

Humphrey's Trip In Mid-East Highlights Problems of Region

Follows note: Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) toured the Mid-East on assignment from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to take a first-hand look and study of the situation in that area. He is chairman of the committee's subcommittee on Near Eastern and African Affairs. In the following dispatch, written for the United Press, Humphrey reports on some of his findings in the two-week tour.

By GEN. HUBERT HUMPHREY
Written for United Press
Jerusalem, Israel—(U.P.)—Almost everybody knows what the problems of the Mid-East are but nobody's yet been able to put together the answers to these problems.

A two-week trip through the area obviously cannot provide the answers. It has, however, provided two things:

First, the discovery that people in the area do not spend all their time hating each other. They, like we, are interested in constructive things. They are developing their economies. There is a reawakening.

Second, a somewhat better un-

derstanding of why some people in the Mid-East feel as strongly as they do about some of the problems.

Lands Contrast

When one flies low over the Nile delta of Egypt, for example, and sees the absolute contrast between land which is irrigated and land which is not, he more fully comprehends the enormous pressure in Egypt for the Aswan high dam which would greatly increase the irrigated acreage.

When one sees the miserable conditions of the Arab refugee camps, he realizes more than before why there can be no real peace in the Mid-East until the refugee problem is settled.

When one sees the economic progress, the drive and vigor of Israel and its relatively superior military strength as compared with the poverty, disease and relatively inferior military strength of most Arab states, he

better understands why some Arab leaders express fears of Israeli expansion.

Finally, when one sees the desolate Negev, the great southern desert of Israel, and when one learns that Israel expects 100,000 immigrants this year, he better understands why the Israelis are so insistent on irrigation of the Negev. The care and use of water is an ever-present topic of conversation.

Water Important

Although one usually thinks of oil in connection with the Mid-East, the fact is that water is at least as important as oil if not more so.

Water is no respecter of international boundaries. The Nile, Jordan, and Tigris-Euphrates all are international rivers and if maximum use is to be made of their waters it must be done under some kind of international arrangement.

So far, international agree-

ments in regard to water in the Mid-East have been virtually impossible to negotiate. Perhaps some consideration might now be given to a new approach in the form of a regional development agency established under the United Nations but operating independently through a board of directors representative of the various interests concerned.

Resettlement Essential

Such an agency could not only supply capital and construct projects; it could also operate the projects and provide the technical assistance which is so badly needed if the capital projects are to be of maximum benefit.

It is only through economic development of this kind that the refugee problem may be settled. The resettlement of refugees is one of the essentials of lasting Mid-East peace. Resettlement and economic development go hand in hand.

There are many immediate political difficulties in the way but this can be said of any proposal as far as the Mid-East is concerned. And a new approach can not be any more unsuccessful than those which have been tried in the past. More important

Back Stairs: Relaxation Pleases Doctor

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House
Writer

Gettysburg, Pa.—(U.P.)—Backstairs at the White House: President Eisenhower was away from Washington nearly half of the first four months of this year and his doctor, Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder could not be more pleased.

Snyder turns a definitely chilly shoulder to political critics who would have the President stick closer to his desk. Snyder believes frequent periods of relaxation, even more than rest, constitute the best prescription for the President's continued good health.

A group of 70 Gettysburg lady homemakers went to Washington recently for a visit under the guidance of their county extension home economist. The only neighborly thing to do was drop in at the White House.

Their Gettysburg neighbor, Mrs. Eisenhower, arranged for

us to keep trying—keep searching for the answers. The stakes are high—peace or war—freedom or Communism.

the ladies to have a specially-conducted tour of the premises. The Adams county women came home all aglow and loaded with things to talk about.

They reported to the Gettysburg Times that among the handsome sights they saw was the beautiful Gold Room of the White House.

And this had members of the White House staff scratching their heads in puzzlement. There is no Gold Room at the White House. There's a Blue Room, a Green Room, and a Red Room, but no Gold Room.

What the ladies probably were referring to was the stately East Room which has a lot of gold in its decor.

Gwen Cafritz, one of Washington's leading hostesses and party givers, has been serving up distinguished groceries to the capital elite for a number of years.

She says there is not any appreciable difference between Democrats and Republicans as dinner guests, and that applies to members of a president's staff, too. Mrs. Cafritz says she really doesn't believe political lines

cut deeply into Washington society and that most politicians regard dinner parties as relatively neutral ground.

Budget Director Percival Brundage has been under heavy fire recently from some sections of the Congress for the part he played in drafting the administration's \$71,800,000,000 budget.

