

ROY W. HOWARD President  
WALTER LECKRONE Editor  
HENRY W. MANZ Business Manager  
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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

## THANK GOD

It is not all over, over there, it soon will be. In the past three days upwards of two million German troops have surrendered to the western allies, and the Russians have taken many others.

Though some of the scattered enemy pockets may hold out for awhile, as in Czechoslovakia, actually the big war in Europe is won. Regardless of official announcements, to the public V-E day is this week-end.

The fact that the unconditional surrender has come piecemeal over several days, rather than in an orthodox grand finale, may make the celebration less noisy here. But the depth of feeling is no less.

For in every home in America there is rejoicing and thanksgiving. There has never been a victory that has touched so many.

To be sure, there is still a job to do in Europe. But the worst is over.

AND THERE is another war, a hard war, still going on in the Pacific. But victory in Europe is the longest step toward final defeat of Japan. No place will the cheers be louder than in American foxholes, planes and ships of the Pacific.

If anything could curb our joy, it would be memory of the fallen. But we believe they would not have us mourn on Victory day.

For this is their triumph. This is the fulfillment of their sacrifice. Our rejoicing is a tribute to them. Our hearts sing because millions now may live who might have died, and because millions more may be free.

THIS IS more than military success alone. The physical battles had to be fought because of a spiritual conflict. Such powers of darkness had been loosed upon Europe that justice and religion and human decency were blinking out.

Civilization itself was going under. Criminal-sadists ruled not only in prison camps. Most of Europe was a torture chamber for body and mind and soul.

That empire of evil has now fallen. Its tyrants, its pagan priesthood, its propagandists and mis-educators, its puppets and panderers, its military might, have been wiped out.

Our tribute is to all—the dead and the living—who have won this victory. It is for us to maintain the victory in the years to come.

## HENRY L. DITHMER

THE death of Henry L. Dithmer brings a sense of personal loss to thousands of Indianapolis citizens who valued his friendship and respected his vision, integrity and ability.

Mr. Dithmer believed in the gospel of work. He worked hard in business, and he worked even harder in the affairs of the community. In both fields, he was a strong and constructive force. His career was in the American tradition of the ambitious youth who builds up a successful business on the basic virtues of industry, honesty and thrift. As such, it was both an example and an inspiration.

Indianapolis was good to Henry L. Dithmer, and he felt his obligation keenly. His was the spirit of the good steward who returns ten-fold that which was given him. His direction was felt in many civic activities, but perhaps his outstanding contribution was the manner in which he helped to make the Citizens Gas and Coke Utility a model of efficient, non-political municipal operation.

In private life Mr. Dithmer was a man of many interests and a warm, human personality. He took his honors lightly and remained always a simple and forthright American gentleman. His work is ended, but his influence will long be felt.

## MAN FOR THE JOB

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, just elected for a fourth term as president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, is the only man ever thus honored. But here's a case of precedent-breaking that we think almost everyone will applaud.

In three years we can't recall hearing the president of the U. S. C. of C. denounced as a stuffed shirt or a front man for predatory and reactionary interests. Mr. Johnston's activities may have surprised or even alarmed some ultra-conservative businessmen; but he has gone ahead, preaching his doctrine of a people's capitalism, negotiating for honorable and mutually-beneficial peace between capital and labor, working for sound prosperity and high employment, and otherwise making countless friends for himself and his organization.

His is the type of leadership business greatly needs. We congratulate the U. S. C. of C. directors on their wisdom in keeping him on the job for at least another year.

## DON'T GRAB, GENTLEMEN

THE house appropriations committee is making a mistake by proposing that congress vote, at this time, to give each senator and representative \$2500 a year for expenses.

Whether congressmen should have higher salaries, more money for clerks, assistants, etc.; are among questions now being studied by the special La Follette-Monroney committee. An attempt to answer any of them prematurely—while that committee is at work, before there has been full opportunity for public discussion, and while the war-time incomes of citizens are still subject to govern stabilization—would be almost certain to have unfortunate repercussions.

