

EDITORIAL PAGE

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Page Two

Otherwise Unconditional Surrender Won't Be Complete



THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The fear of some divine and supreme power keeps men in obedience.—Burton.

Reconversion and Congress

The several million workers facing at least temporary unemployment as the speedy aftermath of peace probably experienced varying degrees of reassurance as result of the statement of Senate majority leader Alben W. Barkley that "human elements" of reconversion will be the first order of business when congress reconvenes next Sept. 5.

There is reassurance in the fact that congress seems awake to the urgency of the "human element"—which, to the worker, means nothing more or less than a job. Less encouraging to those facing unemployment is their knowledge of the record of congress for leisurely handling of practically all legislation that comes before it. Many persons doubtless fear—with justification—that they will be jobless a long time if they are forced to wait until congress does something to relieve them.

In theory, and probably in fact, those likely to be affected doubtless are better equipped to cope with a period of unemployment than ever has been true of such a group in history. Most of them have war bonds and other savings to tide them over the rainy day they knew would come with peace. But people with such reserves will be reluctant, on the whole, to draw upon them. And there can be no escaping the problem represented by the many thousands of person who failed for various reasons to

be prepared for the problems now confronting them. The fact that most such people may have themselves to blame for their immediate prospects does not remove nor lessen the problems with which they and the nation are confronted.

No matter where the blame may lie, and no matter how well prepared those affected may be, the joblessness of several million people for a very extended period will be an unhealthy, and possibly dangerous, condition both for the unemployed and for the nation as a whole. The least such a condition can do is to breed the sort of discontent in which such things as communism will flourish. Idle hands are dangerous both for the individual and for the nation.

The national welfare therefore demands that congress follow the course promised by Senator Barkley. It is of an importance impossible to exaggerate that congress make the "human elements" of reconversion its first order of business. It is even more important that action designed to relieve the situation be prompt.

Meanwhile, the outlook for the unemployed, and the prospectively unemployed, probably is as favorable as congress can make it at this time. Congress seems awake to the importance and the urgency of the problem. This, of course, does not guarantee that curative legislative action may be as speedy as may be desired. But it does provide reason for hope that our national legislators will be diligent in providing whatever relief congress can provide.

Funny Business



It's the new tandem horse—rubber conservation, you know!

SO THEY SAY

Only through the monopoly of atomic force by a world organization can we hope to abolish war.

—Robert M. Hutchins, chancellor, University of Chicago.

Safety of flying personnel and the public will be protected if planes are not flown over cities except in direct emergencies.

—Bloomington, Ill. Pantagraph.

Russia's move will be a disappointment to those who have been trying to foment war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

—The Very Rev. Dean John Chapeleff, Russian Orthodox cathedral, Detroit.

There's one page we might take from the communist's book with profit to democracy. The Commie works harder to be a good communist than we work at democracy.

—Beloit, Wis. News.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

(Ed. Note—While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, his column will be written by several distinguished guest columnists—today by Henry J. Kaiser, the famous west coast industrialist and ship-builder.)

By HENRY J. KAISER

SAN FRANCISCO—For one who has, on occasion, been taken for a ride on Drew Pearson's merry-go-round, it is difficult to refuse a free ride when it is offered.

During the war, I have come to know something of the Washington covered in this column. What understanding of its problems I have acquired stems from my discovery that the war department, navy, and war production board consist of a lot of individual men, each and everyone doing his best. Criticism of their performance should be tempered by comprehension of the fact that, in our free society, the initiative in domestic affairs should originate elsewhere, outside of the government, in the ranks of management, labor, and agriculture in which the real responsibility for the progress of our nation resides.

After all, if the government were too efficient when it takes over the functions of business, it would be difficult to compete with it, and perhaps make it impossible for Drew Pearson to work. The chorus of complaint arises largely from those citizens who have lost their taste for competition.

