

There's Hope in Them Thar Hills



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By Ed Fisher

WASHINGTON. — Dapper, debonair Anthony Eden made an excellent impression before the closed-door luncheon of the senate foreign relations committee—except for one thing: He didn't mention the name of Franklin Roosevelt.

Some senators felt that in view of the way Roosevelt had supported British policy, the British foreign minister might have paid a tribute to the late president. Otherwise, however, Eden did an A-1 job of winning senate support for the United Nations treaty.

Eden's most applauded remark in the off-the-record session was when he told senators that Great Britain would go through the war against Japan "to the very end."

Referring to the importance of the San Francisco conference, he said: I repeat what I said in Glasgow, even though I was criticized for it, that we cannot survive another war. That is why this conference must succeed.

Eden told how his own son was fighting in Burma and that he had received a letter from him in New York mailed only eleven days before—a tribute to the air transport command. He also paid tribute to President Truman and complimented him on persuading the Soviet to send Foreign Minister Molotov to San Francisco.

"A conference of foreign ministers," he added, "has a greater chance of accomplishment than one attended by ambassadors."

"Hear, hear," applauded British Ambassador Lord Halifax, grinning slyly.

Amazed at U. S. Might

Eden also complimented the senate on the fact that the United States is approaching the problem of peace from a non-partisan viewpoint, not letting it be a political issue. He said England is doing the same. But perhaps Eden's most significant statement was regarding his visit to the U. S. chief of staff.

"Lord Halifax took me over to see General Marshall," he explained, "and spread out for me on the map the vast power of the American forces. I must say that you have done a miracle in this war."

And then he went on to pay tribute to U. S. military achievement, especially to the tremendous strength of the U. S. navy in the Pacific and the victories which no one had believed possible a short time ago. Concluding, he turned to Lord Halifax and asked: "And can I say what I said when I left?"

Lord Halifax nodded, as if a great secret was going to be disclosed.

"I said," continued Foreign Minister

Eden, "General Marshall is such a nice man." Senators who listened thought they read into this remark the diplomatic inference that, with all our military might, we would not seek to use that might to dominate the world.

In addition to members of the senate foreign relations committee, U. S. delegates to the San Francisco conference were also present, including Dean Virginia Gilder-sleeve of Barnard College and Commander Harold Stassen of Minnesota.

Stassen paid tribute to British cooperation in the Pacific and the wisdom of sending the British fleet to the Pacific.

Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, who has become one of the leading figures in the U. S. delegation, told Eden:

"This, Mr. Foreign Minister, is the coroner's jury. What we do in San Francisco must pass the final test in this room." (He referred to the foreign relations committee room in which they were luncheon.)

"I also think we should remember that we can't expect too much at San Francisco," Vandenberg continued. "We are to set up a constitutional framework. We are not to write the peace. And we don't want the world to be disappointed if that is all we do."

Senator Barkley chided Vandenberg gently. "I want to remind the able senator from Michigan," he said, "that a coroner's jury is a jury that acts only after the body is dead. I hope that he does not imply that this committee is to pass upon a dead body to be brought back from San Francisco."

No Dead Treaties

Vandenberg later explained that in using the words "coroner's jury" he was referring to the last war and the peace treaty that was killed in the same foreign relations committee room.

Republican Congressman Eaton of New Jersey also spoke briefly, referring to the fact that the senate, by inviting members of the lower house to luncheon, finally had recognized the "unused brains of congress."

Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin, the only isolationist present, was also called on, together with GOP leader White of Maine, the only senator to deliver a Friday afternoon oration.

Hit of the luncheon was registered by British Ambassador Halifax, who said a little whimsically: "I confess I was a little concerned when I heard my foreign minister express his delight that this conference was to be attended not by ambassadors but by foreign ministers."

WE, THE WOMEN

By Ruth Millett

A woman whose YWCA-USO job takes her to college campuses all over the country reports that the question most often asked today by co-eds is, "What can we do to become as mature as the young men our age who have gone to war?"

It is a good thing college girls are really interested in growing up fast enough to be on a level of understanding with the young men who have gone to war. Still they shouldn't expect to mature as fast on a college campus as a man matures who is facing death in a foxhole.

Nor will they mature in the same ways. But they can grow up enough to be good companions and understanding wives to the men who traded college for war.