Remember the uproar over pensions for congressmen? That was the result of doing a probably right thing in a certainly wrong way. One such experience ought to be enough.

## THAT'S PROGRESS

SECRETARY of Commerce Henry A. Wallace has soloed. That means he has learned how to bring himself down to earth. In an airplane, we mean.

## REFLECTIONS—

## Around the Clock

By Howard Vincent O'Brien

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5.—Here's the way life goes in San Francisco. You have breakfast with several sleepy-eyed pressmen, exchanging views on the Polish question, communism in China, Arabian oil, international finance—nothing is sacred!

A quick glance at the morning papers and you are ready to inspect your mail. This includes several pounds of mimeographed exhortation from committees and causes, hot on the task of remaking the world. Meanwhile you have chatted with some of the celebrities, milling around the lobby of the Palace, each of them contributing a goblet of gossip and opinion.

It is now time to take one of the shuttle busses to the Fairmount and the Mark Hopkins. You wander around the lobbies of these normally exclusive inns, exchanging views with press photographers and other knowledgeable fellows. You may even corral a member of the Peruvian delegation or a U. S. senator—and have another exchange of views—all "off the record," as these conversations are lightly labeled.

### Lobby Crammed With Natives

YOUR NEXT port of call is the Sir Francis Drake—easier and tranquil; but with a few big shots loitering with dispatch cases under their arms. After an exchange of views with them you pass on to the nearby St. Francis. This lobby is always crammed with natives—mostly elderly females, who wait all day on the chance of catching a glimpse of Molotov, or the autograph of some lesser light.

Here you are certain to encounter updrawer diplomats and exchange views with them. Your notebook is now filled with notes which, by nightfall, you will be unable to read; and you are ready for a visit to the Press club. This you will find crowded with colleagues who have the latest dope.

After lunch—or before it—you attend somebody's press conference; at which a suave gentleman reads a carefully prepared statement; and adroitly parries all questions.

Finally, after more interviews with fellow-interviewers, you go out to the civic center for a plenary session of UNCTO. This is pleasant. You doze in a well-upholstered chair while a delegate from some Spanish-speaking country delivers an impassioned address in an English which sounds like French, the same being later translated into a French which sounds like Swahili.

After adjournment, you drift over to the press room to scan the bulletin board and exchange views with fellow scribes. These busy bees to the Palace, where there is a cocktail party for visiting journalists—a chummy affair with at least a thousand people in a decorous stampede for free champagne.

### Bigwigs Know as Little as You Do

AT DINNER and afterward, you exchange views with bigwigs who appear to know as little about what's going on as you do. You gather that nobody knows what's going on except Eden and Molotov and (maybe) Stettinius.

The shades of night having fallen, you repair to your chamber to compose your piece. You do this sitting on the edge of your bed with your typewriter in your lap. Your roommate (whose name is Lahey) has pre-empted the table, claiming that this is hot news, to be transmitted by wire, while your stuff will get back in plenty of time if you put it in a bottle and let it float home via the Panama canal.

A third colleague is standing up, writing on the dresser, with his feet in your laundry. The telephone jingles every few minutes, and there are many telegrams—mostly reproaches from your managing editor.

Somewhere after midnight you retire, your repose troubled only by friends who have succumbed to a craving for poker, and the thought that you're scheduled to make an early-morning broadcast.

As your chambermaid says, everything's turvy-toppy.

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## WORLD AFFAIRS—

## First Jobs

By Peter Edson

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5.—No coverage of this United Nations conference would be complete without some mention of what might be called "the unofficial bleeding heart delegations."

The professional lookers-after-other-peoples-interests and the amateur sufferers-from-other-peoples-injuries are almost as numerous as delegates and consultants and sometimes they get a bit out of hand and under foot.

So far no official worry over the fate of Free Ireland has stuck his head up, but every other brand of long-distance oppressed patriot is here with bells on, jingling and jangling continuously.

When there is only one faction, it isn't so bad. But when two factions of Free Koreans, Free Poles, Free Slavs or Free Indians get to popping off at each other, the din gets real merry. Mostly this happens at press conferences where the representatives of the "superpatriot house organs" try to raise embarrassing questions which will bring out support for their pet causes. Mostly these efforts flop.

