

# NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

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## HONEST DIFFERENCES

NEW YORK. — Luckily the nonsense of American political campaigns generally evaporates as fast as the ballots themselves, which, once counted, lose their value and become waste paper. Only substance survives. Falseness cannot endure the calmer atmosphere of reasoning and acquire permanence.

In the closing of the campaign some hasty people on the radio, for instance, suggested Dewey or Roosevelt should be impeached for something or other which was not clear in the speakers excited minds, and at the other extreme I heard the all too reasonable suggestion that now the election is over the losers should give in their viewpoints to the winners. "The issues are decided" and now "we must all work together." Neither course is likely to be followed this time. The frenzied few will quiet down gradually from impeachment thoughts as they come face to face with new developments. It is equally inevitable that the genuine faith of people in certain truths and ideals at the moment I am writing this, is not going to be turned around for the espousal of opposite ideals after election.

But there was a surviving substance developed during this campaign—a substance which could be as important to the future of the country and the world as the outcome of the election.

## BOTH PROMISED

Both sides promised the same things in great instances. This agreeable residue of the debate is what the country has the right to expect from the victor, indeed what it must insist upon. The mutual promises were basically these:

Jobs. Dewey promised them to all and Roosevelt promised 60,000,000. Indeed they both promised the method of furnishing them—free enterprise. Both promised against the Communist and Socialist way of furnishing them (free enterprise clearly disavows socialistic methods).

Both promised a high-wage, high-priced economy with fair employment practices and Mr. Roosevelt even defined his living wage as applying only to "a full work week" in rejection of previous trends toward less work. Both promised quick victory and a sound peace, and nearly agreed on how. They said they would continue existing military leadership for war, and would seek peace through the Dumbarton Oaks arrangement for a new League of Nations. On one league point only did they differ, and then not as much as advertised. The most fervid Rooseveltian internationalists (the Ball-Davenport minority) said they wanted the American agent in the league council to vote for war only by constitutional means, and that is actually what Dewey insisted upon.

Behind these generalized agreements, there now lies of course, great prospects of change and sharp irreconcilable differences on both sides. On the Roosevelt side, or rather the inside, it became evident State Secretary Hull's health might eliminate his sound search for unity on foreign policy, and the administration's economic director James Byrnes definitely made arrangements to quit before election. If someone like Sumner Welles happened to get Hull's job, you can readily see how the measure of unity so far achieved would fade away. If the radicals took control of Byrnes' place, the change in domestic policies would be equally sharp. The changes through a new administration leadership by Dewey were more obvious and fully presented.

No doubt the various self-seeking classes will be interpreting the general result for their own purposes by the time you read this, so it may be well to get the truth in first: A Roosevelt victory would not be a victory for the purposes of any of the minority groups which took leadership in seeking his election, because they do not control enough votes to accomplish such a result. Such a class victory was not promised. Roosevelt declared the winner, it was solely because so many people were afraid of the war and thought he could conclude it sooner or better. A Dewey victory would have reflected a demand for a change.

There is less cause for the quadrennial metamorphosis this time.

Of course, the frenzied few managed to call each other liars, but not many proved it, and after all anyone in politics is supposed to be a liar these days, so the charge is hardly sensational.

As a matter of fact I achieve the distinction of being called a liar by four or five of my 20,000,000 readers (circulation going up) for having quoted Mr. R. as saying in his Boston speech that he would never send our boys abroad in foreign wars.

# The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

DREW PEARSON

Washington, D. C.

## BRITAIN'S BANKRUPT STATUS

One of the most important documents bearing on the postwar world soon will be issued by the British government in the form of a White Paper. It will be a survey of Britain's financial position and a frank admission that she is bankrupt.

The White Paper will tell in detail how British investments throughout the world have been liquidated to pay for the war and will come to the conclusion that, if the British Empire is to continue free trading, she must have outside help.

The alternative to free trade and free competition, the White Paper will say, is a system of barter, restricted trade and cartels, such as that practiced by Germany after the last war. International cartels, of course, have been blasted publicly by President Roosevelt and one British corporation, Imperial Chemical Industries, already has been prosecuted by the justice department on a charge of conspiring with the Du Ponts before the war to control the world production of certain chemicals.

According to inside word from the diplomatic corps, the publication of Britain's frank survey of her bankrupt financial position will coincide with the secret conferences now taking place here between Lord Keynes and U. S. officials regarding the renewal of lend-lease.

With the war in Europe nearing a close and with U. S. forces now getting a greater proportion of war supplies direct from the United States, British war needs for lend-lease are dwindling. However, the British have proposed, in Lord Keynes' private conversations, a new type of postwar lend-lease whereby the British could resell goods to foreign countries in order to reestablish their export trade.

