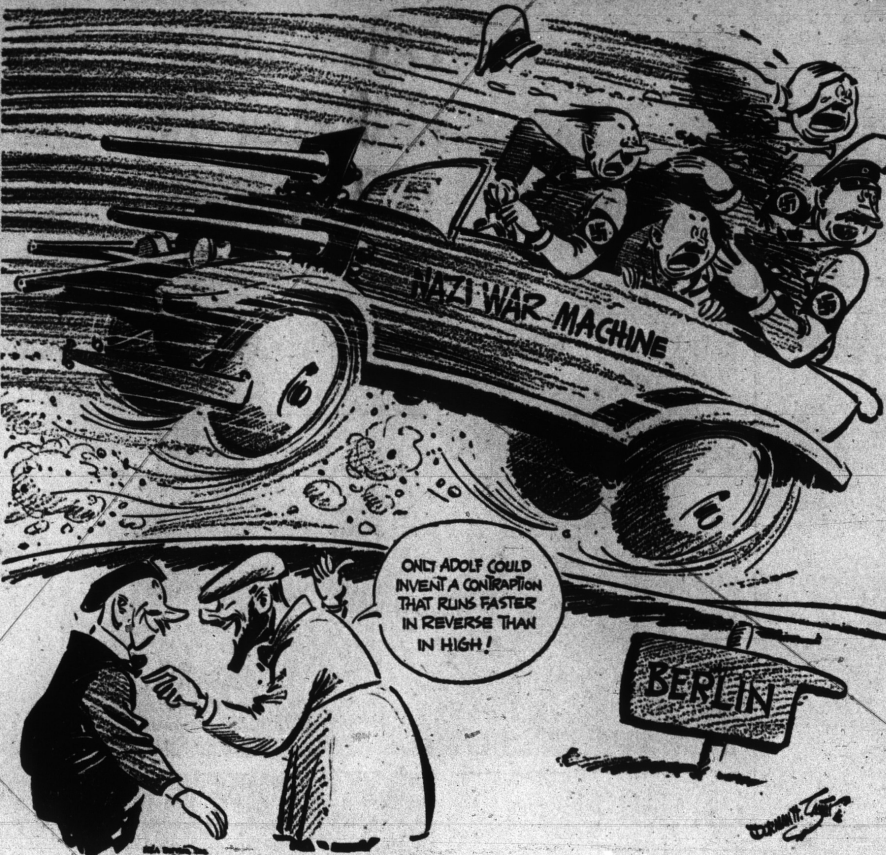
GEN. PATTON certainly got a break, being handed an army without any Sunday drivers.

WITH MORE women in "politics than ever you'd be surprised at some of the hats tossed into the ring.

AMERICA, ENGLAND, Russia, China—we're hoping that quartet can produce world harmony.

GETTING WRONG numbers makes you wonder how phone operators ever succeed at their calling.

The Master Mind at Work Again



The Hoosier Forum

I wholly disagree with what you say, but will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire.

"HOW SAD TO COPY UNION TACTICS"

By James E. Melander, Attica.

Walter Frisbie, secretary of the C. I. O., in the Aug. 18 Times goes into a 13-point tract and dreams how the Philadelphia Transportation Co., as an axis sympathizer trying "to split us with their rotten racial and religious propaganda" with malice aforethought, caused the transportation strike.

The C. I. O. union had just won an election 2-to-1 when this devilish monster put Negro workers on practice runs. The wicked anti-C. I. O. one-third intimidated the innocent and sheep-like C. I. O. 86 per cent, and ran them off their jobs—that is, compelled them to strike. In fact, Frisbie says the company acted just like a striking C. I. O. union. Oh, Walter! How sad that an employer should copy union tactics!

"WE MUST HAVE FULL EMPLOYMENT"

By Walter Frisbie, Secretary-Treasurer, Indiana State Industrial Union Council, C. I. O.

In order to object to all the inaccuracies and innuendoes regularly a part of The Times regarding C. I. O. and the Political Action Committee, we would probably have to publish a supplemental paper.

In the issue of Monday, Aug. 28, there is an article by Lee Miller on the editorial page headed, "The Veteran's Job." Mr. Miller first misinterprets, as the press generally misinterprets, the remarks of Philip Murray at a recent convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. After distorting Mr. Murray's remarks, Mr. Miller quotes the official interpretation of the law protecting veterans in their job rights. Miller concludes with the following comment:

"We see nothing in the above to encourage Phil Murray in a belief that workers who have stayed at work, accumulating seniority, should be given job preference over former employees who have been fighting the war."

Neither Mr. Murray nor any other member of C. I. O. has ever expressed or implied the above belief. As a plain matter of fact, the law does not require an employer to take back a worker who has gone into the armed forces, inasmuch as there is an escape clause providing that if changes in an employer's circumstances make it impossible or unreasonable to do so the employer is cleared of any responsibility. A further escape is contained in the statute requirement that a returning serviceman must be still qualified to perform the duties, but the question of qualification is left largely to the employer.

