

Good Man for Tough Job

PRESIDENT TRUMAN is reported to have decided to make Air Secretary W. Stuart Symington chairman of the National Security Resources Board.

If that is his decision, we hope he will waste no time making the appointment.

Mr. Symington has been secretary of the Air Force since the department was created in 1947. He has been a good one. Under his supervision, the Air Force made an orderly transition from a corps of the Army to full-fledged membership on the national defense team.

Under Mr. Symington it successfully carried out its role in the Berlin airlift. He has given it long-range plans and a clear vision of its role in the nation's future. It will be as hard for the Air Force to give him up as it is for Mr. Symington to leave.

BUT WE think the shift should be made. The National Security Resources Board has been neglected too long. For all practical purposes, it has never had a chairman. Mr. Truman's first appointee, Arthur M. Hill, was an able man, but he never had the President's support. It was all too evident that Mr. Hill and Mr. Truman did not see eye to eye on matters of industrial mobilization.

When Mr. Hill retired, Mr. Truman tried to hand the chairmanship to his old Senate crony, Mon Wallgren. The Senate—wisely, we believe—rejected him. Since then, Dr. John R. Steelman has been acting chairman. He tries to devote half of each day to the job. Under Dr. Steelman, the board seldom meets.

A STRONG National Security Resources Board is vital to our national defense. It is the President's adviser on industrial and civilian mobilization and preparedness. Its chairman, in an emergency, inherits most of the wartime powers vested in 137 emergency boards and agencies in World War II. He is automatically a member of the National Security Council.

Such a job needs a strong man. It needs a man who understands how to marshal America's industries and resources, a man of drive and energy, one who will not be shoved aside. Stuart Symington is a man who gets things done.

Leon Blum

WHEN Leon Blum was a child he once asked his father, a wealthy businessman: "How is it possible to buy an article cheap, sell it dear, and call oneself honest?"

The man who was fated to become premier of France three times, each in trying moments of history, probably never found the answer to his own satisfaction. He died yesterday at 77, a really grand old man of France and one of its most respected elder statesmen.

He was ever the gentle soul, the compassionate idealist blinded to the evil in men and man-made events.

Even as Hitler and Mussolini put the finishing touches on their war machines and as the world headed toward catastrophe, Leon Blum clung to his child-like faith in the honesty and good intentions of people. In an interview with Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor William Philip Simms in 1937, he was saying: "If I were in the insurance business underwriting the risks of war, I believe I would lower my premiums. The odds now seem to be in favor of peace."

When war came and France was betrayed, he could have escaped abroad and lived in luxury. Instead, he remained behind, as a Socialist and a Jew, he was arrested and sent to a Nazi prison. Liberated by American soldiers in 1945, he returned to France and a year later came to the United States seeking financial aid to rehabilitate his country.

New York gave him a tremendous welcome, and when he tried to speak of his gratitude his voice trembled, and tears ran down his cheeks.

Food for Red China

FAMINES in China are an old and familiar story to the American public and relief organizations whose contributions in the past have saved millions of lives. But the famine that has struck China this year is gravely different from two standpoints.

First, it is undoubtedly the worst in recent history. An estimated 50 million persons are affected with 10 million at the point of starvation. In one area it is reported that hunger-mad peasants have resorted to cannibalism.

Second, China is now in the hands of a Communist regime which has lowered the usual Iron Curtain and is prepared to sacrifice thousands of lives to make the Moscow-inspired "revolution" a success.

CHIANG KAI-SHEK has appealed for world aid to the people in Red China. He offered to do everything possible to see that food reached them, and he plans an airlift from his own hard-pressed government on Formosa.

The American public will have to make up its mind soon what to do about China relief this year. We don't see how we can refuse to help.

But if any widespread air program gets under way and the Reds let us move supplies into their areas, we believe America must insist on a free rein in administering the relief and see to it that the food goes to the starving people and does not become a political weapon in the hands of their Communist over-lords.

It Does Seem Futile

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT said that "it seems futile" to support the Chinese Nationalists in the United Nations, where the Communists are clamoring for their seat.

"Most of us feel," she said, "that the Chinese Nationalist government was given every opportunity to form a government representing all the people of China."

And most of those who felt that way took every opportunity to tear down whatever government the Nationalists were trying to form.

DEAR BOSS . . . By Dan Kidney

Urges World Trade Program

Lilly Firm Official Argues For International Plan

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—Dear Boss—A well-reasoned plea for U. S. approval of the International Trade Organization was received here from Forrest Teel, president of Eli Lilly International Corp., Indianapolis.

