

Postwar Confusion Exists in Orient

Courteous Japs Kow-Tow To Victorious Americans

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Recently, I had two experiences which melded.

I ran into my colleague, Kenneth Romney Jr., son of Kenneth Romney Sr., sergeant at-arms of the house of representatives. Young Romney recently has taken up his duties in radio again after a belated discharge from the military service, the latter part of which was spent with the "cloak and dagger" boys, the Office of Strategic Services.



Baukhage

Casually, he told me how he landed in Shanghai. He had been serving in China. Shortly after V-J Day he was ordered, along with some hundred other American officers and soldiers, to Shanghai. It was known there were no Chinese troops in the city. Shanghai had been in Japanese hands since the beginning of the war. The civilian population had become none too co-operative.

Hence, the Americans (even the "cloak and dagger" boys) arrived in full battle dress.

Their plane landed, and little brown men came forward toward them. The Americans had their rifles at "ready." Some fired. But the Japs, undeterred, came forward, bowing deeply, smiling. It was a Japanese ground force, ready and anxious to service the American planes.

Later came Jap officers with a whole fleet of limousines. The Americans were guests, not conquerors. The conquered enemy were hosts—not just the conquered. They offered to find accommodations and the trimmings. A little confusing, the Americans thought,

but that was, after all, the Orient—China, another world.

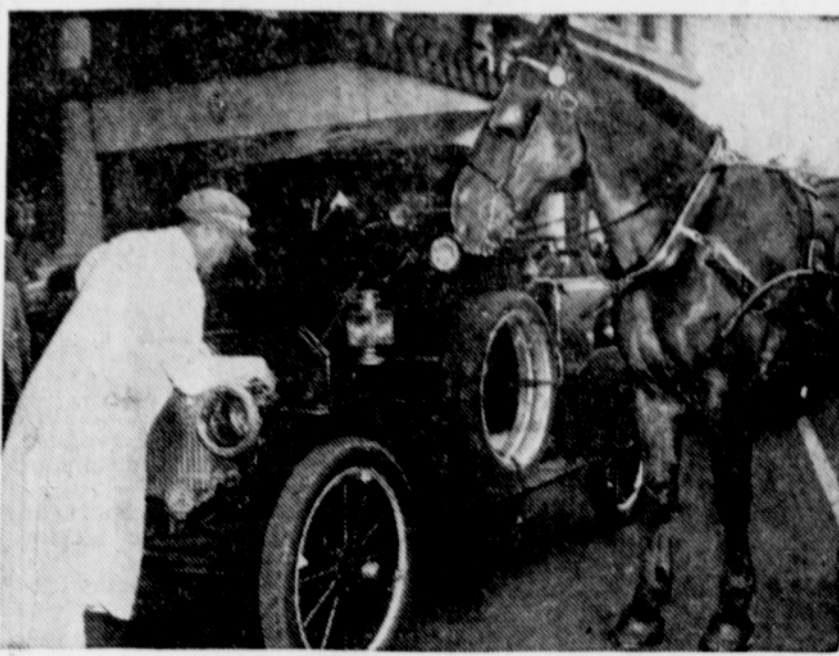
Now the scene shifts to Washington again. I witness the meeting of a husband and wife. Plenty of such meetings these days, still. It was touching. The man had dropped out of the Far Eastern skies. It seemed only yesterday that I had heard he was in a city in the Netherlands Indies where the American corporation he represented had one of its great plants. He was the first American to visit it since the territory had been won back from the enemy.

But had it been won back? When I heard his story, I wondered. It seems that when he reached the gates of the American-owned plant, he found a Japanese on guard. He identified himself. In a few moments, a smiling and bowing Japanese officer, still wearing most of his uniform and speaking understandable English, appeared.

They began a tour of the property, the Jap most deferential but offering no word of explanation or apology for the fact that he, a late enemy, was in charge and not in jail. In fact, the Jap was very loquacious on the subject of the excellent work that he and his helpers had done to put the plant back into repair and operation.

He showed my friend the various places where the buildings and machinery had been damaged—evidence, he pointed out, smiling, of the excellent marksmanship of the American air force. He demonstrated with particular pride how excellently the repair work had been done, obviously expecting (and receiving) well-deserved praise for the technical skill the Japanese repairmen had shown.

Very nice, of course. But American industry still reaps no benefit from that plant, and although the Japanese gain no profit therefrom, this American property is still, literally, in the hands of the enemy.



TAKE ME ALONG, PLEASE . . . While Leo Peters of New Hyde Park, N. Y., checks the motor of his 1911 Ford for the motorcade of ancient automobiles to Detroit in revival of the Glidden tours, a nosy horse takes a gander at what's going on. Dobbin probably has some interesting thoughts about the gas buggy that squeezed him out of things.

