

EDITORIAL PAGE

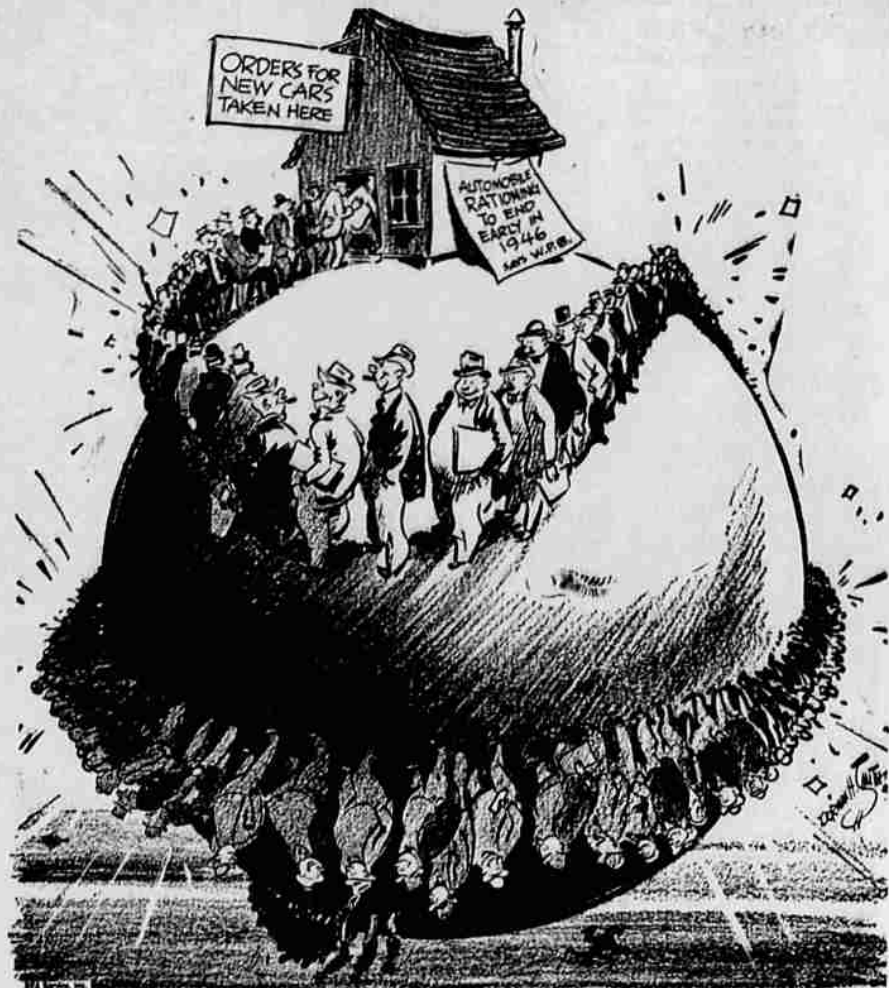
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You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet!



There Is An Almost Universal Language

About every so often some one comes up with the brilliant suggestion that everyone ought to learn a universal language. Sometimes Esperanto is suggested; now, recently, it has been some manufactured thing called Olingo. (The name is enough to prejudice a discerning mind.) Esperanto, while it is a clever and undoubtedly effective language, has one thing against it which is sufficient to insure it will never be adopted as a universal language and the same thing goes for Olingo (pfeugh!) and all the other made languages: The juice of life is not in them. They are dead — dead as Sanskrit or Pictish or ancient Mayan.

There is, however, one language which meets all the requirements of a universal language. It is richest in idiom, vocabulary, expression and shading; it is flexible, takes on new words constantly, discards old and worn out words and yet is constant enough so that words now mean, in the great majority of cases, what they meant 300 years ago and what they will mean in another 300 years, probably. Despite the sneers of its detractors, it is probably as simple as any other language and far simpler than most. In its basic form it can be learned, including the 1,000 words of necessary vocabulary, by a person of intelligence, in a few weeks. Its sentence structure is simple and logical; its adjectives stand next to the words they modify; its verbs are de-

scriptive and compact; it is not confused with inflections; and it is supremely expressive. That language, of course, is English.