It was thrilling, during the United Nations conference on international organization at San Francisco, to watch our nation's new friends from the world abroad climax their discovery of America by discovering the secret of America's great power. For many of them it was at first difficult to understand how such coordinated industrial might could flow from a system of economic freedom motivated by self interest. The secret, of course, is the force of competition.

Inevitably, when men compete to reduce the price, improve the quality, and increase the volume of production, they achieve benefits for the whole nation. In the resulting expansion of earning power, labor participates to the extent of at least 75 percent. America will go on growing just as long as we enlarge the scope and widen the opportunities of competition.

Little Mayo Clinics

Let me again talk about health—competitive health. At the invitation of the Pepper committee of the senate, I have drafted a bill for federal legislation to achieve competitive health. This bill has in mind the

future and the hopes of the half million veterans of war who are going to come home—not only doctors, but nurses, pharmacists, and battalion aid men. It would empower the federal housing agency, which has financed the ownership of nearly a million American homes, to guarantee 90 percent of local bank loans to build and equip hospitals. This financing would be made available to groups that undertake to provide prepaid medical care.

Here is an opportunity! In the armed forces, doctors have learned to work and live together in group practice. Under the bill, they could invest the funds set up for them by the G. I. Bill of rights in their own group practice clinics at home. Together, 10 of them could make up a pool of \$25,000 and get a loan of \$250,000 to set up much needed medical facilities.

I can see little Mayo clinics springing up all over the nation. Founded on the sound economics of prepaid medicine, these clinics would operate as going business enterprises, competing to reduce their cost, improve the quality and expand the scope of their service to the public.

Postwar Employment

Health is the first project of the four-point postwar program that has been on my mind since the war began—health, homes, highways, and transportation. Competition will speed them all forward for the creation of employment. For the sake of stirring up some competition, we made full disclosure of our plans in the home building field two days after V-E day. We are going to build whole communities of homes.

Highways are also a good subject for competition. The states that have the best highways will lead the parade when the citizens of the U. S. set out to rediscover this country once again. California has started the snowball rolling with a recent announcement of a \$400,000,000 postwar highway program.

Now let me talk about steel. Here is a glorious prospect! The great steel corporations, by virtue of the fact that steel ingot capacity has been installed in the west, are now going to have competition. In the press this week, Ernest Weir was the latest eastern steel man to confess his concern over western competition. Two great new steel plants have been built in the west: the Kaiser steel plant, at Fontana, California, owned and operated by Kaiser company, inc., and the D. P. C. plant at Geneva, Utah, owned by the people of the United States.

See WASHINGTON . . . Page 4

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

Where is that war wife who only the other day was worrying about her own family problems of postwar readjustment? Who grew blue and despondent just thinking about the job ahead of her when her man would come home and once more would have to get acquainted with his wife and children again, to assume the responsibility for getting a job and settling down?

That woman who was getting so much conflicting advice on how to treat her returned serviceman, she wondered if she would ever be equal to the task?

The girl who was wondering if she would ever have the wisdom, the understanding, the patience, the tact to make a go of things when her man came back to her?

Where is that harassed and lonely creature?

No wonder you can't find her. The weight of uncertainty and advice has slipped from her shoulders.

There is a spring to her step and her head is up in the clouds. She isn't "a poor little thing" any more. She doesn't need sym-

pathy and advice.

She is a sure creature, who doesn't figure there is any problem in the world that can lick her now. Don't worry about her any more. She doesn't need anyone to hold her hand.

There is just one thing on her mind, now. When is Joe coming home? How many days, how many weeks, how many months? And, oh yes, she has another problem or two. But she'll solve them. They're really simple—though they seem stupendous at the moment. What is she going to wear when she meets her man at the railroad station?

And how is she going to manage her points so as to have the pantry and ice box well stocked for his return?

There may be tough problems ahead of her—and later she may want some advice—but not now. Not on anything more serious than, say, is her new permanent really becoming?

That "poor little war wife" is the happiest woman in the world.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—If, as expected, Edward Frederick Lindley Wood, Earl of Halifax, retires from his post in Washington, he will bring to a close one of the most successful embassies in British history.

