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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

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DEWEY'S FOREIGN POLICY

FOR a man who is supposed to know nothing about foreign policy—to hear some of the fourth termers talk—Mr. Dewey did pretty well in his Louisville speech last night. In fact we cannot remember a clearer, franker, or more constructive statement of the kind. Certainly there was much more meat in it than in the evasive generalities which Mr. Roosevelt gives off so airily on those rare occasions when he breaks his habit of secret diplomacy.

Is such a comparison unfair to the President because he, at the moment, is carrying the responsibility of international negotiations and the Republican candidate is not yet? We don't think so. Mr. Churchill has no hesitation in telling the British people what is British policy and, indeed, allied policy. In this democracy should the people have less information about, or control of, official policy than in Britain?

Since the Dewey address last night there is more hope of smoking the President out of his secrecy to approximate, if not match, his opponent's effective frankness. If that happens, all Americans will be indebted to Mr. Dewey for a great public service. Because the Rooseveltian habit of fixing things up with Winnie and Joe behind a Teheran screen or over the personal phone—and never reporting to the American public—is one of the gravest dangers today to open covenants openly arrived at.

This is not the first time Mr. Dewey and the Republicans have prodded the administration toward a more enlightened foreign policy. The Republican Mackinac declaration, in favor of American participation in an effective international organization for peace and security, forced the Roosevelt hand which for months had blocked congressional action.

JUST AS that incident, and the G. O. P. platform and Dewey acceptance speech robbed the fourth termers of their fake "isolation" issue, so Mr. Dewey last night proved that he and his associates, far from being amateurs, have a thorough knowledge of foreign affairs.

His foreign policy, as stated last night, is genuinely international—and realistic. He is for those things on which he and his party have helped to educate the American public and commit congress: Continued co-operation among the big powers to enforce a peace of non-aggression on the axis, and an international organization for the long haul.

But he is much more specific than the President on what to do with Germany, and about open diplomacy, and the rights of small nations, and the necessity of any lasting peace restraining the victors as well as the vanquished in the years to come.

The most striking difference between the Dewey policy and what little is known of the Roosevelt policy is the Republican candidate's emphasis on the fact that building peace is not only a matter of treaties and organizations. It is a continuous, constructive process of creating a healthy world, politically and economically.

HE WANTS an American leadership that neither dictates to others nor keeps them on a Yankee dole. In this his foreign policy is an inseparable part of his domestic policy, so different from that of "the Washington wasters" as he calls them:

"To hear them talk Uncle Sam must play the role of the kindly but senile old gentleman, who seeks to buy the good will of his poor relations by giving away the dwindling remains of his youthful earnings. That is no lasting way to win friends or to influence people. Good will cannot be bought with gold. It flows to the man who successfully manages his own affairs, who is self-reliant and independent, yet who is interested in the rights and needs of others."

What has the fourth term candidate to say to that?

A SHOW WINDOW FOR INDIANAPOLIS

STORES long ago learned the merchandising value of an attractive display. That is why they devote so much attention to show windows; they know that a tempting display of goods helps to channel into their doors some of the potential business passing by.

First impressions are important, and it is unfortunate that the millions of people who pass through most American cities see from the trains only the most unattractive sections of the community—switch-yards, tenements and shanties, dumps, warehouses and the back side of factories.

There isn't much that can be done about that, at least until the day when trains become noiseless and smokeless. The average traveler gets a more favorable picture of Indianapolis than of many other cities, but obviously you cannot route the main line of a railroad down Meridian street.

However, Indianapolis can do a better job of selling itself to the thousands of potential residents or customers who pass through each day. And that is what the Indianapolis Industrial Exposition is calculated to do.

A display of Indianapolis products in the Union station should help to "sell" the city, both to visitors and those who live here. More than 20,000 persons come and go at the station each day, and many of them have time on their hands while waiting for trains. They are curious about the city, and in a receptive mood for information and suggestion.

This should be an effective show window for Indianapolis.

