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Who Would Start a War?

The Eugene Register-Guard, in discussing the threat of war, the other day had this to say:
'The real threat to world peace lies not in countries like the United States and Russia. They are rich countries, with abundant resources, educated people, everything to look forward to. They have so much to lose that they dare not be reckless, ideology or no ideology.'

While in today's world we more or less agree with this observation, nonetheless we wondered about it.
Say the date was 1913, and the same paragraph appeared, changed only in that "United States and Russia" were changed to read "Germany, France and England."

IN THAT ERA, those three countries, by standards of that day, were rich, with abundant resources, educated people, everything to look forward to.
Yet they were plunging the following year into the worst war in history up to that time.
Still, we agree with the R-G's thesis. It added:

'The real threat lies in the 'have not' nations, the frustrated nations, the nations with overwhelming internal problems, the nations with reckless leadership, the nations with a grudge against the world. China is the largest of these and the one that probably has the least to lose.'

What is it that makes the situation of 1913 and that of today different? It is, we believe, atomic weapons.

THE day is past when a rich nation, with abundant resources, educated people, everything to look forward to, can afford to start a war in hope of "winning" — as, in effect, Germany did in 1914 and again in 1939.

No one would "win" a nuclear war. One or the other might or might not "survive" such a holocaust, if the word survive can have any meaning when half or more of the population, industrial plant and social organization is wiped out.
No — no so-called "civilized" nation could afford this. But, and this was the Register-Guard's point, some nations might have no hesitation to begin such a war, fighting they had more to gain than lose.

Israel is determined to become the fifth nuclear power. So is China, and it has been predicted that it will within months. And the day is not far off when Yugoslavia, or Ghana, or Indonesia — you name it — may have nuclear capabilities.

A bunch of drunken and suspicious gunmen in a darkened saloon make for a dangerous situation. Translate that into international terms and it could mean the end of things.—E.A.

Plague!

If three-score people had died within a month from, say, polio or tuberculosis or influenza, there would be huge headlines proclaiming an epidemic; doctors would be giving advice how to avoid the plague; public health authorities would be besieged with demands to "do something," and many people would be panic-stricken.

So what happens when more than 60 people die in traffic "accidents" on Oregon highways in less than a month?

The most violent reaction (except from friends and families of the dead and maimed) is a shake of the head, or a muttered "tsk, tsk!"

Sailing

A convert, they say, is often more ardent in his religion than is one born to it.
Likewise, those who are long-experienced in some sport or recreation are less vocal in its praise than one newly indoctrinated.

Well—we went sailing for the first time last week end, and with the ardor of a convert and New Boy, let us record that it is a sport without peer.

Bill Barker has been telling us this for years, so last Saturday when his son Tom offered to take us out on Howard Prairie lake, we jumped at the chance. It was all Bill had said, and more.

WITH a brisk breeze filling the mainsail and jib, with the proper heel to the boat and water slapping at the bow, with the sun shining down from a blue sky, and glancing up from the bright water, the tensions and conflicts of day-to-day office routine seem a million miles away.

Ducking the boom as the boat swings onto a new tack, and giving an inexperienced haul at the jib sheet, gives one the feeling of real participation.
And the skill of the young helmsman at gauging the wind, jockeying the boat over the dancing wavelets, and giving his quiet orders to a neophyte crew, was something to admire—and to envy, too, just a bit.—E.A.

'I Think Them Feds Got Me, Boys, But I Know You'll Carry On'



COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Committee's Value
To the Editor: No Mr. Allen, your hostile feeling (MT 8-28-52), about the "Un-American" part of the House Committee probably has some merit. Un-American may be a poor choice of words. However, because of previous comments you have printed and (Tuesday), continue to print, one can only hold that your hostility runs somewhat deeper (read superficial), than the mere title of the House Committee.

Now as before, we consider your ideas on this matter almost entirely unfounded—meaning not or non—and we wonder at the precise timing of your latest criticism of HCUA. It has already been suggested a renewal of the attack on our national internal security system was to be expected this fall. There has already been an attack on J. Edgar Hoover for his statements about the internal strength of communism.

It could prove to be informative to yourself and all others to read a new report recently released by HCUA, a report on their investigation into the National Security Agency. It is significant that during this investigation, NSA's hostility toward HCUA disappeared. And in turn, the Committee lauded the Defense Department and NSA for "an outstanding job of correcting the deficiencies" brought out by this investigation.

This latest release again demonstrates the great value of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.
Robert J. Howard
702 Beekman
Medford

Young Pickers
To the Editor: I have been seeing and hearing stories to the effect that all the pickers available are working — I wonder if you know about a group of local teenagers who were fired from their picking jobs last week to allow a group of transients to have the positions?