English, though it differs enough to be strongly distinctive in various parts of the world, is spoken by more than three times as many persons now as any other two or three major languages put together. It is in use as a first tongue by Americans, Canadians, British, South Africans, Australians and New Zealanders. It is taught in almost all the countries of Europe as the second language and nearly all continental Europeans are becoming familiar with it. It is the second language in Latin America; even in the far east and in darkest Asia and Africa it is heard more frequently than any other tongue except the native dialect; it is the basis for the lingua franca of the entire Pacific war zone—the "pidgin English."

What other language has so many who use it, daily, either as first or second choice? What other language is so constantly growing? Although it has not the lilting, liquid beauty of Spanish, nor the suavity of French, nor the rugged thunder of German under the pens of its masters it takes on many of these qualities.

And it is spreading, day by day. Those who insist on a universal language need only be patient. In just a few more years there'll be a universal language. It may not be exactly the one we are accustomed to hearing every day of our lives but it will be English, understandable, simple, expressive, malleable, and live English.

Funny Business



"It helps the flavor when we serve imitation cattle!"

SO THEY SAY

The war in the Pacific vastly increases (waste) paper needs. —W. T. Hoyt, WPB salary chief.

It's all the New Deal we have to beat in 1946. —Herbert Brewell, national republican chairman.

One winter without coal you can get away with. But a second you can't. If people don't get coal you can count on chaos or revolution. —Unidentified French official.

The excess profit tax should be repealed after V-J Day. —Fred M. Vinson, new secretary of the treasury.

I don't think it would be expedient for me to go over Tokyo until the job there is done. I should not like to fall into Japanese hands. —Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, commander of the 8th U. S. air force.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Despite Wendell Willkie's book "One World," there have seldom been two worlds so diametrically opposite as those represented by Stalin and Churchill as they sit at either side of President Truman at Potsdam. Probably not since the Mohammedans pushed the Christians across the Balkans to the gates of Vienna have two great governing segments of the world been so far apart.

Nowhere is this better illustrated than in the Balkans, a subject high on the agenda of the Big Three.

A few weeks before Berlin, Stalin sent telegrams to both Truman and Churchill proposing that the allies recognize the new Soviet-dominated governments of Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland, despite the fact that they were Hitler satellites which declared war on the U. S. A. and Britain.

Truman replied that, while the United States might be ready to recognize Finland, he thought the whole question should be left to the coming conference. Churchill replied likewise regarding all the ex-Hitler satellites (now Soviet satellites).

This problem now before the Big Three might not appear difficult on the surface. However, it was only a few short weeks ago that Gen. Cortland Van Rensselaer Schuyler, head of the U. S. military mission in Rumania, called at the White House with such a discouraging picture of Russian abuses in Rumania that President Truman remarked: "It would be better for us to pull out rather than be kicked around."

U. S.-Russian Tension

General Schuyler had reported to Truman that the Russians, disregarding the "high principles of Yalta, have ruthlessly imposed a minority government in Rumania," ignoring the protests of U. S. representatives. Simultaneously, Prime Minister Churchill

received a report from his Balkan representatives that "present position is highly unsatisfactory. Russians have refused to admit that Yalta declaration on liberated areas applies to Rumania and Bulgaria, where they genuinely think we have no right to interfere."

Actually, the situation in Bulgaria was not merely "unsatisfactory." It approached a crisis. Soviet and Bulgarian troops actually surrounded the house of the American minister, Maynard Barnes, and at one time threatened to batter down the doors, when a British official finally persuaded them to desist.

What happened was that local Bulgarian communists, long suffering under the Nazi heel, suddenly went berserk, and under Soviet protection, took over control of the nation, proceeding to execute a reported 30,000 quislings. Among these was the wife of the court chamberlain, who had fed, hid and helped rescue American fliers forced down in a Ploeste air raid.

American efforts to save her were fruitless. The Bulgarian communists hauled suspects before the firing squad wholesale. Even the queen mother asked the American legation for asylum, but was refused on the ground that she was not in actual danger.