Addressed to Rep. Andrew Jacobs, Indianapolis Democrat, he had it published in the Congressional Record so that all members of the House and Senate now have it available to read.

It outlines in dramatic fashion the changed attitude of some American manufacturers from the old GOP high-tariff days. For in arguing for ITO, Mr. Teel stresses again and again the need for exchanging goods in world trade if the U. S. A. is to remain prosperous and avoid unemployment.

Citing the vast post-war expansion in the export field of his own business, Mr. Teel wrote: "It is important to this industry, therefore, that Congress approve HJR 238 and thereby enable the United States to give its full and active support to ITO."

"The export of drugs and pharmaceutical products has grown phenomenally since the war. Few industries have shown such expansion.

Exports Increased

"WHEREAS the normal pre-war exports of the industry were only about \$18 million annually, today exports average \$200 million; The exports of Eli Lilly & Co. have increased five times, thus contributing to the continuous high level of employment in Indianapolis and to the well-being of not only our employees but also the many professional people and tradesmen who furnish them with goods and services. All of them have a direct stake in the continuance of our export markets."

Admitting that his particular business occupies a favored position in dollar exchange (drugs obtaining priority in various foreign countries), Mr. Teel cites the danger to all U. S. exporting that lies in increased trade barriers. The answer, although admittedly not perfect, is ITO, he maintained.

The ITO charter, which he wants Congress to approve, establishes an agreed code of principles for the conduct of international trade and an organization to assist in implementing them.

Specialized Agency

THE organization would be a specialized agency of the United Nations and its establishment would be carrying out the policy laid down by the Congress in the concluding paragraph of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act in which membership in the Bretton Woods organizations was accepted.

The charter principles deal with the commercial policy (tariffs, preferences, nondiscrimination with regard to imported goods in internal taxation and regulations, the use of quotas, subsidies, simplification of customs duties), international action for the limitation of harmful activities of international cartels, rules governing the formation of intergovernmental commodity agreements, principles affecting foreign investment, employment and economic development.

Mr. Teel concludes: "I am in favor of ITO because it is the best available means for attacking existing trade barriers and controls that prevent restoration of multilateral trade. It is important that the Havana charter obtained the agreement of 54 nations, without an agreement of such scope there is no practical possibility of dealing with the problem."

All Trade Barriers

"IT is also important that the charter covers the entire range of trade barriers, from import quotas to cartels. It is important that these restrictions are dealt with in detail and cover the interests of all industries engaged in trade."

"We must deal in realities. We badly need an ITO, and only one practical charter for such an organization exists. We should approve it without delay if we hope to advance American interests in foreign trade."

'TIS SAID

We should discard the depressing news of the world and concentrate on our present luxuries. But we might add up the tax on our different luxuries and refuse to smile about that.

—B. C., Indianapolis, Ind.

WORLD AID . . . By Peter Edson

'Point 4' Cost Argued

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—Opposition to President Truman's Point Four program for aid to underdeveloped countries is based primarily on a fear that it will cost too much. There is a feeling that while this government is involved in a European recovery program, a North Atlantic Pact Military Assistance program, a \$13 billion national defense program and an unbalanced budget at home, it would be foolish to start another foreign aid job.

ACTUALLY, there is a limit on how fast the Point Four program can grow. It is limited by the number of technicians available for the jobs that have to be done. Point Four planners do not anticipate that their programs will be costing more than \$250 million at the end of five years.

Another criticism of Point Four is that it is just a disguised scheme to build TVA's on the Jordan and give the Hotentots a quart of milk every day. It is actually intended to do neither. Point Four is not a supply program nor is it a capital grant program.

It is merely a plan to furnish advisers to underdeveloped countries that ask for technical instruction in any field—farming, education, health, manufacturing, labor relations, government. Teaching people naturally costs less than putting them on relief.

THE idea that part of the Point Four program will be administered through the United Nations has not helped it. World Health and Agriculture organizations have done many good things. But from UNRRA on, the United Nations record of accomplishment has not been too good.

The United Nations itself has made many plans. Last year the United Nations secretariat approved a \$85 million

WHILE supporting the general principles of Point Four, the Public Affairs Institute maintains that the Truman administration plan is too little and too short. What Anderson and Raushenbush propose is a 50-year plan. They estimate its total cost as an in-

vestment of \$260 billion. This is more than five times bigger than Sen. Brien McMahon's \$50 billion five-year plan.