I know one of the boys personally and he is a good industrious worker, and a good picker, picking from 75 to 80 boxes a day. Another boy, I understand, could pick an average of 100 boxes a day. And they did not "go off." The reason given by their foreman was that a group of transients were coming in and was to be put to work.

I think this is an injustice to our local people especially as at, and just before, the season began the paper and the other news media were telling about the "shortages" in the labor field. I believe that our local people should be allowed to work if they are available, and like my friend able to do a good job and a good days work. Let the transients, who are usually too shiftless to hold a job for long, move on to some other place, if our crews are full.

Mrs. Eric de Places,
1392 Poplar dr.
Medford
P.S. I can give the name, address and phone number of the one boy.

Juvenile Delinquency
To the Editor: The good doctor usually analyzes the nature, character and cause of a disease before attempting to apply a suitable remedy. He does not cure a malignant disease with soothing syrup. Neither will juvenile delinquency be cured with a tap on the wrist or custody of the delinquent in the company of delinquent parents for discipline. Nor will the same be cured with a lack of punishment.

Several years ago the law in many states was applied as follows: Children under eight were presumed incapable of committing crime. Between eight and 12 they were presumed incapable but that presumption could be removed by proof that they knew they were doing wrong. Raising the criminal responsibility age to 18 is one of the main causes of juvenile crimes, second only to delinquent parents. Another cause is the lack of a parental responsibility law. In states with such a law parents know where their children are and what they are doing and delinquency has been reduced, in some cases, more than 50 per cent.

South Vietnamese Operation Success Militarily, Question Mark Politically

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst
In mid-August, big Sikorsky helicopters with U.S. Marines at the controls and some 4,000 South Vietnamese troops aboard lifted from fields below Saigon for the biggest attempt yet to clear Communist Vietcong from South Vietnam's southern delta.
This week impressive early successes were being reported, including the severe mauling of two Vietcong battalions.
The campaign also was unearthing impressive new evidence of the depth and frustration in this political military war to which the United States has committed itself.

Drummond Reports

(Walter Lippmann is on vacation. Roscoe Drummond reports from Washington in his absence.) (c) 1952 New York Herald Tribune Inc.

CASTRO NOT DYING ON THE VINE

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad — No where in Latin America have I encountered any support for the wishful thinking in Washington that Castro is going to die on the vine or that the Cuban dictatorship will soon fall from its inner weaknesses.

The prevailing view in the Latin American capitals I have visited is that while conditions in Cuba are getting steadily worse, the Castro regime itself is becoming steadily more entrenched.

One South American newspaper correspondent, who had spent considerable time in Cuba and left only recently, put it this way: "Fidel Castro is proving himself totally incompetent to manage the affairs of his nation but extraordinarily skillful in managing the apparatus of a police state."

This raises a question of acute importance to policymakers in Washington who are rather cautious on waking up some morning and finding that Castro has disappeared in the dust.

There is no doubt that conditions are deteriorating inside Cuba. There is clearly developing an angry, resentful, frustrated, and humiliated people, who will still passionately support the "Castro revolution" as the hawkish ever what Castro has done to the revolution.

The evidence is mounting that there is hunger and undernourishment. Cuba used to produce food for export and now cannot supply the needs of its own population. Private farmers have no incentive to increase their crops, and the peasants on the state collective farms are wondering when they are going to receive "their land" as promised by Castro. They still can't quite realize that Castro's Communist state has taken over both the land and the peasants to work it.

The situation is so out of hand that you have the upside-down condition of farmers appealing to the cities to send them food.

Economic aid from the Soviet Union and Red China is failing to live up to promises — even as Fidel has failed to live up to his promises. Castro is finding that Communist bloc assistance — except arms — is not only doled out very carefully but is also costly. Cuba's slim reserves of foreign currency are steadily being drained away, largely because Cuba no longer has the exports it can sell to the hard-currency countries.

But Latin American sources on the continent are convinced that Castro is steadily tightening his grip on the Cuban state and on the Cuban people — with so much Soviet help that he is both ally and captive.

Castro's armed forces seem to be all that he needs — and more — to prevail over any opposition that might develop. The Soviet Union is stepping up its shipments of arms and thousands of "technicians." Castro has recruited the forces in ample volume. There is every reason to assume that the army is loyal to Castro's bidding. While the regime has been unable to feed his people properly, it has taken care to see that his troops are a favored class. This means that the Castro army is massively armed, well-fed, and heavily disciplined for its duty — to keep the dictatorship in control at all costs.

A distinguished European liberal who has recently visited Latin America contends that Cuba ought to be liberated by the Organization of American States. These are the words of Salvador de Madariaga.

