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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

Strong Hint From ECA

ECA ADMINISTRATOR PAUL HOFFMAN did not "get tough"—as had been forecast—with the Marshall Plan countries. He simply told them some economic facts of life which he left to be pondered.

He said the fact that we have in the United States a single market of 150 million consumers, unhampered by trade barriers between states, has proved "indispensable to the strength and efficiency of our economy."

By comparison, Western Europe has 270 million consumers. If the Marshall Plan countries could only get together and promote free trade by knocking down tariff barriers so these 270 million consumers could be more easily reached, he suggested, the benefits would be obvious.

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HOW an economic federation of Europe could be achieved—in the light of rigidly maintained sovereignties, centuries-old jealousies, different systems of currencies and retaliatory tariffs—Mr. Hoffman did not say. Some countries already have made a stab at this, but without much success.

But it was not Mr. Hoffman's prerogative to tell them how; his point was simply that they had better get on with it. For if they don't—and here came his punch line of thought—Congress might sharply cut the Marshall Plan funds next year. So, they had better come up with some concrete results such as "a record of accomplishment and a program" by early 1950, or face "disaster for nations and poverty for people."

That's plain enough talk, and we hope Mr. Hoffman continues to hammer it home as he "counsels and advises" the hard-bitten beneficiaries of the American taxpayer. If there is no other way, maybe they can be scared into action.

'Love That Veep'

YES, SIR, the world is bound to feel a little more springy of step and roguish of eye today, as it muses over Vice President Barkley's successful wooing of the St. Louis widow.

For all the world loves a lover, and our Veep now stands revealed as having taken on that new and glamorous role. The gallant and versatile gentleman from Kentucky has been many things to the Truman administration he adorns—traveling salesman, evangelist, yarn-spinner and solemn magistrate of the Senate—but now he adds a much-needed filip of romance. It is, we may reflect beamishly, as if we had a veritable Prince of Wales and he was going to get married.

We hasten to congratulate the Veep and extend best wishes for Mrs. Carleton Hadley, the comely bride-to-be. We hope they have a splendiferous wedding, with President Truman as best man, with Margaret singing "Love Is Sweeping the Country," and with full photographic coverage of what may be a final public rendition of the Veep's famous hair-trigger kiss.

Is Nothing Sacred?

SOMETIMES it seems as though nobody wants anybody to have any fun. For instance, the City Council of Waukesha, Wis., has just passed a resolution prohibiting Waukesha saloons from serving drinks on the house.

Waukesha, of course, is not the first—nor, we fear, the last—community to take such action. The rule-makers have been busy ever since Repeal gave Americans back their inalienable right to an occasional snifter. The free lunch disappeared long ago. In some states, including Indiana, you are not allowed to stand up to a bar like a man, but must grope your way through the gloom of a cocktail lounge to a table.

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THE ban against drinks on the house is by far the most sinister. There is something delightfully wholesome about the practice of the bartender buying an occasional round. It places the relationship between the drinker and the publican on a personal basis.

Keep it up, little men in Waukesha and elsewhere. Keep it up and perhaps the day will come when that honest fellow behind the bar will be replaced by a slot machine, which will dispense drinks silently in exchange for a coin dropped into its coldly scientific maw.

And on that day, O little men, we switch to sarsaparilla.

Remembering Disabled Veterans

MEMORY of war's ravages fades rapidly and the public, in a period of fast-moving developments, is inclined to forget the sacrifices made by the thousands of disabled veterans.

A notable reminder that it is the duty of all to show some preference to crippled men of the battlefields was the American Legion award here yesterday, honoring Eastern Airlines for its record in employment of disabled GI's.

Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, president of the airlines, in accepting the award, gave an accurate characterization of most disabled veterans when he said:

"They do not ask for much . . . but they have much to give."

Honoring a Hoosier

INDIANA'S traditional pride in the success of its native sons will be symbolized at Brazil tomorrow.

Thousands will gather there from many states to pay tribute to George N. Craig, recently elected National Commander of the American Legion, a post of high influence in the nation.

Gov. Schricker gave the celebration official status with a proclamation, calling for statewide observance of "Craig Day" in Indiana.

