

EDITORIAL PAGE

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Bon Voyage



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Now that all the hullabaloo over Poland has subsided, inside diplomatic reports from Europe indicate that the Lublin-Warsaw Polish government is not going to be such a Russian puppet government after all.

Despite the fact that the Lublin-Warsaw Poles were called all sorts of pro-Red names by the London Poles, they are now getting just as independent and, to some extent, arrogant, as their London brothers.

Or, as some neutral diplomats summarize it:

"A Pole will always be a Pole whether he's in London or Lublin."

Illustrative of how the Poles are feeling their oats was a meeting which took place at Moscow last week regarding the Polish row with Czechoslovakia. The meeting was attended by Russian undersecretary for foreign affairs Vyshinsky; also by ex-Premier Mikolajczyk of the London Poles, plus Ungot Morowski of the Lublin-Warsaw government.

Morowski, though supposedly a Soviet puppet, started the fireworks by ranting against the Czechs. He said the Czechs had no right to Teschen, a small coal-mining town which had always been Czech, but which the Poles snatched away from Czechoslovakia when she was powerless in Hitler's hands after Munich.

Soviet Commissar Vyshinsky emphatically differed with Morowski. He pointed out that the Poles have peaceful means for settling their disputes, should not use the aggressive tactics of the Nazis. Finally Morowski subsided.

Soviet Hold Slips

Other uncensored diplomatic reports show that the Warsaw-Lublin Poles are getting tougher and more independent and that the Soviet grip is slipping. Here are some developments which, for some queer reason, have been hushed up by European censorship:

1. Twelve Catholic papers are now being published in Poland. (There has been considerable opposition to the Lublin Poles by Catholic groups, on the grounds that the church was being suppressed.)
2. The Warsaw-Lublin Poles have indicated they want an alliance with the United States and Great Britain just as strong as that with the Soviet. This, they say, would guarantee Polish independence.
3. Poles are already demanding that the

Red army withdraw from Poland; also, that the Soviet secret police withdraw.

4. The Lublin Poles also resent the latest Russian attitude of friendliness to the German people, which they criticize as a symbol of unprincipled Soviet bidding for German support in order to counter-balance the pro-Germanism of certain British leaders.

5. The Lublin Poles also resent Russia's opposition to Polish expansion in the north-west, where the Poles would like to take over the German city of Stettin.

6. Finally, the Lublin Poles resent the fact that the Russians now insist upon bringing outsiders into the Polish government—in line with the Hopkins-Stalin conversations. Stalin promised Hopkins to give ex-Premier Mikolajczyk of London and other Polish leaders cabinet seats in the Lublin government, which means that some of the Lublin Poles will have to give up their cabinet posts. Naturally, they are sore.

So it looks as if the Polish puppet pot, which once boiled against the London exiled Poles, is now simmering against its friends in Moscow.

Hands Off Churchill

One of the well-kept secrets of the last presidential campaign was a statement Winston Churchill prepared urging the American people to re-elect Franklin Roosevelt.

The statement, however, was never made public. Roosevelt heard what Churchill was planning to do and stopped it. He explained to the British prime minister that much as he appreciated his good intentions, the American people resented outside interference in their politics.

Undoubtedly Churchill was planning reciprocity for the help which Harry Hopkins had given him two years before. At that time, the winter of 1942, just after Pearl Harbor, Churchill faced growing criticism in parliament.

So Harry Hopkins went to London and with Roosevelt's blessing dropped the word quietly in British political circles that the president of the United States appreciated the fine cooperation he was getting from the prime minister and would be sorry to see any change of British leadership.

Hopkins was very open and above-board about this and later told friends in Washington about the worry he and Roosevelt had felt regarding Churchill's tight political position.

Side Glances



"Well, we were just talking about the manpower shortage yesterday—this is one summer we really are glad to have you folks spend your vacation with us!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WM. E. MCKENNEY, America's Card Authority

STRONG DEFENSE IS BEST OFFENSE HERE

Peter Leventritt was a member of one of the winning teams of the eastern states mixed team-of-four championship, and received quite a kick out of winning as

♠ 6	♥ A J 8 6 2	♦ 8 2	♣ A K Q 10 5
♠ A 8 5 3 2	♥ None	♦ 10 7 6 4 3	♣ 8 7 4
N		Leventritt	
W		Q J 10 7	
S		4	
E		Q 10 7	
Dealer		K J 5	
		♠ 9 3	
		♥ K 9	
		♦ K 9 5 4 3	
		♣ A Q 9	
		♠ J 6 2	
Duplicate—Both vul.			
South	West	North	East
1♥	1♠	3♠	3♠
3NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ 4			
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to make a trump trick, thus defeating the contract. But good players are not too anxious to lead aces against a six bid. In this particular hand, West did not open the spade ace. Leventritt's problem was what to play on the first trick, the king or the ace. Ordinarily, he would be expected to play the king, but if he did this, he would never know where the queen was. By playing the jack to the first trick, South wins with the queen. Later on, when Leventritt got in with a trump, he knew it was useless to continue the diamonds, and therefore shifted to a spade and defeated the contract.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

In a city school election, L. B. Russell was elected clerk and A. Lun, director. Other members of the board were Chris Johnson and Charley Jacobson.

