

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C. PROHIBITION LOBBY ACTIVE

Prohibition, after being in the limbo for eight years, again has a potent lobby on Capitol Hill. The Women's Christian Temperance Union and other Dry organizations have launched their most intensive campaign since the one that put over the Eighteenth amendment during the last war.

And they are using the same tactics. Congress is being barraged with appeals to "protect" soldiers and sailors by prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages near military reservations. Simultaneously, the heat is being put on state legislatures to enact "local option" statutes.

The only thing new in the drive is its slogan. This time it's "Defend the Defenders."

The Dry campaign is well organized. In the last few weeks thousands of letters have poured in on congress. Some are written on W.C.T.U. stationery, but most are form letters signed by individuals obviously connected with Dry organizations.

FOREIGN PROPAGANDA

Postmaster General Frank Walker said nothing in his report to congress, but he has quietly taken steps to plug up the inflow of foreign propaganda via first-class mail.

Postal officials were able to seize and burn 15 tons of illegal literature under the authority that permits inspection of second and third-class matter without a search warrant. First-class mail, however, is immune from direct investigation, can be examined only on a search warrant.

Ordinarily this is a laborious proceeding. But thanks to the mass of matter that was seized, Walker found a way to simplify the job. From the seized material were obtained the names of hundreds of persons in all parts of the country who apparently are on Nazi, Fascist and Japanese propaganda lists.

Henceforth, under an order quietly issued by Walker, all foreign mail addressed to these individuals will be subject to a search warrant examination, and if found illegal will be destroyed.

Note—Walker wants congress to require that both the senders and receivers of foreign propaganda register their names. A considerable portion of the literature seized advocated violent overthrow of the government.

Vice President Henry Wallace has engaged a Spanish-speaking secretary to help him practice his Spanish. Wallace wanted someone who would be available at any moment—in the office, in the restaurant, in the handball court. So he turned down a handsome feminine applicant from the Mexican embassy, took a man instead.

ORATOR VANDENBERG

Genial Sen. Arthur Vandenberg is one of the most effective orators in the senate. His mind is alert, and he has a command of phrases that makes the galleries lean forward to hear him.

When he had delivered his major effort against the lease-lend bill, he retired to the cloak room, lit a cigar, and leaned back in an upholstered chair. One of his colleagues congratulated him on the speech.

With a mischievous twinkle, Vandenberg replied: "I could have delivered just as strong a speech on the other side."

Senatorial loungers looked up, and Vandenberg added: "I could recite 50 unanswerable reasons why the bill should be passed."

TENANT FARMERS

The President is not losing sight of domestic problems in the welter of foreign affairs—and recently kept his very precise undersecretary of state, Sumner Welles, waiting an hour while he threshed out a farm relief problem.

Representatives John Tolan of California and John Sparkman of Alabama had called to protest against a \$25,000,000 cut in farm rehabilitation loans, a cut made by the budget bureau in the agriculture department appropriation.

The conference was supposed to last 15 minutes, but Roosevelt forgot all about the time, became completely engrossed in the "economic shock" to be felt by tenant farmers and migrants after defense spending has tapered off. Meanwhile Welles cooled his heels in an outer office.

Finally the two congressmen emerged. They were beaming about the President's promise to have the farm relief cut restored.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Able young Rep. Charley Halleck of Indiana, who nominated Wendell Wilkie at Philadelphia, broke with him on the lend-lease bill, voting against it.

Minnesota's husky Gov. Harold Stassen is finding no support among friends of District Attorney Tom Dewey for his presidential ambitions. They claim Stassen had committed himself to Dewey before the Philadelphia convention, and nurse a grudge because of his flop to Wilkie.

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

Washington, D. C. TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL

There is considerable discussion in Washington as to whether the government should subsidize another air transport line between New York and Lisbon to compete with the Pan-American Clippers over exactly the same route.

In this argument there is little criticism of the marvelous pioneering work of Pan-American of planning and putting into execution this trans-Atlantic service which, due to the war, has become a main reliance for our traffic with Europe, both for mail and important government officials and civilians. It is the best similar service in the world and plans for three more sailings a week, six in all, have been made and financed by the company and approved by the government.

No, the argument is neither bad service, high rates nor lack of full co-operation with the government. It is the word of evil omen in all American legislative deliberation.

There is only one air service operating between New York and Lisbon. The argument is that government, at much greater cost to itself for mail service, should subsidize a much less frequent and initially certainly less efficient service in order that there should be competition on this route.