THE counter-objection to all such planning—forcing advanced civilization on people before they are ready for it—is that it is not realistic. Pittsburgh, Detroit and TVA can't be built overnight and it takes a generation or more to train people to run them.

Hopalong Cassidy



By Talburt

VANDENBERG MISSED . . . By Marquis Childs

Bipartisan Foreign Policy Fades

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—Sen. Vandenberg's letter appealing for a renewal of the bipartisan foreign policy was a reminder of what has been missing throughout this session of Congress. In the absence of the leadership supplied in the past by the Senator from Michigan, the bipartisan foreign policy has been virtually abandoned.

That is the fact, and there is little reason to believe that the letter will restore it. In this are the elements of both personal and public tragedy.

As leader of his party on foreign policy in the Congress, Sen. Vandenberg exercised a restraining influence on the die-hard Senators who wanted to restore the old isolationism. He did this through his constant day-to-day relationships on and off the floor of the Senate. Part of his influence was in his prestige, his seniority.

Part of it was in his skill as a moderator and compromiser. The extremists condemned him for his willingness to compromise. But he understood better than anyone else how to exercise his leadership in both its positive and its negative aspects.

During most of this session Sen. Vandenberg's serious illness has kept him away from the Senate. His wife also is very ill. The prospect of his return to active leadership in the immediate future is at best uncertain.

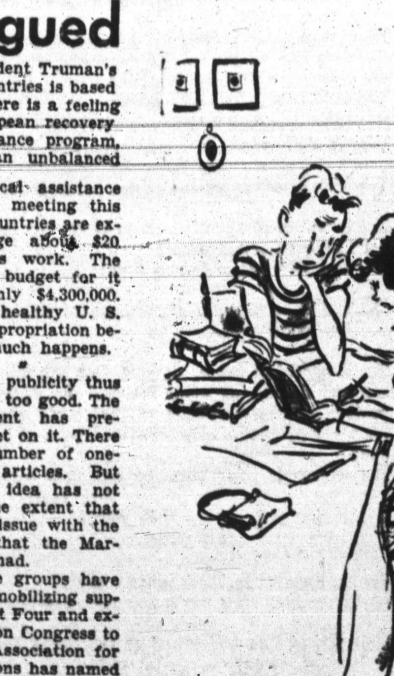
This would seem to insure that the dominant voice on both foreign and domestic policy will be sounded by Sens. Taft, Wherry, and Bridges. Sen. Taft has publicly declared that he encouraged Sen. McCarthy to continue, in the conviction that if Sen. McCarthy missed one target he might hit another. Sens. Wherry and Bridges are openly leading the "get Acheson" drive.

The opposition to this triumvirate within their party has been timid and tentative. Small wonder, too! They control the party machinery and they have shown themselves to be ruthless. Sens. Wherry and Bridges, taking their cue from Sen. McCarthy, do not bother to argue issues. They merely harangue and denounce.

The venerable Henry L. Stimson, a Republican elder statesman, pointed out the danger of Sen. McCarthy's tactics in blunt, strong language. But this will not give the Taft-Wherry-Bridges combine a moment's pause.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



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There persists, too, among many students of population, a belief that trying to raise the standards of backward people too fast only causes their birth rate to rise faster than the land can support them. This is the theory of William Vogt, author of "The Road to Survival," and for many years an expert on Pan-American development.

MORTGAGE Association officials say there is nothing to prevent the more risky mortgages from being dumped on the government.

Officials say the government is making a profit from interest received on the housing mortgages.

BUT the officials admit that if a recession comes they probably would lose a lot of money. Association officials say they hope that their money event-

By Talburt

Hoosier Forum

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

'Too Many Loopholes'

By Oscar Houston, Ellettsville, Ind.

I think the evidence in the Watts case should open the eyes of the public to the danger imposed on the women when criminals like Watts are turned loose on the public to prey on defenseless victims.

Watts committed numerous assaults on women and was finally arrested on complaint of a woman who had nerve enough to report it. Instead of insisting that Watts be tried promptly and let the evidence and law determine the case, the judge turned him loose on \$250 bail.

It seems to me if the court had done its duty and put him where he belongs, Mrs. Burney would not have had to undergo humiliation at his hands. When one woman he had assaulted complained to the court, he was arrested. That should have convinced the court that a sex crazy man is too dangerous to run at large. Instead of holding him long enough to make an investigation, they just eased themselves out of that bother by turning him loose and let his case drift along while he was committing assault and finally murder.