### Wails Can't Be Ignored

IT IS of course noble to fight for a cause and it isn't polite to scoff at another man's beliefs. Furthermore, these wails from the mourners' bench can't be ignored.

Spokesmen for almost every delegation have emphasized that the San Francisco conference has nothing to do with solving specific world problems. Its job is merely to create a United Nations organization which will deal with these problems in the future if they are international problems. In purely domestic fights within the borders of one country, the United Nations organization will be obligated to keep its hands off.

All the loud and discordant noises heard in San Francisco today, however, merely indicate what tomorrow's trouble spots are going to be and what problems they will present to the United Nations organization to solve, once that organization gets going.

By far the loudest yellers at San Francisco are the patriots for Palestine. You can't blame them. The Jews have taken an awful beating in this war and there ought to be some place they could go to get away from it all. Yet the places this Palestine question has been raised in San Francisco are utterly fantastic. Stettinius has been bothered with it, and Bidault and even T. V. Soong thought it is strictly none of the business of the governments of the United States, France or China and none of the business of this conference. But just try to get any Palestinian to understand.

### Lobbying All Over the Lot

NEXT TO PALESTINE, the question that comes up oftenest is the well known Polish dispute. As if the Big Four weren't having enough trouble settling this one, a couple of rival factions of Polish-Americans are on hand to aid in the gumming-up. Rival British and nationalist India delegations tangle whenever they get a chance and so do the pro-Mikhailovich and two-Tito Broz Serbs. Dr. Singman Rhee and Kiso Hahn are here at the heads of rival Korean groups.

A made-in-America "Stop Franco" movement headed by William L. Shirer and Freda Kirchwey is lobbying all over the lot to make sure Fascist Spain doesn't sneak in the back door.

Across the bay in Oakland, Phil Murray and Sidney Hillman of the C. I. O. are holding their international labor convention, issuing handouts to complain that nobody is paying any attention to them. Some place around is Bill Green of the A. F. of L., complaining because nobody will listen to him complain about what C. I. O. is doing.

All these self-appointed martyrs will bleed you a bucket of propaganda on slightest provocation. Sometimes it seems as though they do themselves and their causes more harm than good by showing off their wounds and bawling in the wrong places and at the wrong times.

## Says Which?



## Hoosier Forum

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

By a Reader of The Times, Indianapolis

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## POLITICAL SCENE—

## Real Test

By Thomas L. Stokes

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5.—A real test is in the making as to whether the international security organization created here is to be entirely dominated by the five big powers among the United Nations or whether there is to be some effective voice in its most vital decision—that of keeping the peace—by other nations, small and medium.

This is to a degree a test for the organization itself, for its outcome may determine if it is to be a success or if it may go the way of the old League of Nations which proved ineffectual when it faced a real challenge.

### Revolves About So-Called Veto Power

THE TEST revolves about the so-called "veto power" of the Big Five—the United States, Great Britain, Russia, China and France. But it may involve, as it develops, other issues here that will have a bearing on whether this is to be another balance of power league or a real co-operative international organization.

The Dumbarton Oaks plan, the basis for consideration here, requires the vote of seven of the 11 members of the proposed security council both to determine if peaceful measures for settling disputes are to be instituted and whether military action by the police force of the organization is to be carried out against an aggressor. The Big Five are permanent members of the security council. The other six are drawn from other nations on a rotating basis with two-year terms.

But the Big Five occupy a privileged status. Any one of them can veto action in either case, either for peaceful settlement procedure or for military action. In the case of final measures of enforcement against an aggressor, a unanimous vote by the Big Five is necessary. In the case of peaceful measures of settlement—the natural first step—a unanimous Big Five vote also is required, except for such as might be involved in the dispute. (Any of the 11 security council members involved in a dispute must step aside when peaceful settlement is considered and abstain from taking part.)

