

Mr. Churchill's Visit

WASHINGTON correspondents for London newspapers believe that some Washington officials are conducting an organized campaign to create the impression that Winston Churchill and Anthony Eden are unwelcome visitors.

A reporter for the London Times has told of an "obviously inspired story" that President Truman was annoyed when he heard of Mr. Churchill's plans for a visit, and had allegedly told the British Embassy that on the night of its dinner for the distinguished visitor he was going to bed at 9 o'clock "regardless of the Prime Minister."

This and similar stories do not seem to come from the top, according to this correspondent, "but equally they do not come from very far down."

Hatchet jobs of this kind are by no means new Washington phenomena. The story about Mr. Truman, as unjust to the President as it is to Mr. Churchill, must have been inspired by someone on the White House staff. However, most of the stories designed to embarrass the Churchill-Eden mission obviously have emanated from the State Department. Campaigns by innuendo and misrepresentation are a favored tactic of some of its would-be policy makers. All too often, too, they achieve some success.

IT IS noteworthy that Britain was not a target for such attacks while it was under a Socialist government.

The State Department's underground goes into action only when there is a leftist cause to serve, such as undermining a Conservative government. Witness the all-too-familiar China story.

In this case, let's look at the facts.

Britain is our most dependable ally, particularly Britain under the leadership of Winston Churchill.

Britain under the left-wing Socialists headed by Aneurin Bevan might be quite another matter. Yet that is what we are likely to see if the State Department's wrecking crew manages to drive a wedge between the Truman and Churchill governments the same way it drove a wedge between the Truman administration and Nationalist China.

We invited the terrible Korean War by one debacle. Do we want to lose what is left of Europe by a second one?

Through loans and grants, the United States sent \$6,463,497,000 to Britain while that country was under a Socialist government. Imagine the inevitable reaction there if we now turn our backs on the first free enterprise government Britain has had since the war.

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S place in history is secure. Such a man is above petty insult. But we can discredit ourselves by an ill-natured reception, inspired by thoughtless and wilful men.

All of Mr. Churchill's objectives are not ours. He is first of all an Englishman and a champion of the British Empire. But our basic, over-all purposes are much the same. And if his mission here is unsuccessful, the ultimate consequences are likely to be as disastrous to our interests as they are to his.

America is honored by the visit of this monumental figure whose inspiring leadership contributed so much to Allied victory. Any proposals he may make deserve thoughtful and sympathetic consideration. We need his friendship and counsel in our present dilemma quite as much as his country may need our economic assistance as it rallies from the enervation of six years of socialism.

Freedom of the Stomach

WHILE the distinguished justices disagreed—violently, it appears—in their reasoning, the Supreme Court has struck another blow for individual liberty in the Antonio Rochin case.

When officers raided his bedroom, Antonio swallowed two capsules of morphine. The officers strapped Tony to a table and extracted the capsules with a stomach pump—using the evidence to convict him on narcotics charges.

In three separate but concurring opinions, the Supreme Court said Tony had been deprived of his constitutional rights.

Justice Frankfurter held the capsules had been extracted without due process of law, as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. Justices Douglas and Black said the Fifth Amendment, which protects Americans from being compelled to testify against themselves, had been violated.

Freedom of the mind, heart and tongue have been well established. So, whatever the reasoning of the justices, it feels healthy to live in a country where the august Supreme Court will rise to protect a man's stomach from unreasonable search and seizure.

It's Not the Food

THE Archbishop of Canterbury says that the British people should be thankful for England's notoriously bad weather because it really is the secret of their national strength.

The abominable climate in which they live has taught Englishmen to find comfort in saying, "Well, it might be worse," the primate says.

Those who have visited England will be glad to learn this. They have been wondering for years whether it was the weather or English cooking.

Born Too Late

WE HAVE, now, the case of Bob Starr, 23, father of two children.

Bob was chucked out of Memphis State College because authorities discovered he was attending another college, holding down seven part-time jobs, and writing a novel—all at the same time.