It makes Indiana the focal point of interest for war veterans everywhere, having the distinction of embracing both the Legion's National Headquarters and its Commander.

CHINA . . . By Clyde Farnsworth

Reds Move to Take Hainan

One of Oldest 5th Columns In World Ready to Strike

HAIKOW, Hainan Island, China, Nov. 2—One of the oldest Communist fifth columns in the world is ready to strike in Hainan the moment China's mainland Reds launch an assault on this strategically placed island.

It's strength, at most 10,000 men under arms, isn't great even by comparison with the remnants of the Chinese Nationalist armies detailed to Hainan's external and internal defense.

But it has strong allies in the shape of Hainan's forested mountains, jungled valleys, malarial mosquitoes and the attitude of the two million inhabitants of an island almost forgotten by the Chinese government and its former allies.

"The Communists' best gun is the mosquito," says Bishop Dominque Desperben, French Catholic missionary who probably knows Hainan better than any other foreigner.

Hopeless Campaign

ALTHOUGH this is the beginning of Hainan's coolest weather it is also the start of the malaria season when thousands of Hainanese die from the disease.

Mainlanders, including troops from Shantung Province in North China now garrison the Nationalists' narrow holdings here and are in part engaged in an almost hopeless anti-Communist campaign on one limited front.

That is in the mountains at the Nata coppertin mining center about 70 miles southwest of Haikow.

Elements of two Nationalist armies and part or all of one division are now in Hainan under command of the island's governor of the past six months, Gen. Chen Chi-tang of Kwantung Province, a member of the standing committee of the Kuomintang.

Gen. Chen, who is in his 60s, came here with a lot of good ideas about reform and rejuvenation of the Nationalist cause and has put some of them into effect. But he was dealt in pretty late in the game.

Military Miracle

IF HE can repel attack by Red regulars across Hainan Strait it will be a minor military miracle. To do that and at the same time defend the rear from the Hainanese Communists who have been vegetating here since the 1920s will be next to impossible.

The neck of the South China Sea that separates Hainan from Luichow Peninsula is little more than 10 miles wide at the narrowest point. When, and if, Red Gen. Chen Keng's regulars occupy the peninsula—which appears to be their present objective — Hainan's northern beaches will be less than one night's easy sailing by the slowest boats for a Communist invasion from the mainland.

On Hainan, the Communists are biding their time. They have more men than arms—but enough to have sent occasional detachments of armed guerrillas to the mainland to help the Kwangtung irregulars harass the Nationalists behind the lines.

Fighters Organize

HAINAN'S homegrown Red troops are commonly called guerrillas here but they're uniformed and organized along army lines in five skeletal divisions.

They are poorly armed, mostly with old Japanese rifles.

Each regiment has two trench mortars but no heavier artillery. The Reds have no vehicles but do have enough radio equipment to coordinate guerrilla activities and "government of the liberated areas."

Without visible evidence of outside aid, for that so far would have been virtually impossible, the Reds have been functioning as the government in much of Hainan. They've divided the land in some places. They publish their own newspapers and collect taxes wherever they can.

When the Nationalists drive them from valley villages into the hills they take the whole population and all foodstuffs with them.

FOSTER'S FOLLIES

("Oklahoma City—Asks council to install television for lonely firemen.")

In Old Oklahoma City
Loving kindness is the creed.
There's no rationing on pity
When a fellowman's in need.

"To our fire-fighters lonely,
"Let's bring video," said he.
Which is true compassion.—Only
He sells TV sets, you see!

Winners in Every Conflict

FOREIGN POLITICS . . . By Marquis Childs

Key to Europe Seen in Germany

BONN, Germany, Nov. 2—Gratitude, says Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, is a short-lived virtue. He sits in his sparsely furnished office in what was once Bonn's museum and talks in dry, undemonstrative fashion about the future of Germany and the government he heads.

American help has been very large. Dr. Adenauer says Germans know it has kept the western sectors from going Communistic. But if it is not continued then the danger will be very great again.