NEWS REVIEW

Two U.S. Notes Presage Firm Stand in New Rifts

FOREIGN AFFAIRS: U. S. Stays Tough

If the Russians sought to test American temper on their aggressive postwar diplomacy, they received ample indication that this country would stand fast on a stiffening of its principles.

Even as the state department peppered Russia and its satellites with strong notes, four U. S. cruisers, six destroyers and the giant aircraft carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt hovered in the Mediterranean, joining the British fleet in an impressive show of strength.

Yugoslavia—Strongest U. S. action was taken against Tito's Communist-dominated Yugoslav government for shooting down two unprotected American transport planes which strayed off their course while en route from Austria to Italy.

Lashing Belgrade for shooting at the defenseless planes of a friendly nation, the U. S. demanded release of fliers of the stricken craft within 48 hours or threatened referral of the case to the United Nations with Yugoslavia charged with aggressive acts. Ridiculing Belgrade's reference to the incidents as "unhappy accidents," the U. S. stated the attacks were deliberate.

Convinced that the U. S. wasn't fooling, Tito ordered release of the fliers and hastened to tell American newsmen that he had commanded his armed forces to desist from further attacks on planes.

Dardanelles—With the Russians backing up their demand on Turkey for joint control of the Dardanelles straits connecting the

Black sea with the Mediterranean with a show of military strength in the surrounding territory, the U. S. warned Moscow that an assault upon Turkish soil would be considered a threat to world peace.

While rejecting Russia's proposal for joint control of the vital waterway with Turkey, the U. S. indicated its willingness to participate in a conference to revise existing regulations and expressed agreement with the Soviet on these points:

1. Merchant ships of all countries should be allowed to use the straits.
2. Warships of the Black sea powers should always be allowed passage through the straits.
3. Special permission should be needed for passage of the warships of other powers through the straits.

Poland—Charging irregularities in counting ballots, censorship restrictions and persecution of non-Communists, the U. S. note to Warsaw accused the Russian-dominated government of violation of its commitments to hold free and unfettered elections.

To achieve such elections, the U. S. said, fullest freedom must be given to such parties as the Polish Workers, Peasants, Labor and Socialists. Further, representatives of those parties must be granted positions on electoral commissions; local results must be announced, and adequate appeal provided for election disputes.

MOBILIZATION: Plan Ahead

Warning that the U. S. will have little time for preparation before the next war, army and navy members of the services' industrial college issued a 37-page report outlining tentative plans for economic mobilization in event of hostilities.

Elaborate groundwork for M-Day would be laid during peacetime under the plan. Headed by the President, a national security council would formulate diplomatic and military policy; a resources board would develop policies for controlling wartime economy; a central research agency would co-ordinate scientific work, and a civilian plans board would fit together the activities of the various groups.

In addition, a national intelligence authority would furnish planners with necessary information; a foreign resources board would evaluate the requirements of countries aiding our economy, and a public relations agency would keep the public informed on mobilization plans.

Complementing the services' work, Donald M. Nelson, former war production chief, will undertake a civilian study of economic mobilization at the request of President Truman.



ANOTHER SOLUTION . . . Bombers in a section of one of the bombers offered for sale by army air forces at Chanute Field, Ill., for use of home-seekers is demonstrated by a girl employee.



RUSSIA'S BIG MISTAKE

WASHINGTON. — If the Soviet government had deliberately set out to make mistakes it couldn't have made more than it has piled up in the past year. In the one year that has passed since V-J Day, Russia has won the ill will of her neighboring countries in Europe, has lost virtually all her friends in the United States and has turned most of the world against her.

In considering our present strained relations with Russia, this is all-important. It indicates that time is running on our side, that Russia's own policies are playing into our hands, and that war can be avoided.

One year ago Soviet Russia was considered the great savior of the world. In Europe, the Russians were given credit, far more than the United States, for liberating the occupied countries, were even hailed by some as the pioneers of a new world order. In the U. S., most Americans had a genuine admiration for the heroism of the Russian people and looked forward to a period of friendly co-operation.

Today that good will has vanished. In all of Russia's satellites, with the possible exception of Finland and Czechoslovakia, the Soviet is extremely unpopular, even hated. Romania and Bulgaria would bolt Russia in a minute were it not for the Red army. Hungary and Austria, which Russia hoped to win over, voted overwhelmingly against the Soviet. In France the strong Communist upsurge now has hit the downgrade. Even in Yugoslavia, where Tito is supposed to be supreme, the Russians are not popular.

Most interesting fact is that the countries nearest the Russians usually dislike them most. Thus in more distant France, there is more pre-Soviet sentiment than in the adjacent Balkans.