"Times have changed, all right," Bob gets only a passing news story. In another era a fellow with old-fashioned ideas named Horatio Alger Jr., would have written a whole series of books about Bob Starr.

Once Over Lightly

By Talburt



NEWS NOTEBOOK . . . By Peter Edson

DPA Chief Has a Bad, Bad Day

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Defense Production Administrator Manly Fleischmann had a pretty tough week, just before the holidays.

It all began one morning when he drove his car into the basement garage of the big new General Accounting Building where he is boss. A guard who didn't recognize Mr. Fleischmann as the head man stopped him as he started to park his car in its assigned place.

"You can't park like that," the guard ordered. "You'll have to back out, drive your car all around the passageway in back of those other cars, and come into your space from the other side."

Meekly, in order to avoid an argument and to abide by regulations, Mr. Fleischmann complied, though it meant circumnavigating the block-long basement of the big building.

He Fixes the Plumber
SOME time later, upstairs in his own office, Mr. Fleischmann's wife called him from home to report the plumbing was frozen and a pipe had burst. The plumber had come and was there. But he reported he couldn't make the necessary repairs because he couldn't get a priority for an allocation of copper.

DPA boss Fleischmann also happens to be National Production Authority Administrator. In this latter capacity, he runs the program for allocation of scarce materials—steel, aluminum and copper.

He therefore knew that the plumber didn't know what he was talking about, and that for the repair and maintenance of essential civilian services, the plumber could apply for and get the necessary priority on copper to fix his bathroom.

So, over the telephone, Mr. Fleischmann talked to the plumber and told him just what forms to use and just where and how to apply for whatever scarce materials were necessary.

It's Tough on the Kids

THAT was not much more than taken care of when a toy manufacturer came into Mr. Fleischmann's office to protest and appeal a ruling by NPA which had denied an allocation of steel to the toy maker's firm. The man got pretty hot about it.

But Mr. Fleischmann stuck to his official guns. Toy-making was not an essential industry. Steel was needed for national defense. Therefore, not a pound of steel on priority for toys.

The toy-maker was still unconvinced and not at all inclined to take this decision as final. He looked at Mr. Fleischmann for a minute and then said solemnly:

"What this issue comes down to, Mr. Fleischmann, is: Are you for children, or are you against them?"

Just Food for Thought

THIS was enough to ruin any temporary bureaucratic peace of mind, but there was one more blow in store for Mr. Fleischmann. He went to the airport to take a plane back to his home town of Buffalo. With him was his former boss and law partner, John Lord O'Brien, chief counsel of the old War Production Board.

They were the last two passengers to board the plane. As they stepped into the cabin the stewardess greeted them with:

"I'm sorry, but you two passengers will have to go without supper on this trip. There are 26 passengers aboard and they sent me only 24 box suppers. You don't have a high enough priority."

On-the-Spot Power Sought

WITH U. S. Defense production officials frowning on any more use of natural gas as a fuel to generate steam for electric power production, there's a big search on for locations where big blocks of power might be steam-generated for industrial production.

Best bets in sight are the lignite fields of North Dakota and the strip-mine coal fields of southern Ohio. The idea now is that generating plants could be built right over the fuel supply, with the aluminum or other defense production plants close by.

More Power to Produce Titanium

ONE of the new uses for electric power, and of the requirements for more and more large blocks of cheap power, is for production of the wonder metal, titanium. It now costs about \$5 a pound, as compared with 18 cents for aluminum.

Yet if the supply of titanium were big enough, it might replace aluminum, and even stainless steel. Because of titanium's heat-and-corrosion resistance properties, it is invaluable in supersonic projectiles.

To produce a pound of aluminum or magnesium takes 10 kilowatt hours of electricity. To produce a pound of titanium takes 20 kw.

Views on the News

By DAN KIDNEY

PRESIDENT TRUMAN made it clear at his press conference that he has no intention of announcing Attorney General McGrath's resignation—until it is ready.

GOV. EARL WARREN referred to a statement from one of the Taft campaign managers as a "sword" although it was neither sharp nor pointed.

TITO is finding it easier to collect from Uncle Sam than from the Yugoslav collective farmers.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN wants to streamline the tax collectors—straight salaries and no piece work.