Unions generally and the C. I. O. particularly immediately recognized

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns, religious controversies excluded. Because of the volume received, letters should be limited to 250 words. Letters must be signed. Opinions set forth here are those of the writers, and publication in no way implies agreement with those opinions by The Times. The Times assumes no responsibility for the return of manuscripts and cannot enter correspondence regarding them.)

that under the law there would be many servicemen who would not be able to return to their former jobs. The result is that, without exception, unions have attempted to negotiate into their contracts provisions protecting men who go into the armed forces, protecting them not only in the seniority they left, but by insisting that they accumulate seniority while they are gone just as though they were working; protecting them in retirement, group insurance and benefit plans; protecting them in their union memberships by waiving payment of dues, reinstatement fees, assessments or initiation fees.

Servicemen's protection clauses are standard equipment in the new union contracts. The unions have recognized and fought for the rights of all servicemen and women, not only because three million members of the armed forces belong to unions but primarily because we recognize that nothing that any organization can do for service people, except see to it that there is full employment and prosperity and peace, will be adequate.

Mr. Murray in his talk before the V. F. W. was not, and we state this categorically, objecting to servicemen and women accumulating seniority while they are gone; he was objecting to many of the plain and fancy schemes that have recently been given wide newspaper publicity for double, triple, preferential or some other variation of seniority for servicemen. We oppose this on the grounds that, carried to its logical conclusion, it would set veterans of the first war against veterans of the second war, create hopeless administration problems, pit vital war workers who were 4-P or deferred for their key value despite their own personal feelings, against returning servicemen and would tend to create general dissension between the homecoming veterans and the men and women who stayed at home. All this at a time when our country

requires for waging the peace the highest degree of unity.

In the long run it will not aid our country or the servicemen a jot if the eleven million returning veterans are given jobs and eleven million civilians are thrown in the streets, just as it would not help the country a jot if the situation were reversed. To avoid catastrophe following the war, we must have full employment, full production. This country cannot adequately reward its fighting men. The G. I. Bill and other measures to help veterans, give them additional educational opportunities and business chances is a splendid gesture. The future bonus movements may be helpful in individual cases. But the greatest gift to our fighting men is lasting peace, a prosperous economy for jobs at decent incomes for all who want to work and a chance to make good homes for themselves and their families with security and hope that this great country of ours will continually give better opportunities to their children and their children's children.

"C. I. O. SHOULD DO LIKEWISE"

By R. D. Hoffman, chairman, Philadelphia Research Committee, Philadelphia.

The Indianapolis C. I. O. version of the late Philadelphia strike—the C. I. O. Transport Workers Union, bargaining group for the Philadelphia Traction company, is considerably premature and the statement of alleged facts has not been proved.

The grand jury which convened for the purpose of investigating all phases of background and matters which brought the strike issue to a head in a disgraceful fashion are still being probed with the assistance of the FBI and other groups which would very much like to know who is responsible for the calling of the illegal strike and who should be punished.

Just why Walter Frisbie, secretary-treasurer of the Indiana State Industrial Union Council, C. I. O., should wash its dirty linen in mid-western newspapers before the grand jury has delivered the facts is obvious.

There is no disagreement with the story that Negro workers were placed for practice runs with a view to promoting them to motormen, since it is a matter of record the P. T. C. and the union were ordered by what appears to be presidential fiat throughout the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People so to do.

No fair and sensible person in the city of Philadelphia would have the temerity to pass judgment upon the strike, its reasons, causes or effects, largely because this material has not become public property. Until it does issue, as such, individuals are withholding judgment.

Since this disgraceful affair occurred during wartime, it is true that thousands upon thousands of Philadelphians harbored personal resentment because of the open violation of the C. I. O. "no strike" pledge and also because war production was dangerously curtailed and the loyal, patriotic war workers and other citizens were put to unnecessary expense at a time when unity is second only to the prosecution of the war.

Until the grand jury publicizes its findings and appropriate judicial action is taken with respect to guilty persons, if any, responsible Philadelphians quite rightly withhold comment concerning culpability. It is suggested that the C. I. O. should do likewise.

"THEY LEAVE IT UP TO GOD"

By Eric Victor W. McGinnis, Army of the U. S.

Crime doesn't pay—of that I'm sure. But I do believe that in Indianapolis they leave it up to God to pass penalty upon the criminal.

DAILY THOUGHTS.

Neither have I suffered my mouth to sin by wishing a curse to his soul.—Job 31:30.

TAKE not his name, who made thy mouth, in vain; it gets thee nothing, and hath no excuse.—Herbert.

In Washington

By Peter Edson



WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—While congress is debating bills, to control disposal of multibillion-dollar war supply surpluses, army, navy, war production board and war manpower commission are fighting to get production on military shortages to take care of needs of troops at the front. That big difference doesn't make sense, to most people. What interests the average patriotic citizen concerned with having the war won at the earliest possible moment is: Why should there be any shortages at all? Was it bad management, bad generalship, bad government, bad labor, bad public on the home front? The answers would seem to be a combination of them all.

The seven serious shortages—in tanks, heavy trucks, heavy duty tires, heavy artillery, big bombs, big shells, aircraft radar—can't be explained away by any simple reason.