RARE COMBINATION

FOR a time the relative status of Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery and Lieut.-Gen. Omar Bradley threatened to grow into one of those unpleasant situations which, through no fault of the principals, involves international jealousies, snubs and hard feelings. But General Eisenhower has dispelled the threats with an explanation in which modesty, tact and self-effacing bestowal of credit were masterfully blended.

The smiling Kansan is not only a great general. He is a great diplomat. And that is a rare combination to be admired and treasured.

'Let's Face It'

By Edward P. Morgan



LONDON, Sept. 9—London newspapers sound solemn warnings that life in Britain will be full of new hardships when peace breaks out in Europe, but according to a man in a bowler hat, named Sidebottom, Englishmen can be expected to do their valiant best to carry on.

Sidebottom fled to a local pub to brace himself for possibly even more serious news after hearing the government's announcement that the blackout would fade to a dimout on Sept. 17 and that the Home Guard would be placed on a voluntary basis next week. As he emerged to take his place in a bus queue in Piccadilly, he swayed gently like a barrage balloon in an autumn breeze, but his face was grave as he contemplated the complications which might emerge from these developments.

For instance, one paper quotes an anonymous doctor warning that for certain types of neurotics, the lights will come as a "searing shock" from which it will take them weeks to recover. Sidebottom pointed out that their convalescence might be further impeded by the increasing shortage of spirits which they would ordinarily use to steady themselves after this and other types of shock.

What's to Become of Them?

FURTHERMORE, THERE is the question of what is going to become of the sizable army of people who for five years have been employed in drawing blackout curtains at night and lifting them every morning. The government has thus far issued no white paper on how they may be plowed back into peace-time industry.

The government order threatens to put an end to the Londoners' widespread evening pastime of fracturing skulls against lamp posts and breaking legs in bomb craters after leaving their flashlights at home.

And this is not all. A London Daily Express story advocates that sailors should be among the first to be demobilized from the army and returned to their benches if Englishmen are to avoid appearing in public in shirtsleeves, or perhaps even scantier attire, after the armistice.

Another Daily Express story warns that it will take at least six months for hotels to "recover" after the peace. The item does not mention it but a large part of that time will undoubtedly be occupied in retaining staffs to welcome the public with the proper warmth instead of gleefully pitching guests into the street on a rainy night with a curt statement that there is no room.

Industry Is Doing Its Best

STILL ANOTHER paragraph reveals that there may be a shortage of victory flags, but industry is doing its best. New types of automobiles are being planned, but manufacturers complain that the government thus far has refused to release enough material to construct even toy models. Sidebottom reflected that there might be hell to pay if members of the house of lords were obliged to motor to post-war sessions of parliament in jeeps.

London's Daily Mail says that no more klaxons will be installed as warnings against flying bombs. Some of these are connected with downtown London, to signal "imminent danger" after the general siren is sounded. Attendants who had hoped to get in a lot more honks before the cease-firing order, may be expected to write warm letters to The London Times about this.

But the most startling development of all is the fact that the newspapers will soon be permitted to resume the publication of weather reports. This blow was eased somewhat by the potential though temporary ban on conditions in the Straits of Dover. Up to now that was the only weather news the Britons had. It will be suppressed because of the Germans, due to circumstances beyond their control, soon won't be able to discover for themselves what the weather is there.

Sidebottom sighed as he boarded his bus: "Peace would seem to be approaching," he said, "but let's face it."

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World Affairs

By William Philip Simms



WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Not all the crowned or uncrowned heads of governments in exile can hope to return to their capitals with prestige unimpaired. But the chances are that King Leopold III, of Belgium, will be among the first to make the grade.

Seldom has a monarch been more widely misunderstood or more maligned. On May 28, 1940, I was in the Cafe de la Paix, Paris. Over-the-radio came an announcement by Premier Reynaud, of France. Said he:

"I must announce to the French people a grave piece of news. The event occurred last night. France can no longer count on the Belgian army. King Leopold, without a word to the French and British, laid down his arms. It is without precedent in all history."