That, in effect, sums up the German situation today. West and East bid for strength in this strategic center. Some people, the Chancellor says pointedly, do not seem to realize that this is not 1939 but 1949 and the age of the atomic weapon and the guided missile.

His inference is plain: The control of Germany means the control of all Western Europe and Great Britain.

Chancellor Adenauer stressed in his talk with me what I'm sure he emphasizes with all Western visitors. That is, that a continuation of the dismantling of German industry will make it impossible for his government to survive. And he gives a clear intimation that the government that succeeds his will almost certainly be a worse one.

Joint Ownership

IN return for the end of dismantling, Dr. Adenauer is willing to grant the French and British stock ownership in firms marked to be dismantled. This, he says, would mean joint ownership of vital German industry not only in the Ruhr but elsewhere. If dismantling is not soon ended, according to the Chancellor, then it will become a rallying cry for nationalistic extremists just as Versailles was a rallying cry after 1920.

Yet, Chancellor Adenauer is gloomy at present. He can see no chance of the French changing their position, which is adamant for the continuation of the dismantling program as already specified. The British, as the Chancellor sees the situation, are even more inflexible in their stand.

I asked Dr. Adenauer about the move of Soviet Russia in creating through the new subservient East German government an East Zone police force trained in the use of light artillery and tanks. This, he said, created a serious situation for Western Germany where there is no effective police force today, except for ineffectual and badly trained police in local communities.

It is necessary, the Chancellor said, to have a force to balance that in the East. This happens to coincide with the thinking of some American military men. If trouble occurred in the Ruhr, according to Dr. Adenauer, there would be no way to check it.

The theme he invariably came back to was the danger of absorption of Western Germany into the Soviet bloc. There are forces in Western Germany working directly and indirectly to that end, he said.

Peace Conference

SHORTLY there will be held, at Neuwied in the Western Zone, a peace conference to be attended by at least three ministers of the new East German government, including Foreign Minister Georg Dertinger.

This will be a powerful propaganda move, in the Chancellor's view, to put over the main Communist theme song for Western Germany.

This theme is that all of Germany must be neutralized and become a kind of large-size Switzerland. Let the occupation troops be withdrawn and leave the German people to themselves is constantly the repeated motif.

The goal of this propaganda is obvious. It is preparing the way for the announced withdrawal of Russian troops from the Eastern Zone. But the Russians will leave behind a force they have trained and indoctrinated and which they will control.

War between France and Germany is absolutely unthinkable, Chancellor Adenauer says. This is, therefore, an all-important time to bring the two nations together within a federation of Western Europe.

Deeply Religious

THE 73-year-old Chancellor has a thin, ascetic face. He is a deeply religious Roman Catholic who is determined in the face of strong opposition to make Bonn the permanent capital because it is near his beloved cathedral at Cologne and in the heart of the Catholic Rhineland.

It sometimes seems that Bonn is almost too sheltered from forces at work again, like yeast, beneath the surface of a reviving Germany. Chancellor Adenauer has great strength of character as well as great resourcefulness. He will need it all if he is to come through this perilous transition interval when Germany once more is stirring like a giant slowly rousing from a long, drugged sleep.

Hoosier Forum

"I do not agree with a word that you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

'Vagrancy Law Invalid'

By Mary Kanable, City

The arrest of two persons recently on a charge of "city vagrancy" dramatically exposes the need for judges to rule the city ordinance on vagrancy unconstitutional.

For a long time the Indianapolis police have used this ordinance to arrest at will peaceful citizens, guilty of no disorder, guilty of no crime. It was under this ordinance that hundreds of innocent persons have been herded into the city jail, in direct violation of the Federal Constitution, which protects the individual from arrest unless he is charged with a criminal act.

According to the "city vagrancy" ordinance, any policeman may, at will, stop any individual on the street and demand that he give an "accounting" of himself. The police have been using this ordinance to accost persons on the street, demand their name, address and occupation. If, presumably, the person is not carrying identification with him, the police can throw him into the city jail.

