

EDITORIAL PAGE

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German Measles



THOUGHT FOR TODAY

If I can't pray, I will not make believe!—Longfellow.

'Chosen Instrument' or Competition

President Truman says that it will be all right for three American air lines to operate over international routes for the next seven years. But Senator Pat McCarran, of Nevada, says it ain't necessarily so.

The senator is a champion of the "chosen instrument" as opposed to "controlled competition" in our international commercial flying. He has written a bill to create a single "All-American Flag Line" which he is expected to bring to the senate floor shortly, after months of committee hearings that wound up in a tie vote.

Nothing beyond confusion can be predicted if congress should vote to create this one-company air line. The president was signed the civil aeronautics board certification which would permit Pan American, TWA and American Export to fly as far as Moscow, Bombay and Calcutta. And there seems to be considerable doubt that the McCarran bill, if passed, could be retroactive in the face of the Truman-signed certification.

Nevertheless, Senator McCarran and others are continuing their campaign for the "chosen instrument." They argue that the United States can compete with other countries' government-subsidized aviation monopolies only by creating a one-company line of its own. It is true that our international aviation

was in the hands of one company until the war, in spite of the CAA act of 1938 which permitted regulated competition to the extent of serving domestic and international commerce, the postal system, and national defense.

The McCarran bill apparently would recreate and perpetuate the monopoly. It would permit domestic carriers to acquire interest in the single overseas line, if they desired, in proportion to their individual share of the total gross revenue of all commercial air lines. But it is foreseeable that several domestic competitors' attempt to run a harmonious business might result in confusion and eventual operation by one company.

Champions of the "chosen instrument" have failed to prove that elimination of competition in international flying would reduce the single company's costs, increase its efficiency, or lessen the need of government subsidy.

The history of our industrial progress suggests that competition has promoted, rather than retarded, low costs and high efficiency, and that it has stimulated research, production and employment. On the other hand, the history of "chosen instruments" shows that government regulation of a single company usually winds up in government control of it.

It seems safe to say that the United States government and most of its citizens don't want monopoly or subsidized control. The state, war, navy, justice and commerce departments are on record in favor of "controlled competition" in aviation. The president's signing of the CAB certification indicates that he is of the same mind.

SO THEY SAY

We have reached the point where the issue no longer is in any doubt, and the harder we pour it on (the Japs) now, the sooner we'll all go home.
—Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell.

Amusing experiences with bare shelves in groceries and meat markets, and "outrageous prices" for much that is available, are turning the minds of many city workers toward "a place in the country."
—Elkhart, Ind., Truth.

Dry the head and bones of a fish or even leaves of withered vegetables and make them into powder (and) we will have wonderful food.
—Tokyo radio broadcast.

Now that what passes for a settlement of the Polish question has been effected, Russia's demands on Turkey for concessions on the Dardanelles will be a new issue to plague the league.
—Binghamton, N. Y. Press.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Congressmen who have sat in the closed-door sessions of the ways and means committee listening to testimony regarding Elliott Roosevelt now have counted up a total of approximately \$850,000 which he borrowed over a period of about eight years. Most of this he did not pay back.

During one of these closed sessions, congressmen thought they ran across the clue as to why Jesse Jones was always so confident he would not be fired by Franklin Roosevelt. In his battle with Henry Wallace over the board of economic warfare, and during the anti-Roosevelt operations of his nephew in Texas, Jesse always seemed cocksure that his political future was absolutely safe.

What the committee heard was the testimony of deputy internal revenue commissioner Norman Cann to the effect that Jesse Jones apparently had never collected from Elliott Roosevelt for the \$4,000 paid to settle the \$200,000 loan from John Hartford, head of the A and P chain stores. Cann testified that internal revenue agents who interviewed Jesse Jones understood that Jesse had paid the \$4,000 out of his own pocket.

At this point in the testimony, one member of the committee remarked: "Good for Elliott! That's the first time I ever heard of Jesse getting trimmed."

Army-Navy Waste

The army-navy procurement policy of continued buying for a two-front war when we are only fighting on one front is being subjected to some quiet and effective scrutiny on capitol hill. Senators fear his policy may throw our entire economy out of whack in case of sudden peace with Japan.