There was a stunned silence. At the table next to me sat an old man with a white mustache. Tears were running down his cheeks. Turning to me—a total stranger—he said:

"I am a Belgian industrialist. I have already lost my factories, my home, some of my family, even. That I can stand. But to think that my king should do this . . ."

Story Not Quite as Pictured

LITTLE BY LITTLE, however, we have found that the story was not quite as Premier Reynaud pictured it. Not that he deliberately distorted it. On the contrary, it appears that he was merely relaying the news as he had received it.

The American military attache who witnessed the Battle of Belgium reported that "capitulation was the only possible solution for Leopold. Those who say otherwise did not see the battle. I did."

Adm. Sir Roger Keyes, British liaison officer—and the British were among the hardest hit in that battle—immediately exonerated the king. "He was with Leopold throughout the night of May 27 when the decision to surrender was reached, yet he stated on his return to England that the young ruler had 'proved himself to be a gallant soldier and loyal ally.' U. S. Ambassador John Cudahy, said the same with documentation, and ex-President Herbert Hoover, after an exhaustive investigation, announced that 'history will declare that he acted loyally and with immense sacrifice.'

Tragedy Began in 1936

THE TRUTH IS that Leopold's tragedy began when Hitler recaptured the Rhineland in 1936 and his neighbors, France and Britain, failed to stop the Nazis. From that moment on, war was inevitable and the two great European democracies failed to take effective measures to stop it.

The beginning of the end came on May 17, 1940, when Germany's panzer divisions annihilated the French 9th army, broke through at Sedan, and got behind the allied armies then rushing into Belgium. Pocketed, their backs to the sea at Dunkirk, the jig was up. Further split into pockets by thrusts of the panzers, some of the allies capitulated and some, by a miracle, got away to England, without weapons and in tatters.

There was vast bitterness at the time, of course, especially in France. Some military men, with reputations at stake, naturally sought a scapegoat and Leopold seemed a logical one. But today, apparently, most Belgians—even those who at first were most outspoken against him—are demanding unity around the king.

This should be an effective show window for Indianapolis.

Look, Adolf! I've Found Some Loopholes in It!

By Thomas L. Stokes

Political Scene

By Thomas L. Stokes



WASHINGTON, Sept. 9—In the midst of war and the world's confusion it is helpful to pause and consider the career of George W. Norris of Nebraska, perhaps the outstanding democrat of our time, with a small "d" and in the best sense of that word.

He came from the plain people. He never lost touch with them. He represents the American ideal of citizenship and public service for which we are fighting

today. George Norris proved what so many men in politics never seem to understand: If a man has character, integrity and courage he can vote his convictions and get elected and re-elected without the trimming and evasion to which most politicians resort until it gets to be a habit.

He proved also that progressivism and liberalism are not things belonging only to youth, things that a man necessarily shuffles off as he comes to the middle and later years, but that if it is real it survives, as it did with him until his death at the age of 83 last week.

He still bristled with it the last time I saw him in the spring. He was keenly alert to all that was going on in the world, which seemed so far away from his home in the middle of the rolling Nebraska plains. We talked through a May afternoon, sitting in the cheerful sun parlor which he had added a few years before to the simple stucco house.

TVA His Memorial and His Legacy

AT ONE POINT he banged his fist on the table at his side. He was condemning Senator McKellar (D., Tenn.) who at the time was trying to get through some amendments which Mr. Norris and other friends of TVA believed would seriously cripple the operations of that great project. TVA was engraved on George Norris' heart. He talked about it a good deal that afternoon.

It is at the same time his memorial and his legacy, for it is as certain as the sun which streamed into the window that day that, in time, this great project in the Tennessee valley, this great reservoir of energy for lightening the burdens of the people, for protecting them from floods, will be duplicated in other great watersheds, just as George Norris had dreamed.

It helped to an understanding of George Norris to see him against his own background. McCook, Neb., is a town typical of so much of America, with Main street leading off from the railroad station, where the streamliner rushes through on its way from Chicago to Denver, and up the hill where the stores are.

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