In the case of one woman who had $21 dollars in her purse and was obviously not a vagrant, it is interesting to note that she was arrested and held incommunicado for five hours. The police did not permit her to make a phone call to her attorney or to a friend, as is required by law. When her husband appeared at the city jail to ask for her release, he was told she would have to stay in prison until Monday because Judge Clark would not be in his chambers until then, and he would have to sign the release order.

The arrest of this woman was a case of political persecution. Although the city prosecutor pretended she was arrested because she refused to give the officer her name and address, the officer himself stated that he had accosted her because she was passing out Communist leaflets.

It seems to me that every patriotic person in Indianapolis, everyone who wishes to see the Constitution and the Bill of Rights enforced, must be interested in seeing that this infamous ordinance is wiped off the statute books.

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'Withdraw That Slur'

By Maria Burkett, 1428 Park Ave.

Letter (with hisses) to Henry Butler, Times music critic, who recently wrote: "That oddly appealing little waltz . . . has just enough mouldy mushroom decadence . . ."

Withdraw that slur. Dare not speak lightly of the song I love. Mushrooms, indeed! Varicose ears may dismiss it with a culinary allusion but to the listening heart, Debussy's "La Plus que lente" is a little jewel, exquisite, polished.

Edwin Biltcliffe plays Debussy with infinite delicacy and finesse; why dilute pearls in the vinegar of faint praise, like a midwestern Cleopatra? Our rustic caution, lest we betray ourselves in matters cultural, defeats itself. It's no secret that we don't like music. However, we might learn to like it better if we learned to like more wholeheartedly, to respond less self-consciously. So, Henry, we wish you would step on that superb 16-cylinder typewriter you drive so cautiously. We like "big tone."

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'We Need Another Lincoln'

By M. S. T., City

Lincoln made the following statement at New Haven Mar. 6, 1860:

"I am glad to see that a system of labor prevails in New England under which labor can strike when they want to. One of the reasons I am opposed to slavery is just here."

While we have Lincoln memorials all over the country and call him the immortal and the great emancipator and hold his birthday as a legal holiday, it is hard to believe that a man with his ideas, ideals and scruples could not be elected today.

Firstly, we have too many people that believe in segregation that produces inferiority complexes and secondly, a man who champions the cause of labor is considered a radical. What this country needs today is another Lincoln.

What Others Say

IF we build this carrier and find that we don't need it, the cost to the nation will be $189,000,000. If we don't build this carrier and find that we do need it, the cost to the nation may be the nation itself.—**Capt. Arleigh A. Burke, assistant chief of Naval Operations in charge of research, on the "super-carrier."**

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THE new Social Security bill, if passed by the Senate and made into law, should remove the need for the big pension campaigns in important industrial fields.—**AFL President William Green.**

NEWS NOTEBOOK . . . By Douglas Larsen

Behind the Scenes

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2—Extreme rickety condition of the White House has everybody worried. Especially President Truman. It's just a shell, with crude supports inside holding up the walls. The special commission charged with its remodeling has been slow in getting repair work started.

It has been admitted that the slightest earth tremor in the D. C. area would bring it crashing down. Even some of the heavy winds this fall have had engineers scared. Now, the increasing possibility of a heavy snow falling on the roof has become a big worry.

There's not much chance of physical injury to the President if the walls of the old residence collapse. The First Family lives in the Blair House across the street and the President works in a new wing of the White House, apart from the old structure. But if it did come down, it would be extremely difficult to reproduce the old building exactly, as it is now planned. And cost would be much more.

Every chance the President gets, he needles members of the commission to speed up the contract-letting so that work can begin. At the latest, it is now estimated work should start before the first of the year.

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Sticking With the West

IN THE first national election held by an Atlantic Pact nation since the signing, the Norwegians expressed overwhelming support of their government's decision to align itself with the West.

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Putting on Wings

MILITARY personnel are expected to be doing a lot more flying on commercial airplanes from now on. An agreement has been signed with all the air companies giving servicemen traveling on orders a flat 10 per cent discount. And the services have notified all transportation officers that most of the special prohibitions against commercial flying have been canceled. It is predicted that this will result in military travel becoming 12 per cent of all airline trade.