It is the story of the railroads over again. Any kind of public service, such as transportation, has some elements of public helplessness—some aspect of monopoly. In dealing with early high-handed railroad operators, our government used two checks. One was regulation. The other was to encourage and subsidize competition—by parallel railroad lines at first, later by artificial waterways, airplanes and roads and other special advantages for trucks and busses.

The final result of checking by subsidized competition was the mare's nest snarl and tangle of our inefficient and frequently bankrupt railroad web. The report of the Coolidge National Transportation committee, recommending consolidation in three or four single monopolistic systems, showing that the subsidized "competition" idea has proved disastrous and insisting that "the latter (regulation) has been practiced long enough and sufficiently extended to prove that it dominates competition or any other influence as the governing law of railroad practice."

The air route business is an exactly similar case in which repetition of errors of 70 years ago in fumbling toward a solution of the railroad problems was urged. The present air route has or will apparently soon repay the government through postage what it expends for mail freight—which is the "subsidy" in question.

If that mail load is divided up, neither company can continue without great loss.

DEFENSE LABOR PROBLEM

Both Mr. Knudsen and Mr. Hillman, the Janus-headed duality which is managing industrial mobilization, have testified that all is sweetness and light on the labor front. They may think so, but hardly anyone else in even remote touch with the situation does. Unquestionably, important sabotage is being used in organizational efforts and attempts to increase wages.

This is notably true in some key steel plants in dispute where the percentage of spoiled work is rising rapidly and unusually. This is going on. It is very costly and destructive. It creates delays throughout the whole production process. It is inconceivable that the government and public can stand for that. The whole coal industry and much of the steel industry is threatened with strikes.

Management in some cases is far from co-operative. The only method to deal with this yet made legally available to the President, or his two-headed boy in OPM, is to commandeer the plant. That means that government takes it over and runs it as an arsenal is run, which in turn means that labor in that plant is working for government directly.

All this is being shushed. It has been badly managed from the beginning. It was generally understood between President Wilson, A. F. of L. President Samuel Gompers and industry, that the "status quo ante" as between labor and management should remain in defense industries. Thus, except as rising costs of living justified higher wages and the government's two labor boards decided, neither management nor labor was to use the defense crisis to take advantage of the others.

At the first defiance of this policy, which happened to occur at the same time on the part of one labor union at one place and one group of manufacturers at another, the government moved decisively and promptly. It decreed the discharge of the recalcitrant workers. It commanded the recalcitrant plant.

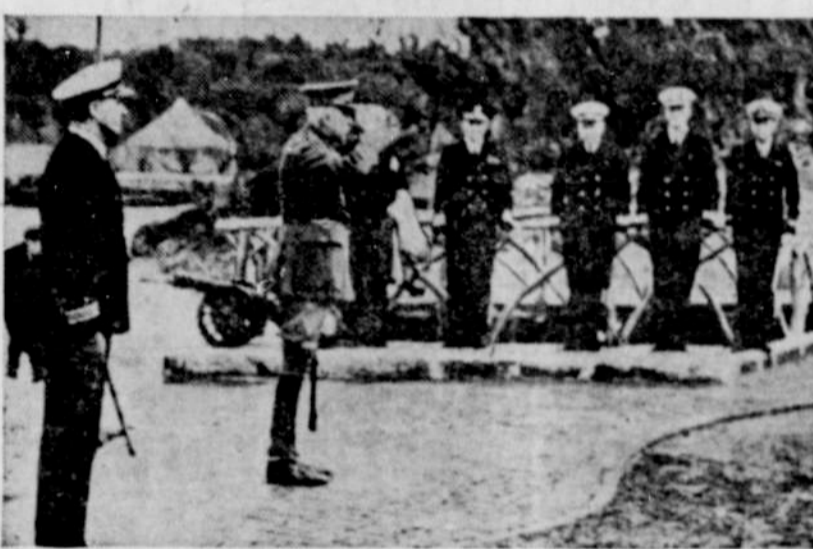
All the subsurface boiling and rumbling is being shushed by those whose responsibility it is. That seems wrong from every angle. To a casual observer on the sidelines, it seems time to get not only frank but also vigorous and tough.

Legionnaires Return From War Inspection



Legion Commander Milo Warner, right, with three other Legionnaires, shown on their return to America after an eight-day tour of England. They are enjoying coffee here. Warner said England can win the war with American aid. He will report to a special meeting of the Legion during March.

Bermuda Base Site Transferred to U. S.



This soundphoto shows his excellence, Lieut. Gen. Sir Denis J. C. K. Bernard, governor of Bermuda, saluting the honor guard of the U. S. marines on Tucker's island during an historic ceremony in which the Tucker's and Morgan's islands were transferred to the United States government for air and naval bases.

