

Veterans' SERVICE BUREAU

EDITOR'S NOTE: This newspaper, through special arrangement with the Washington Bureau of Western Newspaper Union at 1616 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., is able to bring readers this weekly column on problems of the veteran and serviceman and his family. Questions may be addressed to the above Bureau and they will be answered in a subsequent column. No replies can be made direct by mail, but only in the column which will appear in this newspaper regularly.

APPRENTICESHIP FOR VETS

With many labor unions suffering from lack of apprentice help, particularly the building trades unions, the federal committee on apprenticeship has, through a survey of industry, learned that 300,000 apprenticeship positions can be handled by industry from the ranks of returning servicemen.

The committee consists of representatives of management, labor unions, the U. S. Department of Labor, U. S. Office of Education, the Federal Security Agency and the apprentice-training service of the War Manpower Commission.

The committee has recommended that to protect veterans and to maintain high standards of apprenticeship, adequate safeguards be set up by state agencies authorized to approve business establishments for apprentice training to assure veterans thorough training in all skilled trades. The committee has ruled out as apprenticeship training programs for occupations such as salesman, managerial positions, professional and semi-professional positions and clerical work.

Definitions for true apprenticeship which are reserved for all-round skilled trades and which have been adopted by WMC's apprentice training service include the following basic standards: (1) An apprenticeship occupation is considered one that requires 4,000 or more hours to learn; (2) A schedule of the work processes to be learned on the job; (3) A progressively increasing scale of wages that should average not less than 50 per cent of the journeyman's rate over the apprenticeship period; (4) Provisions for related classroom instruction of about 144 hours per year; (5) Terms of condition of employment and training to be stated in a written agreement and registered with the state apprenticeship council; (6) Review of local apprenticeships by the state or federal apprenticeship councils; (7) Apprenticeship to be jointly established by the employer and employee; (8) Adequate supervision and the keeping of records for all apprenticeship programs.

Q.—What information must a veteran submit in order to apply for guaranty of a loan under the GI Bill of Rights?

A.—The veteran first executes a form called a certificate of eligibility. In this he gives a summary of his service record, the amount of the loan, and the purpose for which it is to be used. This is submitted to the Veterans Administration by the lending agency.

Q.—If a blue discharge from the Army is neither honorable nor dishonorable, under what circumstances is it given?

A.—The War Department informs us that an honorable discharge certificate is given when a soldier's service has been honorable. A dishonorable discharge is given in compliance with the sentence of a general court martial because of a military offense of a serious nature. A discharge "other than honorable" (blue) is given for in-between cases.

Q.—Is there a plan to release from the Army men who have had four to five years' service without regard to other factors?

A.—No, there is no plan for release because of length of service. There is authority for retirement of a soldier after 20 years service or if he is disabled in line of duty after 20 years service.

Q.—I am in a veterans hospital receiving domiciliary care. Can I also receive educational or vocational rehabilitation benefits at the same time?

A.—Yes, the Veterans Administration has ruled that a veteran receiving vocational training or education under either Public Law 346 or Public Law 16 of the 78th Congress while receiving domiciliary care is not receiving duplicate benefits, which is prevented by law.

Q.—There seems to be some difficulty over seniority rights in obtaining my old job. Is there anything I can do about it?

A.—Yes, if you fill all other qualifications of the selective service act you are entitled to your old job as a matter of right, regardless of any question of seniority. This is the ruling of the Federal Courts and of the National Headquarters of the selective service system.

Q.—What is the ratio of disabled veterans applying for jobs?

A.—The War Manpower Commission reports that of more than 1,000,000 veterans who have sought employment at U. S. Employment service offices, approximately one-fourth were physically disabled and required selective placement techniques.

Q.—How many loans and in what amount has been made under the G. I. Bill of Rights?

A.—The Veterans Administration reports that through June, 1945, 10,441 loans for a total of \$17,241,457.43 had been guaranteed.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

REAL AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY BEING FORMED

WASHINGTON. — The switch of Mr. Braden for Mr. Rockefeller as Latin American assistant state secretary was hailed generally as an exhibit of this government's rising displeasure with Argentina — but there was far more behind it than that.

State Secretary Byrnes was not required to change his Latin American assistant to express a genuine displeasure at Argentina's failure to follow through her San Francisco promises of turning toward democracy. Mr. Rockefeller had come to precisely the same view of the matter even days before his public speech proclaiming his displeasure also.

What may have had more to do with the change was Mr. Rockefeller's record of having strewn dollars around Latin America in a fantastic enterprise of purchasing good will, but deeper than this fact, the change really reflects the new methods which are developing in the whole Byrnes reorganization, and as a matter of fact, the whole Truman-Byrnes in world affairs.