Take heavy-duty trucks. Army procurement officers had the daylight lambasted out of them in a special report by the senate war investigating committee for ordering too many trucks. Still there are shortages. The bottleneck is in the foundries where castings are made for engine blocks, axles, transmissions, parts. For two months or more the war manpower commission has been trying to recruit additional workers. But the work is heavy, the pay is not tops and in the hot summer months foundry workers are inclined to take layoffs because their jobs are dirty and disagreeable.

France Speeded Tank Production

TANK PRODUCTION is off because, in the first place, tank production was curtailed when the slowed-up Italian campaign indicated that tanks were not the ideal weapons for mountain country fighting. Accelerated movements in Italy today and the open warfare of northern France have changed that concept.

Similarly, big field guns—eight-inch rifles, 240 mm. howitzers—have been called into greater use than the generals had at first calculated. It has taken months, long-range artillery—more the war the Germans loose from heavily fortified positions. The army moved last January to step up big gun output, but the new facilities are just coming into production now.

More big guns, fired faster, have stepped up need for big shells. Over a year ago the army cut back the production of small arms ammunition in a number of arsenals. The plants themselves were kept in a stand-by condition but they were not converted to making the big stuff as soon as they might have been. Doubling the rate of fire to break deadlocks at Anzio and in Normandy illustrates the need.

As to bombs, there were supposed to be bombs running out of everybody's ears. But nearly every plane is a bomber now, and shortening the range of missions by establishing bases behind the lines in France with consequent increase in bomb load and number of sorties flown has stepped up demand.

Radar Pay Fails to Attract Workers

AIRCRAFT RADAR production is a new industry and many of its difficulties and shortages are common to the needs of any new boom business. Technical improvements have slowed up assembly lines. The industry is concentrated largely in the Chicago area, where the manpower situation has not been of the best. Many women have been employed, pay scales are comparatively low and new workers haven't been attracted.

So good is the war news that the old patriotic appeals to do something about all these tight situations fall on deaf ears. Speed-up production teams of engineers, personnel and labor relations men are frequently stymied—as in the San Francisco machine shops where labor refused to work overtime, or in the Akron tire factories, where labor has refused to move faster.

Wage rates can't be raised for fear of topping the whole wage stabilization structure. Blaming generals or production officials for lack of foresight on some of the planning does no good at this stage of the game. The need is for an incentive—a new incentive—to push the war to a quick, not a dragged-out ending.

Peace Factor

By Maj. Al Williams



NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—C. W. Vaughan, president of Curtiss-Wright, hits the nail on the head when he says airpower can be made an effective peace factor (1) by maintaining an air force adequate to preclude a successful assault on our country or its possessions, (2) by acquiring and maintaining air bases essential to our security and our overseas trade, (3) by facilitating the orderly and economic expansion of domestic and international air transport and private flying, and (4) by preserving a strong aircraft manufacturing industry.

That makes sense. It will appeal to the average American who learned the lesson of Pearl Harbor and wants no more of it.

We got away with it this time, but if the next war differs from the present struggle as much as this war differs from world war I, another Pearl Harbor could be a final national defeat, with no chance for second wind.

Natural Corollary to Warning

MR. VAUGHAN'S insistence on the acquisition and maintenance of air bases essential to our national security is only a natural corollary to his first warning—that we must have adequate air forces. It is no assurance that a friendly nation operates air bases within easy bombing range of the continental U. S. Nobody can or will defend us as effectively as we can do the job.

The post-war world won't be a bit different than the world as we have known it for centuries. It will be brave all right, brave enough to grab anything it thinks it can grab and hold. That is one of nature's immutable laws.

The only way we can preserve this country is to do the job ourselves with a mighty air force—which means preserving our present aircraft industry and developing our domestic and international flying.

So They Say—

SPREAD THE NEWS that France did not lay down her arms in 1940. She has always fought. And tell the Americans that we like them, admire them and thank them.—Marcel Renard, French underground fighter.

OPEN SPACE is not itself economic opportunity. There is not likely to be a shortage of farm land during the first two decades after the war. What we foresee is a "farm problem" instead of a "food problem" and instead of hungry mouths begging for food, agricultural surplus will go begging for a market.—T. W. Schultz, U. of Chicago agricultural economist.

I DON'T believe the Japs will fold up at any time. Their religious feeling will prevent that. We'll have to go in and educate them and I believe we will have to go in and blast Japan.—Cmdr. Ernest M. Snowden, back from the Pacific.

EVERYBODY KNOWS his job—from generals to privates—and we are determined to get ourselves to the job of finishing this war with the same single-minded determination as the men at the front.—U. S. labor representatives, at battlefield in France.

IN FRANCE a few days ago. In Paris carpeted floor. It was a

Those of us long have, me gifts. And dirt cheap, at home for I'm sorry

left. For all value the sense in private here to realize culinary genius

Make Any THEY SIM thing taste knock for m The other tiful women

Insid DICK MI cards us from at Caps' Trai anticipation he writes. "W

Jacobs Adver terday after Dilley, who ju got acquainted Jim says he's back for the The man tur invited Jim to nice visit.

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