U. S. AIR supremacy requires more and better planes that can take off from the drawing boards.

INFLATION NOTE: Time is money—the more you save, the less you have.

RED THREAT . . . By Ludwell Denny

Latest Soviet Move in UN Aimed at Collective Security

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The latest Soviet move in the United Nations is the "most sinister in many months."

It is a skillful effort to destroy collective defense against aggression in Korea, the Middle East and Europe. It is also a Red threat of bigger war in Indo-China, Southeast Asia, and possibly Yugoslavia.

Probably it will fail in its full purpose. But already it has driven more medium and small nations into the neutralist camp, which is so useful to Stalin. And it has confused some of our strongest Allies.

The trick—as attempted Wednesday in Paris by Soviet Foreign Commissar Andrei Vishinsky—consists in using Allied desires for a Korean truce and settlement of the wider cold war to seat Red China in the United Nations and let Russia impose a world "peace."

A Few Proposals

AFTER repeating the usual charges of American aggression in Korea and war plotting elsewhere, and warning our Allies against becoming American vassals, Mr. Vishinsky proposed that:

ONE: The United Nations Security Council take over the Korean truce negotiations.

TWO: A high-level conference be called at once to examine Security Council measures to relieve international tension.

THREE: The proposed United Nations collective measures committee to oppose aggression be junked in favor of big power control.

To get the significance of these proposals it must be recalled that Stalin originally had a complete stranglehold on the United Nations. The Assembly of all members was relegated to a talking role, and all effective authority was vested in the Security Council where Russia had veto power. By misuse of the veto Stalin not only blocked organization and action against

aggression. He also prevented United Nations investigations and blackballed non-Red applicants for membership.

This Stalin stranglehold was loosened somewhat when he outsmarted himself by boycotting the Security Council for daring even to discuss subjects banned by him. Russian absence from the Security Council permitted it to act in the Korean crisis. Then the Assembly asserted its right to protect the peace whenever the Security Council defaulted.

Assembly Continues to Act

AS a result the Assembly continues to act in Korea despite Stalin, and is now moving into the German situation and into regional defense—like the Eisenhower system—whenever aggression threatens in the world.

Vishinsky's first proposal would end the Korean military truce negotiations in which Gen. Matthew Ridgway represents the United Nations, and substitute political negotiations in a Security Council dominated by Russia. It would in effect replace the Chinese Nationalist on the Council with a Chinese Red. It would divide the American group from the British group which now recognizes the Peiping aggressor regime.

Vishinsky's second and third proposals would put the free world back where it was in the 1947 big power conference in Moscow—at the mercy of Stalin. The issue is whether defenseless democracies shall unite and arm themselves to prevent Stalin's little and big wars, and to win those wars if he attacks; or accept the slavery he dictates.

If he can't trick us into handing all the "peace" machinery back to him, he hopes to frighten us into that surrender by ominous hints of other wars. By that Hitlerian method of accusing the victim of aggression in advance, he struck Korea.

LABOR . . . By Fred W. Perkins

Battle Forming in Mine Issue

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Battle lines are forming again in the bitter fight over whether federal or state authority shall be supreme in making coal mines safe.

This time the impetus is last month's mine disaster at West Frankfort, Ill., in which 119 men were killed.

Five years ago some Congressmen tried to make mine safety a federal responsibility after an almost equally destructive mine blast in Illinois which took 111 lives at Centralia.

John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, again is demanding strong federal control. He is supported by Secretary of the Interior Oscar Chapman and Mines Bureau Chief John Forbes.

They are opposed by the heads of state mining departments and by coal mine operators who have expressed themselves in congressional hearings.

More congressional hearings this year are sure because of active interest shown by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D. Minn.), chairman of a Senate labor subcommittee. He sent a committee agent to West Frankfort for an on-the-spot investigation.

The charges so far developed indicate that explosive "methane" gas, as well as undue quantities of explosive coal dust, existed in the West Frankfort mine, and that federal inspectors had given advance warning. Federal inspectors can call such conditions to the attention of the

miners and public as well as the mine management. But official authority to close down dangerous mines is held only by state inspectors.