Excuses and explanations have come confusingly on each separate change in personnel Mr. Byrnes has made. The elevation of Dean Acheson, a New Dealer, to be Mr. Byrnes' right-hand man, for example, was generally interpreted as a forecast of heavier emphasis on the Roosevelt themes. The New Dealers, some said, were to gain at least secondary control. A far more important consideration was Mr. Acheson's standing among congressmen. He is well liked in both the Senate and the House and his role is apt to be a liaison man rather than policy-maker. Mr. Byrnes long functioned as a Roosevelt liaison man with Congress and places great emphasis on attaining hill support.

A campaign has long been maintained by the Liberals against William J. Dunn on the ground that he was not sufficiently belligerent against Spain. Yet, he was elevated to a position of increasing prominence by Byrnes at the very same time the policy towards Spain was hardened by the Potsdam declaration.

The Republicans are currently interpreting all this interesting shake-up as meaning their exclusion from new policy-making. Rockefeller, however, was the only Republican in the former State Department regime. On the other hand, there is a great tendency throughout the Truman Administration to solidify the Democratic party hold on every Government power obtainable.

The general pattern at least seems clear. It looks to me like a move to conceal formerly uncongenial elements in a new effort to develop a new line of foreign policy behind the Potsdam agreement. Its main political implication is clearly a step to harmonize the critical class groups of the nation behind the newly developing foreign policy, to bring them in and develop harmony for the strenuous endless troubles ahead (Republicans apparently excluded).

The policy itself is developing along the same line. Less of a tendency to appease Russia is already noticeable. The demand for full representation of all parties in the Balkan elections has been persistently maintained, and Britain won over to that purpose. Incidentally, when Stalin's growling press mouthpiece, Pravda, roared out against our stand recently, contending that the maintenance of watchers at the polls would be an undue influence on Bulgarian voters.

If you can imagine the weight of our influence through watchers from the distance across the seas while Russian troops are in possession of the country, it was, Mr. Byrnes shot back and did not give ground, saying the presence of fair-minded newspaper men as observers would satisfy the commitments Russia made as to free elections. Of course, all this does not really guarantee free elections and may come far from it. But our stand at least won a delay and represented a new tendency to avoid the past mistake of not saying or doing anything to offend Russia.

The Russo-Chinese agreement shows similar intentions. The pact is supposed to have been initiated or pressed by Mr. Truman upon Moscow. In it Russia has given ground in promising withdrawal from Manchuria and cessation of the Communist effort to capture China. The agreement may not settle the Asiatic problems. Few authorities here think it has written agreements with Russia always cause men with good memories, and not necessarily long ones, to await proof in action.

Washington Briefs . . .

Here's the way the Department of Agriculture looks at the current month's farm picture: cash receipts from farm marketing about 15 per cent higher than in August; slaughter of all types of meat animals will increase; income from poultry and eggs about the same as in August, compared with an increase of 15 per cent in 1944; dairy product income will decline seasonally; income from crops will be substantially above August, and about the same as in September 1944; greatest income gain will be from cotton.

Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

(Note—In Drew Pearson's absence, Herbert Bayard Swope, long a student of British political affairs, contributes a guest column on the new labor government.)

By HERBERT BAYARD SWOPE
Former Editor of the New York World and Public Relations Adviser to the Secretary of War.

NEW YORK. — The conservative defeat in England is not so striking a blow as some portray it. Unquestionably, there will be a trend toward socialization, but I think that this will be confined, at least for the next few years, to the natural monopolies—power, light, heat, transportation, communication (already in the state's hands except for cables) and, of course, mining, steel, and the Bank of England. But much of this has been on their program for the last 25 years.

In fact, even the Lloyd George government gave support to the basic plan.

There will be a trend on the part of the radical movement in this country to affiliate itself with the British program. And I think there will be efforts to gain a wider and deeper association politically with Britain and Russia. But I do not discern any trend toward communism.

Whatever Britain does will be done not by dictatorship, but under the rule of a true democracy. That characteristic saves it from becoming a repetition of Stalinism. After all, only two Communists were elected out of 27 who ran. That's not dangerous, even though the propagandists can—and do—claim 100 per cent increase! (The Combies had one member in the last House.)

No New Foreign Policy.

I should doubt that there will be any decisive changes in foreign policy. Britain has consistently adhered to a pretty well formulated foreign policy for almost 300 years. However, it is reasonable to expect a greater sympathy on the part of the British center office for the movement left of center than with the kings and Tories the expiring government supported. An approach to self-government in India is to be expected.