## Keynes Proposal

Word leaking from the diplomatic corps is that Lord Keynes now proposes a total lend-lease allotment to Great Britain of 6½ billions for 1945, of which 3½ billions could be reexported in British trade. Most of this would be in the form of American raw materials which the British would process into finished goods and then sell. The British do not propose that finished American products be given them for reexport, but only that they get lend-leased raw materials to revive their crippled industries.

One proposal is to set up a new postwar lend-lease court composed of one Britisher and two Americans which would decide which goods could be used for British trading purposes.

The whole plan will be submitted to congress probably before Christmas.

## ARMY'S PREFABRICATED BRIDGES

One of the great but little known stories of the Western front is the way in which army engineers got a group of bridge experts together nearly two years ahead of the European invasion and designed fabricated sections of bridges which would exactly replace specific bridges in France, Holland and Belgium.

Through the European underground, army engineers were able to get exact measurements of the bridges which they knew would be destroyed by the retreating Nazis. Each part was numbered, and special assembly crews, trained in England, rehearsed the job of putting them in place.

When the invasion came, these bridges traveled so close behind our advancing armies that they were frequently ahead of the field kitchens. And on arrival at a destroyed bridge its replacement was a matter of hours.

## HILLMAN WOULD END PAC

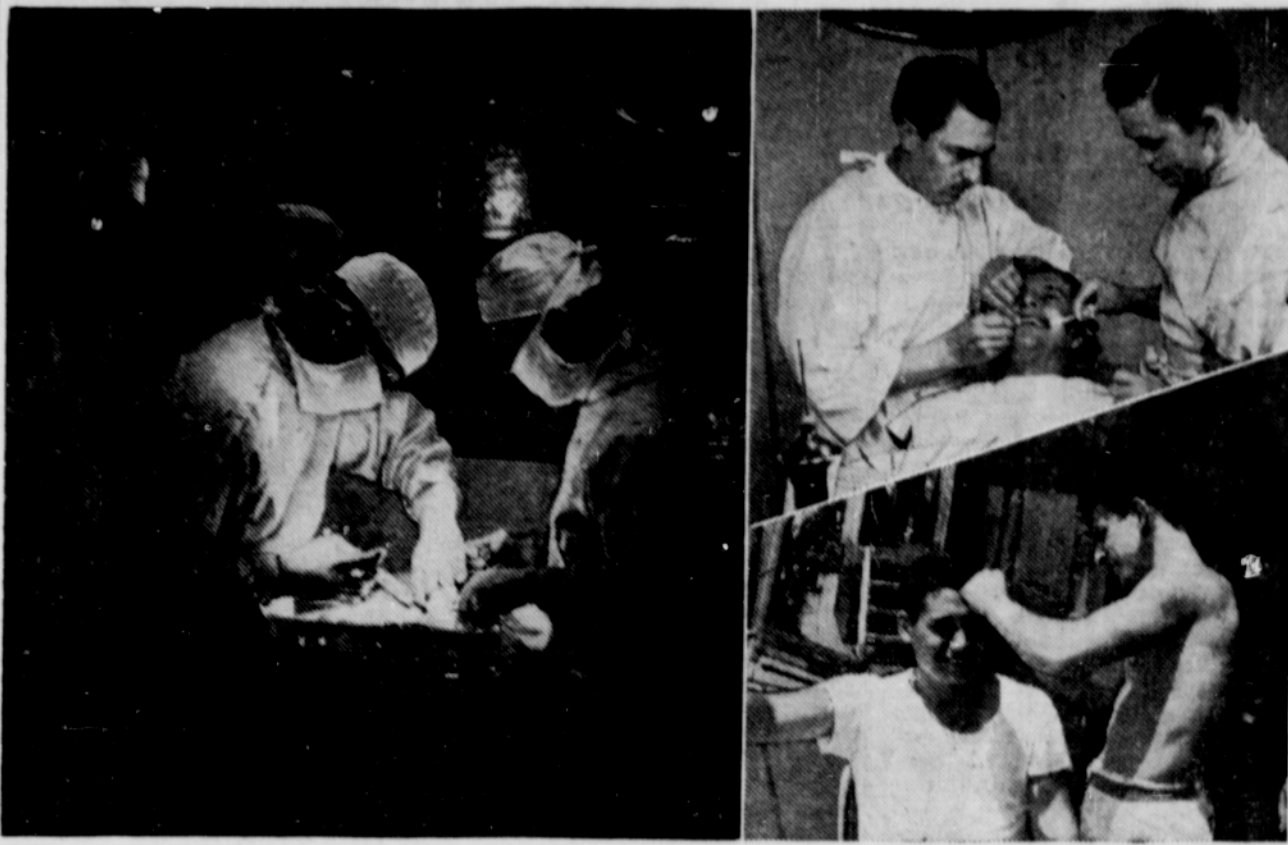
Sidney Hillman didn't advertise it but, during the last days of the campaign, he took steps to disband his controversial Political Action committee. The final decision will not be up to him alone, for the whole thing will be threshed out at the CIO national convention in Chicago. But not waiting for the convention, Hillman sent notice to most of the 200 members of the PAC staff that they go off the payroll before then.