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Feminine Touch

MAINE'S Sen. Margaret Chase Smith has carried her femininity right to the front door of her suite in the Senate Office building. Every other door to a Senator's office has the simple words "walk in" printed on the outside beneath their name. Sen. Smith's door, however, has a very pretty picture of the rock-bound coast of Maine fastened to it.

Only precedent for such a decoration on a Senate door was set by the late Sen. Overton from Louisiana. When daylight saving time was started in the District of Columbia each year, he would hang out a sign which said that his office was continuing to be run by "God's time."

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Stumbling Block

U. S. MONETARY experts fear a possible special trade agreement being set up among Italy, France and Belgium, which will take advantage of the devaluation and end up hurting Britain. Rumors of this happening have increased lately. The plan which has been cooking for some time would be made to look like a further relaxation of all trade barriers, which Americans think desirable. Actually it would tighten European trade channels.

Its details are too complicated for all but the experts to understand. But its effect would be to funnel British goods to Italy and Belgium through France, with the two countries paying less than if they had bought the goods direct from England. And England would have to give up its scarce gold to get essential items from Italy and Belgium.

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Break for Veterans

VETERANS' administration is preparing for a great increase in the volume of straight, four per cent GI loans on homes, as soon as the newly passed law which provides a more flexible secondary market for such loans becomes effective. Up until now the straight VA loan has almost disappeared in favor of the combination FHA-VA loan, which costs the veteran a lot more money.

SIDE GLANCES — By Galbraith

"I've been pretending I'm crazy about his food so he would eat it—the third helping got me!"

WEAPONS . . . By Jim G. Lucas

Germ Warfare Issue

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2—Maj. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe, new chief of the Army Chemical Corps, says we must be prepared to defend ourselves from germ warfare if we ever fight with Russia.

Gen. McAuliffe says the Russians are ruthless and probably will use "anything they can get hold of," including germs. We won't, he says, until they start it. Then, we'll probably drop germs of our own.

The general's statement, brief as it was, shed a few rays of light on a phase of military planning about which the general public knows little. The atomic bomb—which Gen. McAuliffe says is still our "greatest weapon"—has been widely discussed.

But germ warfare—if it is mentioned at all—is something we talk about in whispers. The average citizen abhors the thought of it. The bomb, at least, can be seen. Germ warfare, on the other hand, represents the unseen and the sinister.

Ideal Weapon

A CONSIDERABLE number of military planners think this is unfortunate. In a detached sort of way, they argue that germs represent the ideal weapon. In the pure science of military strategy, they insist, there is no better offensive weapon, including the bomb.

This group believes it is more than possible that any future war will be settled eventually by germs, rather than by guns, tanks, planes and bombs. For that reason, they feel the public should be educated and know its hazards as well as its limitations.

Those who believe that germ warfare may decide any future war argue something like this:

"What will it matter if we have the biggest air force, the biggest navy and the biggest army in the world? What will it matter if we have thousands of the biggest and best atom bombs? If suddenly half or two-thirds of our men turn in at hospitals, we won't be able to move."

Can Be Controlled

MANY MILITARY men argue that germs are the "ideal" offensive weapon because they can be controlled. The public conceives of germ warfare as the killing of millions of people with some virulent, fatal disease. But its proponents say that is not always the idea.

They say, for instance, it may not be necessary to kill anyone. The power launching germ warfare may merely want to make everybody sick for a while. Sick men don't fight. It may be decided to kill in one section and merely make people listless and nauseated in another.

Wars are fought with the idea of occupying the defeated country with as little postwar strain as possible. Our biggest headaches in Germany and Japan have come from restoring their war blasted economies. The idea of taking over a country intact has a real appeal to military planners who look beyond the final battle. No aggressor would relish marching into a plague ridden country and exposing his own troops to the disease. It would be more to his liking to have the enemy get well and go back to work.

Germs and gas were not used in World War II, although both sides were ready. It is no longer a secret, however, that we planned at one time to poison Japan's rice crop and starve that nation into submission. The poison was on the West Coast ready to be loaded aboard ship when it became obvious the war was drawing to a close. It never was used, and now is marketed commercially as a weed killer.