Also, UMW contracts give authority to pull the men out of a mine, because of dangerous conditions, to local union committees. This authority has been used only a few times. Federal inspectors are required to post preliminary reports of their findings at mine entrances. The coming congressional hearings may ask why the miners' local committees do not act immediately on the federal reports.

This question, however, is subordinate to the main one, according to Mr. Lewis and C. Fremont Davis, head of the union's safety division. They claim principal issue is the failure of Congress to give federal inspectors the power to close mines.

Opposing arguments are:

ONE—The proposed extension of federal authority would violate the Constitution in several ways, including its reservation of "police powers" to the states.

TWO—Imposition of federal safety regulations would cause confusion which might result in more rather than fewer accidents.

THREE—State mine inspection services and laws would be made ineffective or obsolete, despite varying conditions that exist in the coal-mining states.

FOUR—The federal emphasis on safety would be changed from education of rank-and-file miners and mine bosses and managers to enforcement of regulations.

Another "anti" argument concerns how far federal authority should be extended in industrial safety. Opponents argue that actual production of coal is not an interstate business.

HOOSIER FORUM—"Heredity"

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

MR. EDITOR:

What's wrong with the world? The ministers tell us we need more religion, that the solution is to turn from material things to spiritual things.

Educators tell us we need more education, that people and nations who live in poverty and filth, do so because of the lack of education.

Politicians tell us the world is in a sorry state because of communism and that if all nations became democracies our problems would be solved.

Communists blame the capitalists for the troubles of the world. They claim communism will save the world.

But the world cannot be better than the people who inhabit it.

Yet there is nowhere in the world an adequately-endowed, properly equipped and completely staffed scientific institution for the study of human heredity. If money were appropriated for the study of man instead of the study of the atom, we could produce a human race just a little lower than angels.

—G. C. Miller, Harrisburg, Pa.

'More Cash to Waste'

MR. EDITOR:

Now that we may buy 49 post cards without the New Deal and me-too tax, may I suggest those messed-up politicians in Washington revive the laws that allow the farmer to kill his little pigs and the one that prohibits the baker the right to slice his bread. That would allow them more money to waste.

—James J. Cullings, 107 S. Capitol Ave.

'Mac for President'

MR. EDITOR:

Guns, butter and corruption, with emphasis on corruption. With organized crime and corruption going on over most of the nation today a lot of people place the blame on Mr. Truman, egged on in this belief by the Reds using their invisible hand they keep concealed.

This corruption started long before Mr. Truman ever saw the White House. It first began to show its hand back in the Hoover administration when certain powers succeeded in electing a corrupt Congress in the middle part of his administration.

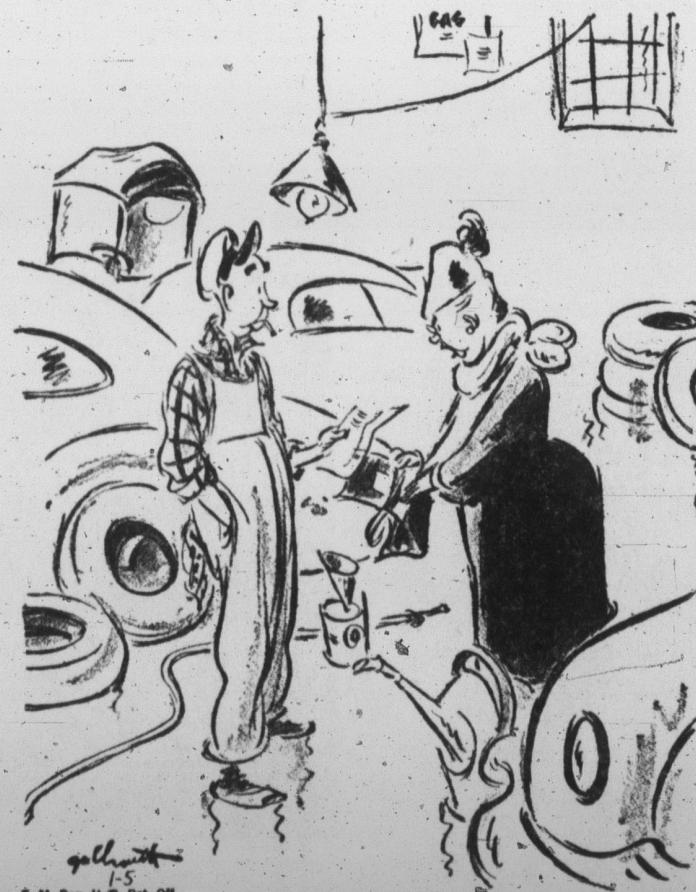
These same powers are now building up Eisenhower. Back in World War II he was just a small officer until they took hold of him and promoted him over the heads of older and more experienced officers.