Of course, they ought to know as much as possible about the war and the world today,

so that they won't seem like dummies to the young men who have been learning history and geography the hard way.

But where they have a real chance to gain knowledge and maturity that will really help them and the young men they will marry is in taking training that will make them better wives, better homemakers, and eventually better mothers.

For their marriages and their homes and their children are going to be deeply important to the young men who come back after lonely years in strange places. And the girl who is capable and understanding in the role of a wife and mother will be mature enough for any young man.

It is more important for her to be able to create a happy home for her young man, than to be able to share with him the knowledge of what it is like to live in a foxhole.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By Peter Edson, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

Background of the misunderstandings between the senate foreign relations committee and the department of state over postwar civil aviation treaties and agreements goes back to the 54-nation conference in Chicago last fall. It involves many different reports as to who said what to whom when, and what he meant when he did say it.

A large part of the trouble may stem from the fact that Senators Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina and Owen Brewster of Maine, nominal delegates to Chicago, were not in attendance for all of the six-weeks' conference. Bailey was there two weeks, Brewster less than four. But whether then Assistant Secretary of State Adolf A. Berle, jr., who was head of the American delegation and chairman of the conference, pulled a fast one on the senators in their absence by committing the U. S. delegation to actions beyond conditions imposed by the senators, is a principal point of controversy and it is a moot question because the senators weren't on hand to stop him.

Senator Bailey at Chicago took the position that any executive agreement on civil aviation had to be within the bounds of existing law, and that if it wasn't it would have to be submitted to the senate for ratification as a treaty. After obtaining what he thought was Berle's agreement to this, Bailey left Chicago.

After he had gone it appeared to Sen. Brewster that the U. S. delegation at Chicago—particularly Berle—was going beyond this limitation. Brewster brought to Bailey in Washington a draft of a proposed agreement which exceeded his limitation and Bailey wrote back to Berle in Chicago protesting. Brewster also filed a five-page protest, saying he could not go along with what the U. S. delegation was planning to do.

Berle charged that Bailey, fearing the whole conference would collapse and wanting to salvage as much as he could, provided the two freedom and five-freedom agreements. The former provided transit rights for planes of any country en-

ing the agreement to fly over or land for refueling and repair in the territory of any other signing country. The latter provided transport rights to pick up and discharge passengers and cargo at any stop along a direct route.

These two controversial documents, plus a permanent civil aviation convention setting up an international governing body for post-war flying and a three-year interim agreement to govern till the permanent convention could be put into operation, represented the work of the Chicago conference which closed Dec. 7.

Nothing much happened till Feb. 8, when Assistant Secretary of State Dean Acheson came before Sen. Bailey's commerce committee to advise that the solicitor of the state department, confirmed by the attorney general, had said that the permanent convention was a treaty requiring senate ratification while the other three documents could be handled as executive agreements.

At the end of a four-and-a-half hour executive session, Acheson asked Bailey if he intended to request further delay on the interim agreement and the two- and five-freedom agreements.

Bailey answered that his committee—commerce—was not pursuing a policy of delay on these matters.

Acheson then called Sen. Connally for his opinion. Connally asked what Brewster and Bailey had to say and was told that Sen. Bailey had been consulted and had given his opinion that "We had authority to make these agreements under the civil aviation act of 1918."

Connally then said, "As far as I am concerned, if this is true, I have no objection to your signing it."

Next day the state department announced that the president had sent the permanent convention to the senate for ratification and had officially accepted the interim agreement and the five freedoms, in effect making them binding on the U. S. government.

Side Glances



"Regardless of the food shortage and everything, don't you dare repeat what you just said in front of the children — and those neighbors may count their chickens every evening anyhow!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By Wm. E. McKenney, America's Card Authority

A SLAM END-PLAY BY MILTON C. WORK

Heading the list of all great bridge maestros of the past, probably, is Milton C. Work. He played whist as a young man, then turned to the practice of law. Just before World War I he started on his great career as an auction bridge authority and continued to be the outstanding

Work finessed the queen of diamonds, cashed the ace and threw West in the lead by playing the nine of diamonds, forcing him to lead a club into his ace queen.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

The new \$65,000 Elks home in La Grande was officially turned over by the contractors and architects to the building committee of the lodge, and plans were begun for the dedication.