Finally, in the American-British zones of Germany, Germans are fearful lest the western allies eventually evacuate and Russia walks in.

U. S. STOCK GOES UP

Thus the world has turned against an aggressor nation. Thus also, the world has turned toward a nation which has no selfish axes to grind and which is attempting to co-operate with the rest of the world.

This is what Secretary of State Byrnes has sincerely tried to do at Paris; and as far as this observer could ascertain, his patient, fair-minded policy is paying dividends. Part of the world, once ready to sing Russia's praises, has veered toward the United States.

Therefore, the No. 1 point of American policy should be to work things out within the family of nations; to put Palestine and other controversial problems under the United Nations; not to let the British drag us into separate alliances. This is our greatest danger. If we become the tail of the British kite, we can be euehred into war with Russia — exactly where the British foreign office imperialists want us. But as long as the smaller independent nations of the world are convinced of our unselfish motives, as long as we remain aloof from both sides, our strength as a world leader is secure.

TENSION INCREASES

However, this alone may not head off war with Russia. As this is written, censored diplomatic dispatches from the Far East report three days of rifle skirmishing between American and Russian troops along the Korean border. This is the first time U. S.-USSR troops have deliberately fired at each other. Another censored dispatch from London reports the British general staff meeting daily to plan strategy for defending the British lifeline in the Near East.

In other words, certain belligerent elements in Russia are quite willing to risk war now; and certain elements in England believe a showdown is better now than later. In a charged atmosphere like this, one spark can cause tragedy.

However, this observer's experience in watching foreign affairs convinces him that seldom does any nation provoke an incident if it knows that incident means war; thus the best way to prevent war is to let a prospective belligerent know he will get it in the neck if he sticks his neck out.

In other words, if Russia knows categorically and definitely that she will be at war with us if she becomes an aggressor against the United Nations, then the chances are 100 to 1 Russia will risk no war.

COULD HAVE STOPPED HITLER

To illustrate: If Adolf Hitler had known he would have been at war with France and England when he sent his troops into the Ruhr and Rhineland he never would have given them marching orders. As it was, fearing war, he gave them two sets of orders, one to advance and the second to retreat if the French resisted. Likewise, Hitler never would have sent his troops into Austria if he hadn't known the Allies were unprepared. He was right as later events proved.

Make This Chair, Shelf and Cornice



IT IS a combination of things that harmonize that make a home cozy and attractive. This corner of a room that was furnished with next to nothing proves that.

The chair frame was made from odds and ends of lumber—no piece longer than 2 1/2 feet. The shelf and matching cornice also were made of scrap lumber. The curtains and chair cushion are of an inexpensive cotton print.

This chair is made with pattern 285; the curtains with No. 207. The curtain idea is from the booklet Make Your Own Curtains. Booklet and patterns are 15 cents each postpaid. Please mail request for booklet and patterns direct to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Bedford Hills, N. Y. Drawer 10
Patterns and Booklet are 15 cents each.
Name _____
Address _____

ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

The Questions

1. What causes a mirage?
2. Who was the first vice president to become president upon the death of the president?
3. What does it cost to make a \$1 bill?
4. The Battle of New Orleans, the most decisive battle of the War of 1812, was fought how long after peace was declared?
5. The so-called four elements—fire, water, earth and air—are not elements. What are they?
6. How many feet below sea level is the Dead sea of Palestine?

The Answers

1. Refraction of light rays passing through varying layers of atmosphere.
2. John Tyler, tenth president.
3. Three-quarters of a cent.
4. Fifteen days.
5. Compounds.
6. The Dead sea is 1,290 feet below sea level.

Commentator Has Full Mail Bag

For one whole week, I saved all the things that came to me by mail which I hadn't asked for—except personal letters. I have just counted them, and there are 233 separate pieces in all. The total number of pages I am expected to read adds up to nearly a thousand.

The one on top is "the back of the book" from Omnibook. A collection of amusing stories. But Omnibook itself is better still and I believe I have every issue, beginning with Vol. 1, No. 1.

Next comes "News From Sweden," a mimeographed collection of feature-y paragraphs from the American-Swedish News Exchange. I recall when the Swedish minister here consulted me about the founding of such a publicity bureau, back before we got into World War I.

The next is one of the UAW-CIO regular releases, and then the CIO News, a 16-page weekly, printed, I suppose, for their membership.

Then one of the valuable National Opinion Research surveys put out by the University of Denver. This one is a poll of American opinion on the Germans and Japs and how we think they got that way.

More Business Weeks, and "Program Information" from my own American Broadcasting company. A printed letter from the Payroll Guarantee association with an enclosure on "civilized cats, mice and cheese." The American Feed Manufacturers' association handout saying the feed shortage is over.