What senators have found is that after V-E day, the army refused to make more than a 20 percent cut in military purchases, though 50 percent of the war was over. Retiring war mobilizer Fred Vinson tried to curtail purchases but was only able to force an additional 13 percent cutback by Decem-

ber 1. Meanwhile some experts believe we can safely cut back 80 percent on army-navy buying right now, and by using existing stockpiles and surpluses still provide the Pacific war with every single need.

Inside reason for the terrific stockpiles, vast purchases and tremendous installations, according to senate probes, is that both the army and navy are afraid congress won't give them anything after the war, so they are heaping up a huge post-war program now.

Although our fleet is now more than 14 times the size of the Japanese fleet at the start of the war and more than 40 times the size of the Jap fleet today, the navy is still building ships which will not be completed before 1947 and 1948.

Also the navy's plane program next year calls for an even larger number of aircraft than the army has ordered. Both have well over 100,000 first-line planes now and they are still buying more, although no one can figure out how more than 30,000 first-line planes can be used in the final stages of the war with Japan.

Meanwhile, both the army and the navy have so many pilots, they don't know what to do with them. The army is keeping up a 2,000,000-man air corps at a time when manpower is still short on the home front. Besides wasting billions of the taxpayers' money, the army-navy purchasing program is paralyzing all efforts to set the army-navy purchasing program to set up an orderly reconversion program and so prevent a sudden, brutal depression three months after V-J day.

Truman Gets Score

Shortly before he left for Europe, President Truman was informed of what the army-navy were doing and became so incensed that he slipped three of his friends into key spots in the war department. They have orders to watch for any waste in procurement or graft, and report directly to the White House.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

"What's the Matter With the Family?" asks Margaret Mead, the noted anthropologist, in a recent article in Harper's magazine.

She answers the question by saying: "The family, American style, 1945, lacks the old familiar props and properties upon which we have all been depending. Those who live within it are suddenly faced with no design for living."

And she suggests that young folks will be better able to work out all the new adjustments they face if the symbol makers help them—if novels and movies, radio broadcasts, magazine stories and comic strips illuminate it for them.

But, perhaps, there isn't too much to worry about after all. Perhaps, now that young folks can no longer follow the family patterns set up by their own mothers and fathers (and they can't in wartime) they will work out, by trial and error, far better patterns for marriage in these times than the old ones they have had to discard.

True, they don't have the safe, steady place in society and the pressure of local customs to make their marriages follow a set form.

But because they don't they may very well work out a way of living and a form

for marriage that is more nearly what they want and need, and therefore actually stronger, than if they had been able to follow a form set for them by past generations.

Joe and Helen (and there are thousands like them) didn't start out with a house in their home town, a steady job with a chance at advancement for Joe, an established place in their community because their parents were so-and-so.

They started out their married life by making a home wherever they were sent, by making friends of whatever crowd they were thrown with, by realizing that both had to cooperate and make sacrifices if they were to have any marriage at all. And then came separation, when they both had a chance to evaluate their life together and to give some thought to where they wanted to go.

Sure, they made mistakes. But they learned a lot, too. And it isn't too much to expect that they who have made their marriages stick in war time can make them stick in peace time conditions they may have to face.

Perhaps, instead of the symbol-makers teaching them new patterns, they are teaching and will teach the symbol makers.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, July 23—Principal argument being used by the water lobby in Washington is to build up a case that TVA, the Tennessee valley authority, is not the promised land and the beautiful success it is usually portrayed.

In trying to tear down TVA, the water lobby has a job on its hand. Anyone daring to criticize TVA profanes sacred dogma, according to popular notion. Yet, F. O. Hagie of the National Reclamation association went through the Tennessee valley recently and came back to report there are plenty of people in the valley who don't like the TVA way of life. And Will H. Webb, executive vice president of the National Rivers and Harbors congress, who comes from Tennessee himself, accuses TVA of all sorts of dreadful things, including even the opening up of the TVA power dams in flood time, to drown poor people down stream.

Hagie and Webb are two of the prime movers on the five-member coordinating committee which manages the campaign of the 31 organizations making up the water lobby. If the lobby can convince enough congressmen TVA isn't the unmitigated good it is supposed to be, then there is a good chance of stopping extension of the "authority" idea to the Missouri, Columbia and other river basins where such planning goes on.