Why, oh why this sudden interest in Ike? It was because they knew he would play the game the way they wanted it played and still does. He should have credit for being a great soldier.

MacArthur is just the opposite. As true and staunch as a sturdy oak. We need a man like him in these trying times we face today along with his big stock to swat the isms that keep raising their heads up in this fair land of ours and to keep the old flag fluttering in the sun-kissed breeze defying any nation at their peril to insult it.

—Ernest Bronnenberg, Anderson.

SIDE GLANCES . . . By Galbraith



PRICES . . . By Frederick C. Othman

Gad—The Spud's an Expensive Critter

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—I guess the hundreds of millions we taxpayers spent, squirting blue dye on potatoes so people wouldn't eat 'em wasn't exactly in vain.

Now that we have cut out such expensive monkeyshines, the price of potatoes is so high that the OPS is putting price controls on them. For eight years we spent money holding up the cost of spuds; now we're spending money holding it down. But not so much, fortunately, Gad.

I've been looking over some of my dustier dispatches on the subject of potatoes and they're hard to believe. For instance:

In eight years we taxpayers bought 500 million bushels, or one medium-sized mountain, of potatoes. For these we spent more than half a billion dollars; \$540 million to be exact.

IN 1950 alone, we bought all the potatoes that 10 thousand people could eat in one year. In 1949 we spent \$90 million for potatoes that weren't much good to anybody, except the dye makers. The trouble was that our government couldn't sell these potatoes for enough to pay for the sacks in which

they were packed. A number of Fancy Dams made a tidy profit, in fact, throwing away the potatoes and selling the sacks.

Eighty-nine million bushels the government couldn't sell, or even give away. It ran bulldozers over hills of potatoes and plowed them under. It filled ditches with potatoes and poured kerosene on them. Then it made a deal with numerous farmers to buy their potatoes—and let them keep their spuds for animal fodder.

Only they had to dye the potatoes blue so there'd be no humans tempted to taste them.

This dye cost more than \$2 per pound and when that happened potato eaters became what you might call aroused. So did Congress. For that matter, so did the potato growers.

ALONG with the price supports of the government, of course, went acreage controls. Only the wily potato growers now were using trick juice to kill the bugs and still trickier fertilizer to make two potatoes grow where only one grew before. Their acreage shrank, but their production continued to boom. Many a man was growing 400 bushels of potatoes on

the same acre that produced a few years before only 125 bushels.

The Home Economics Bureau of the Agriculture Department urged people to eat more potatoes. It put out recipe books calling for mock meat loaf of potatoes, potato soup, potato bread and potato candy. The potato-growing associations began a polishing their best potatoes and packing them handsomely in order to lure housewives into buying them. Nationally, there was a campaign to prove to the ladies that potatoes were non-fattening. None of these expenditures were of much use. Congress despaired and washed its hands of this unfortunate puree. And I guess we are perverse people.

AS SOON as the price supports fell into limbo last year, the farmers grew fewer potatoes, while the ladies began to buy more. For a while potatoes were the best bargain in the grocery.

Then came a spell of bad weather, particularly in Idaho, and the unsupported price of potatoes spiraled upward until today they are almost in the luxury class. Hence, the OPS rules to keep the price down.



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