Lord Halifax is now in Britain, having left Washington before the votes were counted in the recent election. He is expected back sometime in the early fall but few people expect him to stay. Even if the conservatives had won it is believed doubtful the all, lanky nobleman would have returned to Washington for any length of time. Now that labor has won its overwhelming victory, it seems almost certain that he will return to his Yorkshire home for good.

Halifax came here at the very beginning of America's participation in the war. Never before had Anglo-American relationships taken on such enormous importance. In addition he succeeded the highly popular Lord Latham who had died tragically Dec. 12, 1941—just five days after Pearl Harbor. The fact Churchill chose his foreign minister and one of the chief members of the inner war cabinet to come to the United States as ambassador is an indication of the importance assigned to the post. On top of that Churchill sent Halifax to America aboard Britain's newest and finest battleship, the King George V.

To give point to the crucial nature of his mission, President Roosevelt personally went to meet the boat when it anchored in Chesapeake bay, an honor previously reserved only for heads of states.

Despite all this, the appointment of Lord Halifax drew loud cries of anguish from many left-wingers who were suspicious of his conservative views. Many Washington-

ians also believed the supposedly austere ambassador would renew the chilly atmosphere which had pervaded the huge embassy on Massachusetts avenue until it had been lifted by the ebullient Lothian.

It is doubtful if any ambassador ever had a bigger job than Halifax or that any ever worked harder at it. Naturally austere or not, Lord Halifax set about learning about Americans and making friends with them. Perhaps no ambassador of a foreign power has covered so much American territory. Instead of remaining in the customary orbit of diplomats which may include Washington, New York, Florida, and New England for the summers, Halifax visited such places as Montgomery, Ala., and Oklahoma City. He wore ten gallon hats and Indian head-dresses in the well established custom of public figures in the U. S., and his speeches were events in many out of the way places. He filled the subsidiary posts in his embassy with many young, able and friendly people. Today a labor leader is likely to be as welcome at the embassy as a socially prominent international banker, perhaps more so.

If Lord Halifax worked hard, so did his wife. A small, likeable woman, she soon was on easy terms with Washington, and helped her husband make friends on his many trips.

Washington will miss the Halifaxes and is wondering what kind of man will be picked to succeed him. Some Britishers in the capital believe that a trained career man like Sir Archibald Clark-Kerr, now his majesty's ambassador at Moscow will be chosen. Others think that a prominent member of the labor party will be sent. In any case, he will have a hard time equaling the Halifax record.

Side Glances



Its cruising speed is pretty slow. I guess, but I'll settle for this as my bomber from now on!

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

America's Card Authority

EVALUATE BIDDING IN CHOOSING A LEAD

Mrs. R. C. (Sally) Young of Philadelphia was rated for several years the world's outstanding woman bridge player. When the war came along, Sally went into war work and in addition, drove a taxicab. However, I have seen her around at tournaments lately and she may be out to win back her crown.

I asked Sally once if she had

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 N.T.	Pass	4 ♠
21			

any specific theories on opening leads, and she said, "Definitely yes. I think that most people make the wrong lead because they do not stop to think."

Then she gave me today's hand. "Surprisingly," she said, "many players will open the king of clubs. But listen to the bidding. East has bid two diamonds and later three spades, so he probably has five diamonds. West helped the diamonds, probably holding three, possibly four. South has bid clubs. Therefore the only correct opening is the ace of diamonds, because your

BARBS

In dealing with the Jap war-lords we should continue to "Remember Pearl Harbor."

We wonder if the new washers or ironers will have a gadget that will put the buttons back on.

One of the greatest signs of better times will take place aboard the U. S. S. Missouri.

As far as we're concerned, be it ever so humble, there's no place like home for the German prisoners of war now in the U. S. The sooner they're shipped back, the better!

Scientists believe civilization can gain great benefits from the atomic bomb. And what it helped bring about in Japan proves the thought.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Western South Dakota

NEXT: The U. S. A. is low on high mountains.