General Motors sends me the ninth in a series of production reports. (What could have happened to the other eight?)

The release from the National Planning association announces that Leon Henderson and the official of a big corporation have been added to their board of trustees—and if you want to know about the distribution of fats and oils by the department of agriculture, you can have my copy of the second interim report from the Committee on Small Business pursuant to H. Res. 64.

Or Maybe You'd Prefer Rail Loadings

Maybe you'd rather have freight loadings of the week from the Association of American Railways, or perhaps you want to bid on the purchase of 15 or fewer Landing Ship Tank (LST) type vessels? Or perhaps you'd prefer some all-wool American flags, or a BK steel barge for dry or liquid cargo? No? Well, no harm in making the offer.

Next exhibit is "News From France" from the French Information service. I'll admit I asked for that, along with the attractive magazine, "La Republique Francaise."

Here's the state department's weekly bulletin which is Part Three of that interesting series on the present status of German youth. I was planning to write an article on that subject myself, but they tell me the magazines are overbought on Germany. Won't buy another thing.

Just two pages of mimeographed material from the "Friends of Finnish Democracy." Cruel irony here. Remember when it was "brave little Finland"? Remember when Finnish Minister Procope couldn't go anywhere without being applauded? Finland paid her war debts! She even managed not to duck after the war! Well, Finland's friends are protesting now over the reparations demanded by Russia . . . heavier in proportion to population, they say, than are any other nation's. To pay the reparations bill, the statement claims, every man in Finland would have to work eight hours a day for seven years.

Here's a speech by Senator Taft from his office, "not printed at government expense." Stuck together is a news-print pamphlet called the "Poll Tax Repealer," and that blast from the Republican national committee on the President's budget message. A very neat little booklet (additional copies will be furnished) by Standard Oil of New Jersey, entitled "Steps to Security."

Now a tissue carbon labeled "Midnight Cry" with a series of Biblical texts shrieking doom. Seven familiar bright yellow pages from the National Highway Users association, which is one of the real, hard-working publicity bureaus.

Now we come to an attractive 12-page tabloid newspaper, "The Progressive and LaFollette's Magazine." I am glad to note it is still progressive, regardless of the changes in the LaFollette activities and proclivities. The first page has a nice cartoon of a garbage can labeled "War contract scandals." Looks interesting, but WAIT A MINUTE. I think they want me to PAY for it. Here's a return card saying "25 weeks' subscription, \$1." Oh dear! It must have gotten into the wrong pile. I'm not going to look any further. I might find more of that kind.

CONGRESSIONAL PENSIONS

Careers End but Not U. S. Pay

WASHINGTON. — Although their careers as lawmakers on Capitol Hill are over, many of the congressmen who won't return in January can remain on federal payrolls by qualifying for pensions.

At least 57 congressmen have ended their service, 36 of them quitting voluntarily and 21 having been defeated in their campaigns for reelection.

Beginning next year, congressmen who have served long enough and pay the minimum assessment will start drawing retirement pay as do other former federal employees. It will range from \$1,500 to upwards of \$7,500 a year.

Retiring congressmen who have reached the age of 62 and have met

the other qualifications can start getting the checks with the start of 1947. Younger men must wait until they are 62.

Pension provisions of the new congressional reorganization law show that some of the national figures who have gone down to defeat in this year's primaries can have old age security if they meet requirements.

Briefly, these requirements are that they have served six years and that they deposit with the retirement fund a minimum back payment of \$2,674 to cover the last five years. If they wish to make larger back payments, they can obtain pensions up to three-fourths of their total average pay while in congress.

Under new law, 71-year-old Representative Hutton W. Summers (Dem., Tex.), chairman of the House judiciary committee, who is retiring after 17 terms, appears eligible for the largest pension if he wants it.

By paying in \$2,674, Summers can receive approximately \$6,300 yearly. If he ups the ante on back payments, he can increase that amount only slightly, because congressmen received only \$7,500 yearly pay during a large part of his tenure.

With a similar \$2,674 payment, Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, defeated for Democratic renomination in the Montana primary, can draw about \$4,900 yearly. A like amount is available for Sen. Henrik Shipstead (Rep., Minn.), also defeated.

That Nagging Backache

May Warn of Disordered Kidney Action

Modern life with its hurry and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking—its risk of exposure and infection—throws heavy strain on the work of the kidneys. They are apt to become over-taxed and fail to filter excess acid and other impurities from the life-giving blood.

You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling—feel constantly tired, nervous, all worn out. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

Try Doan's Pills. Doan's help the kidneys to pass off harmful excess body waste. They have had more than half a century of public approval. Are recommended by grateful users everywhere. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS