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Conferences Made Good Start To Solve British Dollar Crisis

By Bruce Blossat

Britain, Canada and the United States dug into the tough British dollar crisis with commendable energy and spirit. All three profess optimism that the outcome of their Washington conference will be an easing of the strain on Britain's dollar supply.

Basically, the British problem goes far back beyond World War I, when shifts in the world trade pattern began to rob her of her commercial pre-eminence and to push America into the lead. Steadily Britain and other European nations saw their trade disadvantage mount.

World War II had a further powerful effect on the British trade position. The war cost the United Kingdom much of its substance. Its valued foreign investments were virtually wiped out. America and other non-European countries moved into its foreign markets.

Thus today Britain's advantage is greater than ever. Dependent as always upon foreign purchases of food and raw materials to supplement her own relatively meager resources, she finds herself less able than at any time in her history to pay for the things she needs. Much of her requirements she wants to buy in America. But they have to be paid for in dollars and she can't sell enough of her own goods here to earn the necessary dollars.

The United States has now agreed to certain measures that may ease the immediate financial emergency. And all three conferring nations plan to take steps toward a long term solution.

This country will allow Britain to spend more of her Marshall Plan dollars in other countries, especially Canada. Presumably the British hope to purchase necessities more cheaply from these nations, and therefore to conserve dollars. Britain cannot pay off in her own currency for nearly all nations today demand payment in dollars so they, too, can buy in the American market.

America has agreed also to review its "critical materials" stockpiling program, with some prospect that it may increase purchases of tin and rubber from countries within the British currency orbit. Such a move would step up dollar earnings.

The United States likewise has promised to cut red tape in its customs set-up and make further tariff reductions, both to stimulate heavier flow of trade. Britain, on the other hand, is urged to liberalize its trade with other countries with whom she has no "balance of payment" difficulties.

These are the short-run plans. For the long-range answers, all three nations will explore ways of increasing North American investments to help economic growth in the rest of the world; make detailed studies of the oil and shipping industries in the hope Britain's dollar income from these sources can be raised; and continue consulting so long as the dollar discrepancy exists as a serious problem.

For its own part, Britain has agreed to encourage its exporters to compete more effectively in the U. S. market; has pledged a vigorous attack on high British production costs that only aggravate the competitive problem, and has promised to build up dollar income from tourist and other services.

However helpful the short-term proposals may prove, it is thoroughly apparent that the ultimate solution depends upon the earnestness with which all three countries approach the task of restoring a healthy balance to world trade. Without that, the "dollar crisis," or something like it, will always be with us.

Need More Proof

A Republican has captured a congressional seat in a special election held in the 26th Pennsylvania district. Jubilant GOP leaders naturally hail the victory as a sign of triumphs to come. A Democrat won the spot in 1948, but later was killed in a plane crash.

We will need better evidence than this, however, as proof of a "trend." The 26th Pennsylvania district was represented by a Republican continuously from 1938 to 1948. And GOP registrations outnumber Democratic by 7000 this year.

Moreover, Pennsylvania is notorious for its flip-flops from one party to another and back again. About all you can say about the place is: "As Pennsylvania goes, so goes Pennsylvania."

Elevator operators in an Illinois town walked out. Not very uplifting!

A dentist is the new golf champion. Drilling a hole in one should suit him to a tee.

What hubby helps with is much more interesting to a wife than what he stands for.

Many men boast of being self-made. Others have been working on more important things.

Republicans Get 'Blocking' Too

By Bruce Blossat

Sen. Scott W. Lucas of Illinois, the Senate Democratic leader, has taken his cue from President Truman. He is blaming the Republicans for the delays and defeats suffered by the administration in the current Congress.

Lambasting the GOP at Chicago recently, Lucas said:

"We have compelled them to recognize the fact that they cannot hold back the tide of progressive America. We have made them realize that all their stalling, all their clever maneuvers, all their quibbling and delaying tactics have been in vain."

Evidently this is to be the Democratic theme in the 1950 congressional elections. Successful in discrediting the Republican 80th Congress, Administration strategists, led by Mr. Truman, apparently believe they can do the trick again.

Now the voting record of the 81st Congress makes it clear that Republicans have indeed opposed virtually all the key measures of the Truman Fair Deal that have come to a vote this year.

There is also no doubt that GOP lawmakers repeatedly have sought to weaken or hamstring Administration proposals that finally did manage to win through.

Furthermore, in opposition to the Democratic program, the Republicans have not come up with any real alternatives of their own. For the most part they have conceded blocking tactics to be the proper function of the "loyal opposition."

The real trouble is, of course that all lawmakers bearing the label "Democrat" do not necessarily stand with the Administration in matters of importance. For many years a good portion of the party's southern congressmen have been rebelling at critical moments—usually in coalition with Republicans.

This division within the ranks of the Democrats is such an old story that we wonder how Mr. Truman and Senator Lucas can even attempt to throw a smoke screen around it.

So long as that well-defined split exists, the Democratic Party will not be an effective instrument of government. It cannot execute what it proposes.

If the American people want the Truman Fair Deal fully enacted, they can achieve that result only by further changing the make-up of Congress. They can elect more Democratic legislators in northern and western states, defeat unco-operative Democrats in the South, or do a little of both. By that effort they may give the President the sympathetic majority he needs.

Mr. Truman's own political maneuvering this year is the best proof that he himself knows this to be the case. He and his advisers are working hard to build a workable farmer-labor coalition in the North and to scuttle extreme conservatives in the South.

We doubt that the President would do much harm to his party by acknowledging the necessity of this campaign. He is probably doing greater damage by this foolish pretense that the Democrats already offer the nation a unified front capable of carrying out a broad program—if only the Republicans will let them.

Goal to Go
Observers keenly alert for signs of improvement in the Berlin situation are now able to report two notable advances.
The Russians and the western powers have agreed to use German technicians from both east and west zones of Berlin to put the city's utilities in order. Better still, they have agreed to accept for mailing all letters bearing each other's postage stamps.
Slowly but surely we inch forward toward peace.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By Douglas Larsen
NEA Staff Correspondent

White House Calls Big Shindig To Study Minds of U.S. Kids

WASHINGTON.—NEA—Elaborate plans are now being made in the White House for a big powwow of high-level child psychologists, social workers and educators to be held next year, in an attempt to find out just how much and what is wrong with the personalities and minds of U. S. kids.

Fancy title for the shindig is "The Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth." This one will be the fifth of its kind. Teddy Roosevelt called the first one back in 1909 and it has gotten to be sort of a habit for presidents to sponsor one every 10 years.

All of these conferences have been held on the loftiest intellectual plane. Probably for the sake of maximum objectivity they are kept far above the diaper and dirty-face level. That's just where the American parent grapples with the complex problems of riding herd on an unpredictable bundle of growing energy, in frantic hope that some day a wage-earning, law-abiding citizen might result. But the U. S. Children's Bureau, which figures prominently in these conferences, assures us that real benefits have seeped down to the "child's operational level" from these meetings.

The 1909 conference, we are told in a Bureau publication, "stimulated the creation of a Children's Bureau in the Federal Government." "Public demand for child labor legislation" resulted from the one in 1919. The 1930 meeting "pointed up the need for specialized training of people working with children and stimulated progressive education." The last one in 1940 "highlighted the importance of the child in a democracy." Those are just some of the results.

Looking for More Action
In planning for next year's MWHCCY, however, Katharine F. Lennort, head of the Children's Bureau and secretary for the conference, wants this one to be "better focused." She says, "The first two conferences were probably too limited in scope, and the last two covered such a broad range of subjects as to make it difficult for a clear-cut, understandable program to emerge which could be the basis for action in behalf of children." She adds, "Certainly there is a need for recognition of the inclusiveness of concern for children, but there must be sharply defined focal points around which the conference program can be built as well as careful selection of subjects that will receive major attention."

In deciding to limit the conference to a study of the mental status of American kids, a staff member of the White House corps planning the meeting explains that this problem is the only one left which is worthy of the group. He explains, "In the past we have gone into the problems of the child's health, economic status, family and education and now the child's personality is about the only good topic left."

A permanent staff of four persons has been set up to handle the problems and details of the conference. Melvin A. Glasser, an able executive and former official with the American National Red Cross, will be in charge. He will be assisted by a public relations man and two staff workers.

Job Will Take a Year
It will take them a year, working full steam, to get ready for the meeting. And it will probably be close to another year, preparing the report and arranging for the post-conferences—"when resources will be mobilized for carrying out immediate and long-range action programs"—before the job is finished.

Just the planning this year is costing \$75,000. That pays the salaries of the four staff members, expenses of bringing key experts to Washington a couple of times for preliminary meetings, printing advance materials and postage on the great amount of correspondence necessary to get it under way.

It is estimated that the actual conference will cost about \$750,000. Publishing the report alone is estimated in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

There are 52 members of the national committee who are doing the over-all planning. At the last conference 3000 delegates attended. The size of this one will not be known until later. Delegates are asked by a special invitation from the President, Federal Security Administrator Oscar R. Ewing is the chairman of the whole shebang.

Reports of My Death Was Greatly Exaggerated



Marker Set At Bomb Site

KLAMATH FALLS.—(AP)—A wooded spot in eastern Klamath County where six persons died May 5, 1945, in the explosion of a Japanese balloon bomb, will be appropriately marked with a monument.

The deaths were believed the only casualties directly attributable to enemy action in the continental United States during World War II.

Company to Build
Weyerhaeuser Timber Co., announced it had completed plans to erect a fenced monument and to build and maintain a recreation area at the site of the bomb blast not far from the town of Bly.