Basis for the water lobby case against TVA is complex. The point that, "TVA represents a change in the American form of government" has been mentioned previously in these dispatches. Hagie maintains that the three-man TVA board has never used all the political and economic power granted in the original legislation creating a government corporation to develop resources of the region. Hagie says these powers might easily be abused, and points to this danger.

Judge Clifford H. Stone of Denver, a National Reclamation association, director says TVA has been granted many powers which were never surrendered to the federal government by the sovereign states. He makes a strong "states' right" argument against the TVA idea.

Judge Stone also objects to the cost of

TVA. He mentions \$800,000,000 expenditures over the past 12 years and declares another \$200,000,000 have to be spent to complete the project. None of this has been returned to the federal treasury.

It is the contention of the water lobby that while this billion dollars is being spent, providing jobs for 20,000 or more people, everyone in the valley is naturally happy. When this flow of funds stops, it is predicted TVA won't be so popular.

Over half of TVA's expenditures have been for the development of public power projects. The water lobby claims this is nothing but a government subsidy enabling TVA to sell electricity at rates far below what private power producers would have to charge.

Cheap power has of course been one of TVA's great talking points. The TVA experiment was intended to provide a yardstick for measuring rates in other parts of the country. But the water lobby claims it is a rubber yardstick not applicable to other parts of the country. The Tennessee river is 700 miles long against the Missouri's 2,500. The Tennessee valley covers less than 3 percent of the U. S. while the Missouri valley covers 18 percent. While TVA may be easy to administer because it is small, administration of the Missouri basin by a single authority would not be feasible.

TVA's flood control has been criticized as worthless to the lower Ohio and Mississippi by Rep. Will Whittington, of Mississippi, who is also a director of the National Rivers and Harbors congress, opposing the MVA plan. Whittington further charges that reservoirs behind dams in the Tennessee valley now cover permanently six-sevenths of the bottom lands that used to be covered with water only in flood times and produced crops the rest of the time. Now, he says, they don't produce anything.

Finally, the water lobby claims that TVA is merely a duplication of bureaucracy. For the corps of engineers or the bureau of reclamation could better plan the dams, and the department of agriculture has to run the department on fertilizer and soil conservation

Side Glances



"I didn't dream you'd miss a few dollars for facials and a permanent. Dad—you're always harping how you want me to look neat!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

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

BRIDGE, MATHEMATICS MIX FOR EXPERTS

While in Washington recently I had the pleasure of having dinner with Major Russell Baldwin, the former national tournament manager of the American Bridge league. This mathematical genius is now employing his skill in the ballistic department of our government. Everything, of course, is percentage of possibility with Baldwin.

Here's an interesting percentage hand he gave me.

West was probably correct in opening the heart suit rather than spades even though his

♠ 74	♥ AQ	♦ AK94	♣ 108853								
♠ 86	♥ J1098	♦ 76	♣ 4								
♠ 4	♥ 76	♦ Q763	♣ 4								
♠ AKJ95	♥ 532	♦ 10	♣ J972								
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N	E	S	W								
W	E	S	N								
Duplicate—Both vul. South West North East 1♦ Pass 2♣ 2♠ 2N.T. Pass 3N.T. Pass Pass Pass Opening—♥ J. 2♠											

partner had bid them. Baldwin won the trick with dummy's ace and led a club. West showed out on the second round. The ace of diamonds was then cashed, East dropping the ten. Now Baldwin had a count on the East hand; he knows that East must hold five spades to make a vulnerable overall. He has shown up with four clubs, therefore he held either three hearts with a singleton diamond, or two hearts and two diamonds. So now Baldwin came over to his hand with the ace of clubs and led the jack of dia-

Questions & Answers

Q—How much meat did Canada produce last year?

A—Total production during 1944 reached the record figure of 2,737,000,000 pounds. The 1945 total is expected to be smaller.

Q—How many states have only one representative in the lower house of congress?

A—Four: Delaware, Nevada, Vermont and Wyoming.

This Curious World



MILKING A COW THREE TIMES DAILY INSTEAD OF TWO, INCREASES HER MILK PRODUCTION TWENTY TO TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

Quiz Corner

This is the northern end of the famous old Egyptian way, a road that is still in use after twenty-two centuries.

Where's Elmer?

ANSWER: In Rome.

NEXT: A plant that eats meat.

Funny Business



"We know it isn't done yet, but our lease started yesterday!"