Finally, however, at four o'clock on the morning of May 24, Dr. George E. Dimitrov, former head of the agrarian or peasant party, sought and obtained refuge in the American legation.

Soviet General Shot

This caused the second most severe strain on American-Russian relations since the start of the war. (Most severe strain occurred when American fliers mistakenly shot and killed a Russian lieutenant general as both the American and Russian armies were converging on Berlin.)

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Nobody should be surprised—least of all men—that women have found a legal way to get around shoe rationing. Some of the fair sex have been buying unrationed shoes with plastic or composition soles, and have had them re-soled with honest-to-goodness leather.

Isn't that the same brand of ingenuity women use with a man who isn't quite up to their standards of what a husband should be? By clever management they pass him off to their friends as a grade A husband.

George is as dull as dishwater, but not after his little woman gets to work on a build-up. After she puts her mind to making him look good the adjectives her friends use to describe him are "steady" and "reliable" and "the quiet, thoughtful type."

Bill is just another old man with money when a young woman marries him. But pretty soon he is "sweet old Bill" and "the salt of the earth" or "that terribly successful Mr. Jones" whose every opinion carries weight; depending on which kind of a genuine bargain his wife has decided to make him look like.

Joe might have been called "lazy and no-

account" before some girl decided to take him on for life. But as long as she sticks to him, he will pass for a man who prefers the bohemian way of living and has nothing but contempt for the stuffed shirts who consider money important.

Frank may be down-right rude and un-social, but a wife can make even him look good if she plays him up as a man too busy and with too many important things on his mind to find time for frivolity or the social graces.

The men girls count on marrying some day and the men they finally bring to the altar are often as different in looks and quality as an ersatz article is different from the real thing.

But women are ingenious creatures, and if they can't have what they want, they can find ways of making the best of what they can get.

It isn't women's nature to do without when they can't have just what they have already counted on having. They are too good at contriving, disguising, and making the best of things.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 20 — Commercial water using interests from Maine to California and Florida to the northwest are represented in the 31-organization "Water Lobby" now organizing to fight the development of more U. S. regional "authorities" like TVA. Their interests vary from irrigation in the desert to flood control in the low lands, from the development of a U. S. ocean-going merchant marine to the piloting of some put-putting power boat on a fresh water lake far from the seaboard. Everybody is in this group, in fact, except the people who are interested in the development of hydro-electric power, lots of it and cheap, from government-built dams and generating stations. That stands out prominently in checking over the list of trade associations in this newest of Washington pressure groups.

As now constituted the group consists of the three big national organizations discussed in the previous article of this series, plus 28 regional or special purpose associations.

Five of the organizations have special interests in the Mississippi valley, five in the Ohio valley, seven in the Gulf coast and southern states, five in the east, two in the Missouri valley, one in California and three auxiliary organizations promoting ocean shipping and pleasure boating. Some are old and well heeled, others newer but ambitious. All seem to be motivated by the fact that they like the way things are being run now and don't want experimentation in new forms of government agencies like the Tennessee valley authority.

From the Mississippi river basin are the Mississippi Valley association, interested in river navigation from the Alleghenies to the Rockies; the Mississippi Valley Flood Control association, organized back in 1912, now made up of the Levy boards from six states; the Upper Mississippi Waterways association, promoting navigation above St. Louis; the Upper Mississippi and St. Coris River Improvement association, promoting navigation above the Twin Cities; American Waterways, Inc., organized a year ago as a successor to the Mississippi River Carriers association of barge line operators.

In the Ohio valley region are the Pittsburgh Coal Exchange, barge line operators; Tri-State authority of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio promoting flood control

navigation a danti-pollution in streams; Allegheny River association, recently reorganized to promote shipping above Pittsburgh; the Ohio Valley Improvement association of Cincinnati, which has been boosting river shipping from Pittsburgh to St. Louis for 30 years; and the Ohio Valley Conservation and Flood Control congress whose name speaks for itself.