The monument will be a truncated pyramid of native stone with a bronze plaque dedicating the spot where six members of a seven-party picnic group were killed.

The plaque will carry the names of the dead: Mrs. Elsie Mitchell, Dick and Joan Patzke, Sherman Shoemaker, Jay Gifford and Edward Engen.

Survivors Listed
Mrs. Mitchell, 26, was the wife of Rev. A. E. Mitchell, now in Indo-China and sole survivor of the group. Others in the party had gone into the forest ahead of the minister and found the bomb. Its explosion killed them instantly.

The Patzke boy and girl, Dick, 14, and Joan, 13, were children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Patzke of Bly; Sherman, 11, was the son of Leo Shoemaker, now of Oroville, Cal.; Jay, 13, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Gifford of Klamath Falls, and Edward Engen, 13, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Einar Engen, now of Canyonville, Ore.

Peruvian Mummy Unmask; Attired in Bright Robes, Gold

NEW YORK.—(AP)—A Peruvian about 3000 years old kneed his way into the 20th century here Wednesday.

He came as a mummy to an un-winding party given at the American Museum of Natural History.

It was the first unmasking of a Peruvian mummy in this country. While archaeologists carefully unwound yards of burlap and brilliantly colored cloth, newsreel cameras ground, radio networks made recordings and camera bulbs flashed.

Estimates Age
Dr. Rebecca Carrion, director of the Peruvian National Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, said the mummy was probably about 3000 years old.

Dr. Junius Bird, associate curator of anthropology at the Natural History Museum, who aided her in directing the un-winding was noncommittal about the gentleman's age. But they both agreed he was a gentleman—a high official of the Paracas civilization.

The mummy was discovered in 1927 about 150 miles south of Lima, buried about a foot below the surface.
Had Wardrobe
The mummy brought a complete wardrobe to New York. Included were several bright ceremonial robes and a short, tasseled poncho in a state of nearly perfect preservation.

First sign of the gentleman from Peru was a bony knee. It brought gasps from feminine mummy followers.

Even more exciting to the audience, however, was the final stripping of the head, revealing the grey-haired skull. People shouted, "down in front, we can't see."

Gold on Forehead
Bird said the Peruvian was grey-haired when buried and that his head had been artificially shaped in infancy. A narrow gold band ran down the bridge of the nose and a sheet of gold lay across the forehead. Parrot feathers and a broken cup were encased near the head.

His exact age will be calculated under a method evolved by Dr. W. F. Libby of the University of Chicago whereby some of the wrapping will be burned and the carbon ashes tested for radioactivity.

Advertisement for Coburn film Shop. Features a 'New Low Price' on a Cine-Kodak Magazine 8 Camera. The camera is shown with a price tag that says '\$163 now only \$147.50'. The ad lists features: Loads in 3 seconds, Has 'fast' focusing f/1.9 Luminated lens, 4 speeds including slow motion. It also includes the address '7th & Willamette St.' and phone number 'Dial 4-8241'.

Uranium Found In Washington
By Associated Press
A uranium content well above government-set minimums for development has been reported from ore concentrate taken from mdeposits above Salmon Lake in northern Kittitas County, Wash.
The announcement was made Tuesday by Homer A. King, an executive of the Big Dome Mining Co., after receipt of a report from the metallurgical division of the U. S. Bureau of Mines office at Salt Lake City.
The report indicated the ores contain two pounds per ton. Government quarter pound a ton. Another development is an official of the mining company in the of reports that uranium found in small amounts in Idaho.
R. D. Leisk, general manager of the company, said several small veins found the quantities sufficient to consider production.

Advertisement for Dr. Miles Weir, Optometrist. Offices at Moody Opera House. Services include: Prescriptions Filled, Lens Duplications, Thorough Examinations. Address: 38 E. Broadway.

Advertisement for F.H.A. Pacific First Federal HOME LOANS. For new home construction. Loans advanced as you need it. No red tape. Loans made with speed and simplicity. No Commission Charged. Pacific Federal Savings. F.H.A. Approved Lending Institution. 10th & Willamette. Phone 4-6241.

Advertisement for Western Auto Supply Co. Features 'FREE JUMBO INNERTUBE' with each Western Giant purchased. Lists tire prices: 6.00-16 TIRE and TUBE Both For \$12.75. 6.50-16 TIRE & 6.50/6.70-16 Tube \$14.95\* Ex. Tires mounted free... Tube at no extra cost with any other size double-duty tire. Also advertises 'Save on Oil!' with 40c per quart quality 'SUPREME' Compounded MOTOR OIL. 66c per gallon. Also advertises 'Giant Chamol' motor oil for \$9.98 only. 'Champion' spark plugs for 4 or more for 69c each. 'Hi-Pressure Gun Grease' for 24c per 1-lb. can. Address: 59 E. 11th St. - Eugene, Ore. Dial 5-2124. 'The West's Oldest and Largest Retailers of Auto Supplies'.