Far more enjoyable than the promoters had dared to hope, the O-W annual employees' picnic went into history with the return to La Grande of the 600 or more from here who attended the function at Gibbon. Gibbon is within the Indian reservation and many Indians were on the grounds for the occasion.

15 Years Ago

Mrs. Anna Pollack, accompanied by Miss Peggy Bohnenkamp, left for southern Oregon to visit relatives.

Mrs. Lillian Zweifel and daughter, Adelaide, left for Los Angeles, where they will visit their daughter and sister, Lois, who was training to be a nurse. They planned to be away from La Grande about two months.

10 Years Ago

Fire Chief C. T. Lindsey returned from a four-day convention of fire chiefs in Spokane.

Margaret Milne left for Berkeley to attend the summer session of the University of California.

Mrs. W. H. Safford left for Michigan to spend about a month visiting relatives and friends.

Mrs. J. J. Broughton left for Kansas City and other points to visit relatives and friends.

Questions & Answers

Q—When was the last Davis cup tennis match?

A—In 1939, Australia defeating the United States, 3-2, in the final round.

Q—Where is Carinthia located, and what government now claims it?

A—Carinthia occupies the basin of the upper Drava river system, east of the Brenner pass, in Austria. It has an area of 3957 square miles, and a prewar population of 400,000. The Yugoslav provisional government is now asserting claims to the territory.

Q—Are there to be more eclipses of the sun and moon this year?

A—Yes. Total eclipse of the sun July 9 and the moon Dec. 18-19. Both will be visible in the United States and Canada.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

A recent story from Okinawa reported that 85-point Yanks were zealously protected by their buddies—so that nothing would happen to them before the day they were scheduled to go home.

If war wives back home could take that protective, interested attitude toward the wives who are soon to get their men back, instead of being jealous of their good fortune, every homecoming would be a sign for rejoicing among all war wives.

And that is just what is happening in a good many cases. A war wife whose husband is coming home on points is often swamped with offers of help and best wishes by less lucky war wives whose men are still sweating it out.

"I'll keep the kids for you if you want to meet your husband when he lands," one war wife will say.

And another will look after the house and garden. And others are interested in the

clothes she buys—wanting her to have only the most becoming things.

The wives aren't even hesitant about giving advice or saying, "Now if it were Bill who were coming home, I'd do so and so."

Taking another war wife's good luck in that manner is, of course, the happiest reaction war wives could have. For there is nothing in that attitude that tears down their own morale.

The thing that ticks them is making bitter comparisons and thinking, "She's getting her husband back—but nothing is changed for me."

If the men can want their friends to get home so badly they treat them "like expectant mothers"—as the news story pointed out—so that nothing will happen to them before they can be on their way, then surely war wives at home can be that generous in their attitude toward the lucky women who are soon to have their men back with them.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—It may be apocryphal but a story brought back from Germany related that Lieut. General Carl Spaatz, commander of U. S. strategic air force, and Lt. General Omar N. Bradley, commander of the 12th army group, went in to interview Goering.

"You listen to the 64 question I'm going to ask him," said Spaatz cockily. "Isn't it true," asked Spaatz when he got the right opening, "that it was the U. S. air force bombings which really defeated Germany?" "No," answered Goering. "It was the repeated, heavy and unexpected drives of the U. S. ground forces." They continually threw us off balance and made it impossible for us to defend the Rhine. "That," Bradley remarked later, "was the \$128 dollar answer."

The father of a soldier in Germany wrote the war department the other day, complaining about this "point system" for getting his son discharged and sent home. It was bad enough, the father wrote, to have to give points for butter and meat and things like that, but when he had to surrender 85 points in addition to get his boy back, that was going too far. If they insisted on the 85 points, however, which kind did they want—red or blue?

Average citizens aren't the only ones who get mixed up on these things. Take Congressman Jesse Sumner of Illinois for instance, who actually made a speech criticizing OPA for wanting to break up the black market. Here are her exact quotes: "There is a point, I have noticed since I have been in politics, where people are so dumb that they cannot be that dumb and be honest. The people who do the real planning for this OPA program I think have reached that point—we would not have as much food as we have today except for the black market—you know it and the OPA knows it. So what do they do? The OPA save not started a drive to end the black market."

Congressman John J. Riley of South Caro-

lina has another story about OPA confusion. He tells about one old Negro woman who walked in the rationing board in his home town of Sumter and demanded: "I want one of them books you can't get nothing without."