I think it's time for our courts to tighten up on crime. There are too many loopholes. Our courts are too lax on restrictions on witnesses who are trying to tell the truth in their own language. Sometimes a lawyer will almost blackjack a witness to make him say something a certain way. Everything is done by the defense lawyers to confuse the jury when they know their client is guilty.

If the accused is found guilty beyond any reasonable doubt, then the accused will appeal to a higher court. If they find something irregular occurred during the trial, something perhaps that had no bearing whatever on the defendant's guilt or innocence, he is granted a new trial. This, to my mind, doesn't make sense. The criminal here figures he has four chances out of five to escape arrest and, if tried, eight out of 10 chances to escape the penalty. No wonder there is so much crime.

'Trickery in War Scare'

By Michael Walter Rice, Longden Hall, DePauw University.

The Army's newest war scare (war in 1952) is alarming because of the deliberate trickery behind it. Two years ago, when the Army first wanted peacetime conscription, they manufactured an even bigger scare "war in two months." Now they want an extension of the unnecessary and politically unsound draft, so there is another scare.

The shortest path to war is to get psychologically ready for it, and to scare Russia into it. Scaring a nation out of war has never worked. Yet the Army wants to indoctrinate every man, woman, and child with its war philosophy—yes, there has been much talk already of drafting women.

The only way to achieve peace is to approach Russia without a gun in our hands, and to bargain peacefully. If there were no hope for peace, we might as well start saying prayers instead of wasting time and money on the Army. If Congress fails for this newest war scare (as they did for the other one) the only thing for the peace-loving citizen to do is to refuse to be drafted. There is neither a moral nor a military excuse for the continuation of the draft, and for allowing the Army to dictate our national policy by its war scares.

What Others Say

TO assume that we have controlled inflation is to take a risk beyond that which any trustees for the American people have a right to take. —Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, former chairman of President Truman's Council of Economic Advisers.

THE European Recovery Program not only is being reduced according to plan, but it is showing the results promised when it was launched in 1948.—Sen. Scott W. Lucas (D.) of Illinois.

I THINK the Taft-Hartley Act is no longer a major political issue, since President Truman had to use it in the coal dispute.—Harold E. Stassen, president of University of Pennsylvania.

EVEN as a subsidy program, the silver purchase program is defective because it grants aid to producers without any test as to whether aid is needed.—Sen. Paul Douglas (D.) of Illinois.

THANKS to my father and mother, I feel I've had the soundest possible political training. —Jimmy Roosevelt, candidate for Democratic nomination for governor of California.

IT'S too bad that Hollywood has made a complete fetish of the 18-year-old heroine. Anybody at that age is the dullest person.—Actress Bette Davis.

HOME LOANS . . . By Earl Richert

U. S. Buys Mortgages

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31—The government now owns \$2½ billion worth of mortgages on "low income bracket" homes.

And Congress is expected to authorize the mortgage-purchasing agency, the Federal National Mortgage Association, to spend another \$750 million buying these Federal Housing Administration and Veterans Administration insured mortgages from private lending institutions. The House already has so voted.

But the additional \$750 million won't last long if private lending institutions continue to dump the mortgages on the federal government at the rate of the past five months.

IN OCTOBER, Congress increased the purchasing authorization for the Federal National Mortgage Association by \$1 billion—from \$1½ to \$2½ billion.

And by Mar. 20, only five months later, the \$1 billion was gone—either in actual purchases or commitments to purchase.

Purpose of this mortgage-purchasing program is to maintain liquidity in the mortgage market—to keep money available for loans for home building. A bank, for example, can sell its mortgages to the government under certain conditions and then use the money received for new loans.

THE association buys at par only mortgages on homes on which all payments and taxes have been met. Mortgage holders can sell to the association no more than 50 per cent of their portfolios of FHA-insured mortgages but can sell all their recently-issued VA mortgages.

The mortgage-purchase program is one of the big reasons for the current housing boom. And Congress is not inclined to cut it off for fear the mortgage-money market would dry up and home building would slump.

BUT many conservative Congressmen and the Federal Reserve Board are fearful of the eventual results. They see the program as one which enables many persons to buy houses beyond their means and on which eventually they will be unable to continue payments.

The other side of the argument is that it gets houses built, and that's what is needed. The program is limited to the so-called "low income bracket" houses in that no mortgages for more than \$10,000 can be purchased by the government agency.

BUT the officials admit that if a recession comes they probably would lose a lot of money. Association officials say they hope that their money event-

FRIDAY

Mr. Mee

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