Originally PAC was set up as a permanent organization, and there are several schools of thought inside the CIO regarding its continuation. One group, including auto workers president R. J. Thomas, wants to keep PAC alive. Hillman, on the other hand, wants to shut up shop, concentrate on New York politics, and also get his health back.

## MERRY-GO-ROUND

All during the war, FDR has been a close reader of Carl Sandburg's "Lincoln" and has continued his reading during the campaign. Someone who dropped into his private study one day found a copy of the book open to Lincoln's war days. . . . During the 1864 campaign, McClellan's followers accused Lincoln of squandering public funds, mismanagement of the government, destroying civil liberties, meddling with the war, and standing out for "unconditional surrender."

## U. S. Sailors Receive Expert Health Attention



Aircraft naval doctor (left) performs emergency appendicitis operation on young fighter pilot at sea. On board ship and ashore, the Gobs receive the best of dental care. Upper right shows a naval dentist and assistant eliminating a sailor's toothache, while lower right shows one of Uncle Sam's fighting tars getting a close trim at sea. The grinning seaman belongs to crew of submarine patrol.

## Europe's Children Fight While U. S. Tots Play



Every day is play day for Jimmy, Judith and Barbara and the rest of their American playmates. In Europe, it is a sadly different story. Upper right shows four German children arrested in Aachen area for firing on American troops. According to rules of war they may be shot. Lower right shows a guard of honor of Loutakhi, Greece, children lined up to greet the Tommies when the British troops crossed the Corinth canal and liberated their village. They had been serving with the Greek underground.

## Sleeps One Year, Still Grows



Four-year-old Dickie Shipman fell downstairs in his Seville, Ohio, home a year ago, and although he has grown, he has been unconscious or semiconscious since that time. He is being moved to Cleveland, where leading specialists will treat him. At the time of his accident doctors said that he could not recover.

## Mills Has One Stripe on Conn



Commander Jack Dempsey of the U. S. coast guard, center, gives the nod to Corp. Billy Conn of the U. S. army air service command, right, as he squares off with light heavyweight champion of England, Sgt. Freddie Mills. According to Dempsey, "The only thing Mills has on Conn is an extra stripe."

## Stalin Hits Japs



Premier Stalin, of Russia, is shown in this radio photo as he addressed the Soviet Union. He castigated Germany and Japan as aggressor nations. His talk renewed speculation that the Soviet Union will make available some of its resources to the Allies of the Pacific war. Whether this aid would include full participation, or would cover uses of Russian bases has not been determined. Russia's position in north-east Asia is even more vulnerable than Japan's.

## Thirty 'Meatballs'



Commander David McCampbell of Los Angeles, Calif., showing the 30 "Meatballs" on his plane, each representing one Japanese plane shot down from the air.

## ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

### The Questions

1. Did any United States president ever receive a unanimous electoral vote?
2. What term in astronomy describes the brilliancy of the stars?
3. What is the abbreviation of the plural of madame?
4. Who was the vice president of the United States when Calvin Coolidge served his first term as president?
5. What name is applied to masculine and feminine wood nymphs?
6. What state has a name derived from the Ute Indians?
7. Who laid the corner stone of the U. S. Capitol?
8. What does pantheon mean?

### The Answers

1. Yes, George Washington.
2. Magnitude.
3. Meses. for mesdames.
4. There was no vice president.
5. Masculine, satyr; feminine, dryad.
6. Utah.
7. George Washington.
8. A temple of all the gods.

## WHY QUINTUPLETS always do this for CHEST COLDS!

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## SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER



Nearly 2,000 rubber tires daily were required in North Africa to replace tires which had been worn out or destroyed in action.

As a result of the diversion of the petroleum by-product to aviation gasoline, about 50 per cent of the butadiene produced for synthetic rubber processing so far in 1944 came from alcohol plants.

When you wonder about the shortage of civilian tires, bear in mind that in the time it takes to build one 56-inch airplane tire at B. F. Goodrich factories, seven 8.25-20 truck tires or sixty 6.00-16 passenger tires could be made. And airplane tires are "musts" these days!

*Henry Shaw*

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