The house debate on OPA renewal had a lot of laughs in it. High point probably came when Congressman Alfred J. Elliott of Tulare, Calif., brought several big San Joaquin valley potatoes to the well of the house and laid them on the podium while he spoke. "Hey," came a voice from the floor, "have you got butter for those?"

Elliott said in the course of his remarks that it was nothing to see a potato 12 and 13 inches long in the San Joaquin valley, with irrigation, but he pointed out there are now 72 potato rules and regulations. "No wonder there are so many eyes in these potatoes," said Elliott, "they need them in order to keep up with the rules and regulations of the OPA."

When the Swedish exchange ship, Gripsholm, left the United States recently with a load of several thousand deportees to Italy and Greece, some \$40,000 worth of war bonds were presented at the docks for cashing. Most of the deportees were criminals and undesirable and the first to go up the gangplank turned in their bonds for exchange. But, when immigration officials told them that the bonds didn't have to be cashed, the run stopped. As a result, many more thousands of dollars worth of these securities were taken back to the old countries to wait for maturity to full value.

In spite of the war, U. S. medical schools have been reporting difficulties in getting enough cadavers. Too much prosperity and the social security laws are responsible. Principal source of corpses used to be paupers who died in institutions leaving no relatives to pay for a funeral. But there aren't any paupers any more, and besides, the social security laws provide old age pension and enough money for decent burial.

want to colonize. Heavy industry, Mr. Abend tells us, was a new hot-house flower in Japan, brought along by government subsidy. He claims that industries paid taxes of 3 per cent or less, while the peasants were taxed up to 20 per cent to make up the difference. Removal of heavy industries, he says, would lighten taxes by which Japan has been paying for their war.

We'd hate to see the Japs get a soft berth out of a hard peace. But if Mr. Abend is right, we may as well make up our minds to take away their colonies and war-making industry and go ahead and let 'em prosper.

A Request From the Krupps

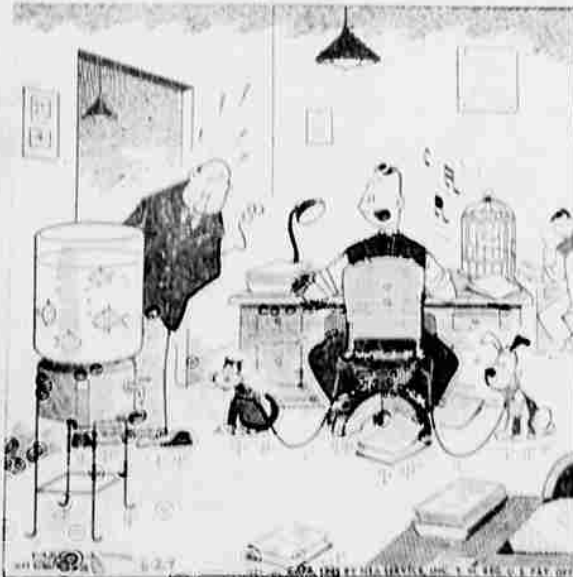
A prime example of the arrogant stupidity of the German upper crust may be found in a petition filed the other day in Bremen by Waldtraut Krupp von Bohlen, one of the heiresses of the Krupp munitions dynasty.

Franklin von Bohlen asks, with a straight face, that the American authorities cancel the personal decree by which Adolf Hitler nationalized the firm. Her obvious intention is that the allies simply allow the war-mongering Krupps to set up shop again, probably upon the pious promise that they will make nothing but farm machinery or perhaps penicillin.

Such thinking would seem to pass out of the realm of stupidity and into unconsciousness. Apparently the Krupps are unaware that anyone suspects that they were a prime force behind two world wars. They seem convinced that their self-importance will exempt them from the victors' announced intention of demilitarizing Germany completely.

We worry about de-educating and re-educating Nazi youth. What about the problem of awakening the minds of a family which was one of the supporting pillars of pre-war industrial Germany?

Funny Business



SO THEY SAY

America... uphold and fortified our self-respect and kept alive our aspirations for liberty and independence.

More Vincent van Gogh, wife of a Filipino brigadier general reported to be a prisoner of the Japanese.

If Britain's acres are not harvested to the full this year, the people of this country (England) will undoubtedly have to exist next winter on the most frugal rations within living memory.

From statement by British National Farmers Union to food ministry. Our foreign commitments beyond relief must not be allowed to disrupt our economy to such an extent that we are unable to feed adequately our own people.

Paul S. Willis, president, grocery manufacturers of America, Inc.

"I hope you don't ship my wife away on vacation!"

This Curious World



Quoting Odds

"A BEARING WON'T WORK IF THERE'S A CHANCE FOR PLAY." Said EUGENE C. EVERETT, Lockwood, New York.

MOST METEORITES CEASE TO BURN AT GREAT HEIGHTS... USUALLY EIGHT TO TEN MILES ABOVE THE EARTH'S SURFACE.

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NEXT: Monkey business in Borneo.