In the east are the Eastern States Conservation conference of Boston, eight years old, closely tied in with the New England Council through the existing state governments; the New York State Waterways association, of canal and river shippers; the Interstate Commission on the Delaware river, unique in that it functions through identical legislation passed by the four state assemblies, the Upper Potomac River Board, interested in flood control; and the Atlantic Deeper Waterways association, an old and powerful organization of coastwise shipping interests from Maine to Florida.

In the south are the Florida Waterways Congress, promoting ship canals; the Louisiana Department of Public Works; Intra-coastal association, and the Trinity River association, these last two covering all the water interests to Texas.

Operating in the west are the California Water Council, formed a year and a half ago to represent the interests of 47 irrigation districts in the Central Valley. And the 400 units in the National Reclamation association itself are scattered all through the west.

In the Missouri valley proper are the Missouri Valley Development association, less than a year old; and the Upper Missouri Valley association, promoting navigation above Sioux City, Ia. Though both operate in the territory which an MVA would seek to develop, they and the rest of the 31 oppose it.

Then for good measure the lobby includes such apparently unrelated organizations as the American Power Boat association; the American Merchant Marine institute and the Propeller club of the United States.

If the list makes tedious reading it is important in that it shows these are not mere paper organizations but going concerns which can make a big splash when they throw their weight around Washington in a concerted effort to stop the valley authority idea.

What's at stake in this fight will be the subject of the next dispatch in this series.

Side Glances



"I can't remember the name of the soap, but the announcer on their radio program has false teeth!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

SPADE OR CLUB? TAKE YOUR CHOICE

Arguments are a part of bridge, but a bridge argument should never amount to anything because, after all, it is only a matter of opinion. If you don't believe it is a matter of opinion, take this lone hand and give it to 10 good players. One group will tell you that you should open with one spade and another will say that it should be opened with one club.

The first one I asked was Harry Fishbein. "Why," he said, "there isn't but one bid on the



hand; one club." And then Jacoby dropped in and I asked him. "One spade," was his instant response. Charles Solomon was the next one I presented the hand to. "Everybody in Philadelphia will bid a club on this hand," was his comment. Therefore, I went to Charlie Goren of Philadelphia. "One spade," was Goren's reply. Now I suppose you would like to know what I would bid on it.

Questions & Answers

Q—How many members of the cabinet appointed by Franklin D. Roosevelt following his election as president in 1932 continue in office?

A—One, Harold L. Ickes, secretary of the interior.

Q—Are oranges being dehydrated successfully?

A—They are. A 90-pound crate can be reduced to seven pounds of powder.

Q—What is the amount of grain shipped from Duluth and Superior over the Great Lakes annually?

A—Around 55,000,000 bushels.

Q—What nationality settled Delaware?

A—The Swedes.

I have decided that it all depends upon my opponents and my partner. With certain partners I would open with one spade, and then against different opponents and with a different partner I possibly would bid a club. The nicest thing about it is that I can prove from the above that either bid is correct.

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago
Mrs. H. M. Bradshaw and little daughters, Olive and Mildred, have returned from a three weeks' visit at Weiser and in Baker.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Kern have gone to Kansas and other middle-western states. Kern is a shop employee.

Record heat for the year was attained today noon when the heat wave reached the oppressive point of 95 degrees. Coming as the wave did, on the heels of a prolonged siege of cool weather, the "temperature" is working havoc with comfort today. The heat is hastening harvest everywhere and fields are rapidly reaching the cutting stage.

15 Years Ago
Mrs. Ray A. Cook is expected to return from Portland soon. She has been visiting her son, Raymond, at the C. M. T. C. camps over the weekend.

Dr. A. N. Mayville, La Grande, was elected first vice-president of the Oregon Naturopathic association at the meeting of their annual convention in Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roehm are leaving today for Seattle and Tacoma to attend the northwest furniture market.

10 Years Ago
Two hundred and five young people, 12 of whom are from La Grande, are attending the annual Epworth league being held at Wallawa lake.

First new wheat to be harvested in Union county was brought to the La Grande elevator of the Pioneer Flouring mills today by Fred Zaugg of the Mt. Glen district. He was the first to bring in new wheat last year, although it was on July 3, showing the 1935 season to be at least 16 days later than the one in 1934.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Petlock. What is a Trilobite?