Mrs. George H. Currey and Mrs. A. T. Hill left for Eugene to visit their daughters who were attending the university.

City Water Supt. L. M. Hoyt and City Engineer Howland and Engineer Papst returned from the Beaver creek intake where they commenced preliminary surveys contemplating construction of a suitable dam on Beaver creek to augment the water supply.

15 Years Ago

After more than a week of unsettled prices, the gasoline "war" was almost over. Due to an increase of the wholesale price from 7 1/2 to 8 cents, motorists paid 25 1/2 at some places and 6 at others.

Miss Jean Williams, junior at the University of Oregon, won a prize for the best individual costume in the April Frolic, annual costume affair of the women's league.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Helm, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Fitzgerald, Miss Grace Cullen, Miss Wilma Gaskill, Miss Monica Ruel, Ted Kline and Jack Hiatt drove to Boise to attend a baseball game in which Helm played.

10 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Lexro Prilliman and Rolex Prilliman of Portland spent an Easter vacation at the home of their mother, Mrs. Harry Myers, on O avenue. The men returned to Portland where both were instructors at Hill's Military academy.

Mildred Green and Dorothy Lee Reynolds, students at St. Paul's school for girls at Walla Walla, arrived in La Grande to spend the Easter vacation with their parents.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Next! Do all birds migrate?

EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM

IRRIGATION—Complete the Grande Ronde Valley irrigation project. LA GRANDE — A city of 10,000 — Extend the city limits.

TODAY'S TEXT

The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.—Matthew 11:5.

Time to Buckle Down

It seems certain that congress is about to assume a more dominant part in the operations of government than it has exercised in many years. There is evidence of this in President Truman's personality, in his background of senate experience, and in the mutual confidence and esteem that mark his association with his former colleagues.

Less personalized government and more "advice and consent of the senate" would seem one of the safe predictions for the Truman administration. But if this is to be the case, then it behooves congress to wake up to its responsibilities and prove that its members are ready for and equal to the role that some of them have been querulously demanding for the past decade.

Three events which immediately preceded President Roosevelt's death gave distressing proof that congress, and particularly the senate, was not functioning in a way to arouse much confidence in its readiness to play a more important part with ability and authority.

First was the scolding that Majority Leader Barkley felt compelled to give the senate for meager attendance and inattention to highly important legislation.

Then came an illustration of the con-

sequences of inattention. Senator Homer Ferguson barely caught and stopped a bill, after the military affairs committee had studied and approved it and the senate had passed it, which banned publication of any coded messages and which, in effect, would have opened the door to censorship of any government information and the effective stifling of freedom of the press.

After that came revelation of an involved, elaborate mixup with the state department over agreements reached at the international air conference in Chicago last December. The upshot was that some senators seemed to have sanctioned the state department's committing this country to an international aviation policy without its being presented to the senate for approval in treaty form.

These things cannot be explained away by accusing the senate of drowsy indifference, though there may be some of that, too. The chief trouble is that both senators and representatives are tied down with so much committee work that knowledge of all pending legislation, or even attendance at discussions of it, becomes impossible.

A joint congressional committee is now holding hearings on bills designed to consolidate committees, hire more expert help, and otherwise promote streamlined congressional efficiency. Such reorganization is badly needed and should be accomplished speedily. Congress cannot function efficiently in our present huge and complex government without it.

Sound Effects

We see where Chicago soldiers fighting in Germany have heard some recordings of their home town's famous Loop traffic, subways, elevated trains, hockey games and howling alleys. It'll not only help their homesickness but also refute those rumors that all is quiet and complacent on the home front.

Funny Business



SO THEY SAY

What our country does in the next months will be a test of our generation. We have been given a second chance, a reprieve in which to lay the foundations for peace.

—Rep. Emily Taft Douglas of Illinois.

Unfortunately, many of our professors became hostages, so that we do not know how many prominent leaders in the educational field are left. The situation is very bad.

—David Friedman, Netherlands information bureau.

We men of science in Britain can never forget that long before the United States came into open alliance with us at a time when we stood alone in desperate need and danger, your men of science already had joined hands with ours in brotherhood and scientific collaboration.

—Sir Henry Dale, president of Royal society of London.

"Give the girl what she wants and charge it to me!"