### Evatt Leads Fight on Issue

THERE HAS BEEN much grumbling among the other nations, small and medium, over this veto, particularly as regards peaceful settlement measures. If any one of the Big Five can stop even preliminary steps to keep the peace by arbitration, then they ask, what effect can the organization have?

Rising up to champion a fight on the veto as it affects peaceful settlement is Herbert V. Evatt, attorney general of Australia, the stocky, plain-speaking delegate who is impressing himself upon this conference for his straightforward approach to some of the big problems raised here. He is trying to organize the medium and smaller nations for this fight. He has received many assurances of support, but is keeping his fingers crossed, for he realizes the power of the Big Five.

They are solid on this veto issue. If he could break through the Big Five line here it would be a hopeful sign. It might help the campaign for various other changes, initiated here and there, among them, more power for the assembly on which all nations are represented, increase of the security council to give the smaller nations more representation, compulsory jurisdiction for the proposed international court.

### Big Five Has Things Well in Hand

SUCCESS ON SOME of these issues would make for a more democratic security organization, though no hopes can be raised on these scores. For the Big Five is powerful, has things well in hand generally, and is helped in putting over its program by the anxiety to get some sort of an organization set up as quickly as possible because of the fast tempo of events in Europe.

Mr. Evatt suggests that only the votes of three of the Big Five be required in the case of peaceful settlement procedure. He does not challenge, as do some others, a unanimous Big Five vote for final action against an aggressor. He holds that they must be unanimous in such a case for effective action. He has chosen the easier phase of the veto issue, but it nevertheless will be an important test.

## IN WASHINGTON—

## Rebuttal

By Daniel M. Kidney

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Chairman Charles A. Halleck (R. Ind.) of the House Republican campaign committee has taken issue with the conclusion that "the reactionary record of Republicans in congress" caused defeat of the party's last three presidential candidates.

This charge was made by Rep. Charles M. LaFollette (R. Ind.) in urging G. O. P. support for the congressional amendment resolution which would ratify treaties by a majority vote of both houses, rather than two-thirds vote of the senate.

Mr. LaFollette attributed the defeat of candidates Landon in 1936, Wilkie in 1940 and Dewey in 1944 to the party's congressional record. All these candidates had campaigned on more liberal platforms than the party supported by their votes in congress, he contended.

### Congressional Candidates Ran Ahead

MR. HALLECK came back with statistics to show that the Republicans won house seats in the off-year elections but lost them during presidential campaign years.

He declared in the contested congressional districts (which excludes the Solid South) Republican candidates ran some 700,000 votes ahead of their presidential tickets in 1944.

"We expect to carry the house in the off-year election in 1946," Mr. Halleck asserted. "And we will win on our record."

Statistics cited by Mr. Halleck show that in 1936, when Governor Landon was the G. O. P. presidential nominee there were 315 Democrats and 104 Republicans in the house. After the landslide for the late President Roosevelt (only Maine and Vermont went Republican) there were 331 Democrats in the house and only 89 Republicans.

Following the off-year election of 1938, the Republican congressional seats increased to 169, but when the late Wendell L. Wilkie was defeated by Roosevelt in 1940 they dropped to 163.

### Had 208 Seats in 1942

THE OFF-YEAR election of 1942 (after Pearl Harbor when Wilkie had predicted that many Republican congressmen were doomed because of their pre-war record) they increased their seats to 208, Mr. Halleck pointed out.

"In the presidential year of 1944 we had 210 seats and everyone was hopeful of carrying the house," he said.

But in the election in which Governor Dewey was defeated for the presidency, the Republican house membership dropped to 190. That is the present number, with 242 Democrats, one Progressive, one American Labor and one seat vacant.

"Bearing these figures and the results of the off-year elections in mind, I do not see how congress can be charged with Republican defeats in presidential elections," Mr. Halleck said.

Answering the statistics, Mr. LaFollette said that the people did not believe the liberal professions of the presidential candidates and platforms when they looked at the party's congressional record. He again predicted that "unless the Republicans in congress stop opposing all progressive change, we never will elect a President of the United States."

## SATURDAY

## Born

ABOARD 1 (Delayed) ago that today, it had This mor



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