Guarding 'The Rock' From Sea and Air



A view from an accompanying British war plane high above Great Britain's Rock of Gibraltar, showing another plane on patrol duty, winging high over the harbor, wherein are several men o' war. All are on the alert against attack by German planes from the air and German troops that might be given a "corridor" down to southern Spain by the Fascist government. The Rock, which is one of the most formidable fortresses in the world, is Great Britain's effective western door to the Mediterranean, through which British commerce and warships flow from day to day.

'Four of a Kind!'



Mrs. Peter Lasley, 42-year-old farm wife and mother of Leitchfield, Ky., shown in the city hospital at Louisville with the quadruplets born to her at Leitchfield. The babes, which were rushed to Louisville, are (left to right): John, 5 1/2 pounds; Mildred, 4 pounds; Martine, 4 pounds, and Beulah, 5 pounds.

Breaks Relations



After reading a strongly worded British note to Bulgarian Premier Bogdan Filoff, George W. Rendel (shown above), British minister to Bulgaria at Sofia, formally broke off diplomatic relations with the Balkan kingdom.

Office Closed



Giacomo Proffil, the Italian vice consul in Detroit, Mich., whose office was ordered closed by the government. Proffil heads the Italian consulate in Michigan.

Delayed Inaugural



Forrest C. Donnell was inaugurated Missouri's fortieth governor after a six weeks' delay because of contested election. He is the first Republican governor to crack the Missouri capitol's Democratic ranks since the Roosevelt landslide in 1932. This picture shows him at the inaugural in Jefferson City, Mo., with Col. Branch Rickey, owner of the St. Louis Cardinals. Left: Governor Forrest Donnell, and (right) Col. Rickey.

Appointees



Left: Ralph Austin Bard of Chicago, who was appointed assistant secretary of the navy. Right: Robert A. Lovett of New York, appointed special assistant to secretary of war for air.

Deceptive First Sight

Things are not always what they seem; the first appearance deceives many; the intelligence of few perceives what has been carefully hidden in the recesses of the mind.—Phaedrus.

FREE 4 cups of GARFIELD TEA

You'll like the way it snaps you back to the feeling of "rarin' to go" fitness and internal cleanliness. Not a miracle worker, but if temporary constipation is causing indigestion, headaches, listlessness, Garfield Tea will certainly "do wonders." FREE SAMPLE! 10c—35c at drugstores.

For Prompt Relief from Headaches without opiates or quinine. FREE SAMPLES. GARFIELD TEA CO., Inc. 4111 St. Louis Ave. St. Louis, Mo. 10c 25c (See doctor if headaches persist!)

One's Best Light

It pays to follow one's best light; to put God and one's country first, and ourselves afterwards.—Samuel C. Armstrong.

QUINTUPLETS use MUSTEROLE for CHEST COLDS

Mother—Give Your CHILD This Same Expert Care!

At the first sign of the Dionne Quintuplets catching cold—their chests and throats are rubbed with Children's Mild Musterole—a product made to promptly relieve the DISTRESS of children's colds and resulting coughs. The Quints have always had the best of care, so mother—you may be assured of using just about the BEST product made when you use Musterole. MORE than an ordinary "soothe"—warming, soothing Musterole helps break up local congestion. Also made in Regular and Extra Strength for those preferring a stronger product.

Vitamin Makes Plants Grow

Tests made at the California Institute of Technology show that vitamin B1 gives new vigor to plants.

Political Advertising

Political advertising on the two major radio chains amounted to more than \$107,000 in 1938.

Three Wise Men

According to legend, the three wise men were Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

Autos in World

World registration of automobiles in the world as of 1940 is estimated at 43,819,929.

Men, Blame Marlene Dietrich

Marlene Dietrich is credited with making trousers popular for women.

Beware Coughs from common colds That Hang On

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

Nothing From Nothing

Nothing can be born of nothing, nothing can be resolved into nothing.—Persius.

She Turned Him Down!

A fellow can't get anywhere when he looks uncomfortable! And he's bound to, when heartburn, "fullness" and acid stomach bother him. Have ADLA Tablets handy for quick relief. Get them from your druggist.

Memory Clings

Experience teaches that a good memory is generally joined to a weak judgment.—Montaigne.

TO RELIEVE MISERY OF COLDS quickly use 666 LIQUID TABLETS SALINE NOSE DROPS

BEACONS of SAFETY

Like a beacon light on the height—the advertisements in newspapers direct you to newer, better and easier ways of providing the things needed or desired. It shines, this beacon of newspaper advertising—and it will be to your advantage to follow it whenever you make a purchase.