I think foreign trade will become more international minded and more collective. I think it will move toward further cartelization. The question about British commerce growing will be dependent upon their range of wage. Labor will drive for wider employment and higher pay. Probably it will take over many features of Beveridge's plan. To hold the British position in world markets will require subsidies. In other words, Britain will embark upon a species of protection.

Long Labor Rule.

Attlee is a good man, overshadowed by his association with Churchill. My guess is that labor is in for a long run and, if there is any change it will be to displace Attlee for one of its own, such as Bevin or Morrison. As its name implies, this is a labor victory, built in a democratic framework.

Unquestionably, the fact that labor received a clear majority of all the votes, will tend to unify the country. I believe there is nothing to fear from England. In fact, we may be able to learn from this great experiment. My hope is that there will not be too great a limitation set upon free enterprise.

We should remember that Ramsay MacDonald's labor government swung steadily to the right. In fact, it is axiomatic that the ins grow conservative and the outs more radical.

That is happening in America right now. It wouldn't be surprising if the Republicans were gradually to move to the left, as against the conservatism of the southern democracy.

Universal War-Weariness.

In my reading, it is almost a settled law of history that every country engaged in a war repudiates the leadership that brought its people into the war. We saw that exemplified after World War I. All the victors were repudiated—Wilson in America, Lloyd George in Britain, Orlando in Italy, Clemenceau in France. And the losers, too: the Hohenzollerns, the Hapsburgs and the Romanoffs.

Apparently a great wave of war-weariness overwhelms all peoples, and they throw out anyone remotely connected with the war. If that be true, it disposes of any question of military candidates. But there is small likelihood of that; America has chosen a great military figure really only once. That was Grant—and his presidency was a stench.

Attlee's cabinet is a strong one and certainly as good as Churchill had.

There is an additional point, in connection with the English result, on which I should like to expatiate for just a moment:

We Won't Copy England.

There is an insistent belief that the English elections are definitely an indication of how ours are going. While, unquestionably, the result shows a tendency, in reality there is nothing to warrant the belief that it is any more than such a tendency.

In 1908 to 1911, Lloyd George was beginning his successful campaign for vast social reforms in Britain. We remained conservative, electing Taft in 1908, and would have elected a Republican in 1912 had it not been for the Bull Moose split.

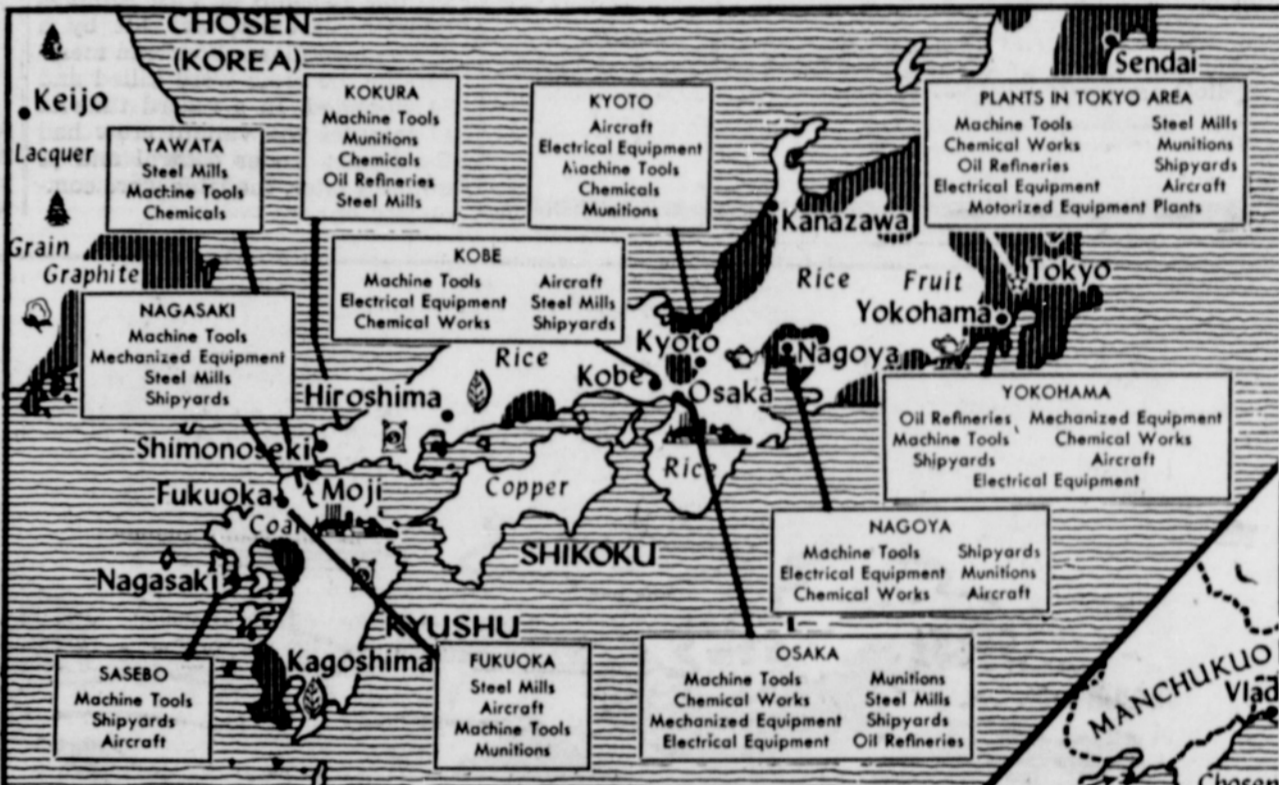
England went liberal during the war, and thereafter, but we turned solidly to the right immediately after the war, while England, in the early '20s elected a labor government. In 1923, when MacDonald got a plurality, we put our leadership in the hands of Calvin Coolidge.