There have been demands that Eisenhower fire Brundage.

At a recent Cabinet meeting, the President looked down the long mahogany table at Brundage who was about to make a presentation on possible budget savings. With a twinkle in his eye, Eisenhower nodded to his budget director and said, "Well, I see you're still with us."

It is only natural that presidents worry on occasion about having their more secret telephone conversations overheard. The late President Franklin D. Roosevelt protected his secret telephone talks with intimates by conversing in French on the theory that a potential eavesdropper probably would not be bilingual.

Erich von Stroheim Succumbs in Paris

Paris—(U.P.)—Erich von Stroheim, 71-year-old actor-director who was Hollywood's "demon Prussian" of the 1920's, died of cancer at his country home near here Sunday night, it was reported today.

Von Stroheim, who had been bedridden for nine months, died at 9 p.m. in Maurepas. His artist-wife, Denise Vernac, was at his bedside when the end came.

Von Stroheim made his name in Hollywood films about World War I, in which he customarily appeared as a stiff-backed Prussian officer.

Before World War II, he had left Hollywood for Europe, where he appeared in such films as "Grand Illusion." His most recent American appearance was in the movie "Sunset Boulevard," with William Holden and Gloria Swanson.

Corvallis—(U.P.)—Frank Ramsey of Corvallis Saturday was elected president of the Oregon State College Alumni association. Robert White, Salem mayor, was named first vice president.

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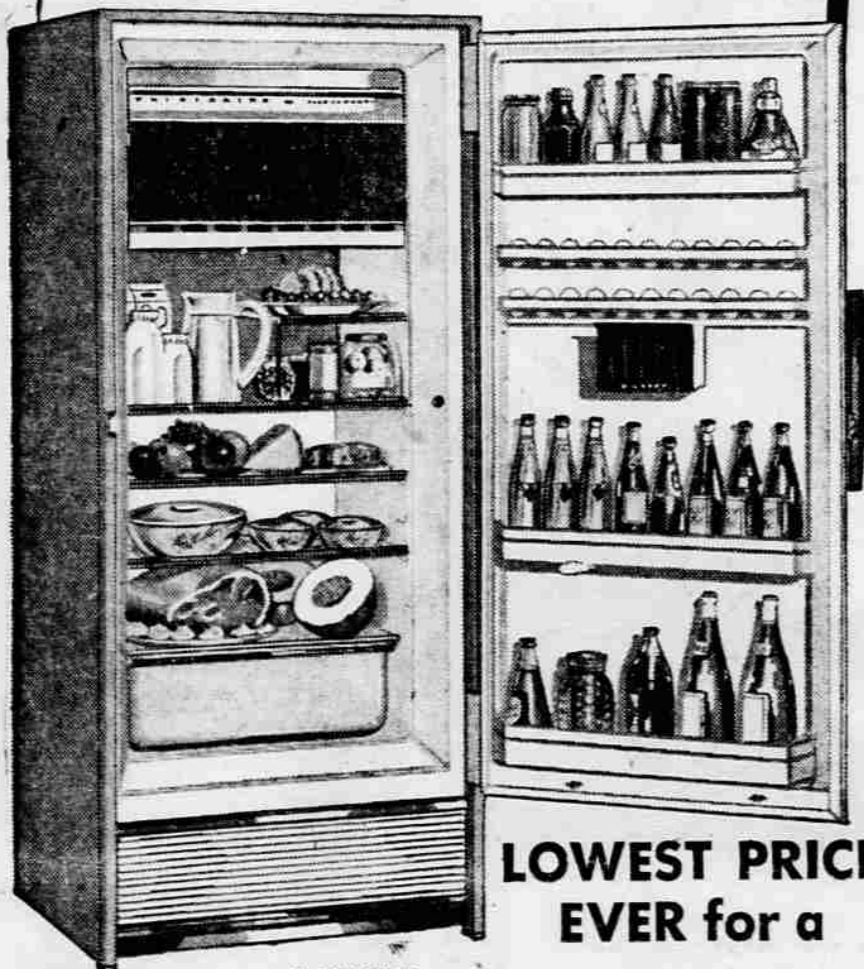
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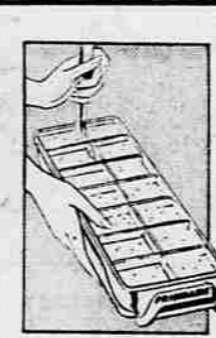


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