Japs Surrender on USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay



Photograph shows General MacArthur and his Allied staff looking on as Gen. Hsu Yunghang signs the surrender document aboard the USS Missouri, laying off Tokyo bay. The signatures of all Allied countries were added to those of the Japanese. MacArthur signed for the United States. The terms of the surrender are already being put into effect, although it is admitted by military authorities that it will take months before a working government is set up in Japan.

A World Commercial Problem for Years to Come



While Japan will be whittled down from a prewar empire of 260,770 square miles to 146,690 square miles, the administration of the islands by the Allies will be a major task. The control of the 72,000,000 Japs on the home islands will not be easy for the Allies. Map shows industrial Japan. Many of these industries will be displaced.

Choose Up for Boys All-American



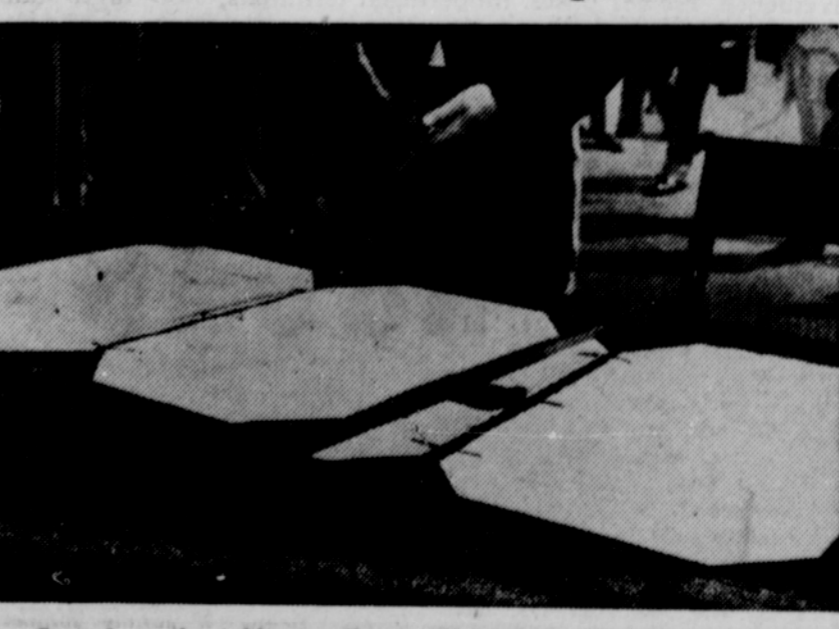
Babe Ruth, pilot of the Eastern nine, and Ty Cobb, manager of the Western nine of the Esquire All-America boys, "choose up" just before the start of the Boys East-West championship. They took time out to demand ball parks for every 1,000 boys in the United States. Ruth and Cobb still remain heroes to thousands of sand lot players.

Japs Starved Yanks



This starved, emaciated POW from Aomori, near Yokohama, shows effects of malnutrition at hands of Japs, as he was rescued by U. S. mercy squadrons. In addition to human and barbaric brutal acts were practiced.

Papers of Historical Importance



Spread on the table are the complete Japanese surrender papers, including terms of surrender. In the background can be seen one of the Japanese delegates as he gazes at the papers. At least his hat got in the photograph. Copies of the surrender will be preserved for future generations, and as a guide for newer generations of Japs.

Good-By to Fishing



Ten-year-old Joe Morrison is given his final fishing instructions before he returns to school. Like thousands of other boys, he spent some part of the summer fishing and camping.