The argument that Castro had better be left alone and given enough rope to hang himself is worthless. The experience of other nations fallen into the unscrupulous hands of the Communist party allows of no such optimism. Time could only make of Cuba an impenetrable base for communism to spread all over Latin America. The Latin governments who shilly-shally over it are only preparing the rope with which they will be hanged. Castro must go soon.

But wishful hoping will not free the Cuban people. Castro will fall — only if he is pushed.

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris
(c) Field Enterprises, Inc.

PERSONAL PREJUDICES
No person is hopeless until he has lost his capacity to despise himself for being less than he ought to be. In this sense, self-contempt is the last bastion of human dignity.

Hardship strengthens character, up to a point; beyond that it weakens character and it is the greatest arrogance to prescribe what degree of tolerance another person can endure, when we scarcely know our own. People who are inordinately proud of their "common sense" usually have little else to be proud of.

The most wonderfully peculiar talent of a woman is her unfeeling ability to redress the balance of nature; she can immediately perceive the flaws in a bright man and the virtues in a fool — perhaps because this is the only way she could comfortably live with either.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop
(c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

By LAURENCE BARRETT
(Joseph Alsop is on vacation. During his absence his column will be written by reporters expert in national and international affairs.)

able to attract large numbers of Negroes, Puerto Ricans, and Italians — three segments of the community vital to long-term political success.

Organized labor also has been cool, and in some cases hostile, to the new wave. This is understandable, given the fantastic pluralism of politics here. The left-wing, union leadership has a political mechanism already, the Liberal party. More conservative labor chiefs disdain the idealism of the reformers.

These difficulties would be negligible, however if the reformers had managed to gain the affection of Citi Hall and the White House.

Mayor Wagner had been a regular Tammany Hall man for 25 years before a number of circumstances forced him to break with the old ways. But he never joined the reformers' organized branch, relying instead on a tenuous relationship with the movement's mystique-makers. He grabbed the reformers' "anti-boss" banner last year and waved it frantically — and successfully. Back in office for a third term Wagner found a vacuum where the party leadership should have been, and moved into that, also.

THE younger rebels like Wagner. They accepted him only on the say-so of Lehman and Mrs. Roosevelt. Now Wagner got even. Instead of treating the reformers as worthy supporters, he relegated them to the status of just another faction in the party. He has not been generous to them with patronage. Nor has he given strong support to their Congressional candidates in next week's party primaries.

Still further up the ladder, the White House again shows its elephantine memory in matters of political loyalty. Most of the reformers were Stevenson men in 1960. Some of the regulars, particularly Rep. Charles A. Buckley of the Bronx, were early Kennedy supporters.

If Buckley survives the primary Sept. 6, he will owe it to President Kennedy's party regularity. Not only did the President publicly announce his approval of Buckley, but he frightened Mayor Wagner away from a logical embrace with Buckley's opponent, a nice chap who might make a pretty good Congressman.

THE reform movement really operates on two levels. First, there is the corporate entity, the New York Committee for Democratic Voters. This organization operates on a practical scale, seeking to win minor party and public office for its members.

Above this there is the vaguely defined coterie that orbits Herbert H. Lehman, the former Governor and Senator, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and a few others of their generation.

Here we come to the first paradox. The younger members on the working level are more radical than the elder statesmen. There has been considerable disagreement especially over which old-time regulars to forgive and which to behold.

Another problem is still more serious. It is the failure of the movement thus far to secure a broad-based membership. CDV has established about 50 clubs in New York City, none to speak of out of the city. More important, the membership is too homogeneous to constitute an effective political force. It is composed mainly of upper middle class professionals. Probably the largest ethnic group in it is Jewish.

Politics in New York City revolves to a major degree around racial, religious, and nationality groupings. So far the reformers have been un-

As business is, and more businessmen have died prematurely by not knowing how to loaf, than loafers have died prematurely by not knowing how to work.

Those who think it is useless for a woman to have a higher education, because "she's going to get married anyway," should ponder the incisive comment by Richard Melver that "When you educate a man you educate an individual, when you educate a woman you educate a whole family."

"Logic" is what we appeal to when the facts are on our side; "intuition" is what we appeal to when the facts are against us.

More persons have perished by persevering too long at the wrong things than by quitting too soon; there are so many maxims about the value of perseverance, and so few about the necessity for ruthless self-criticism.

A woman can forgive a man for his infidelities much more easily than she could forgive him for being indifferent to her own. Why is it that the person who can't keep a secret always expects you to?

Engraved over the doors of most offices should be the piercing words of Seneca: "A man who has taken your time recognizes no debt; yet it is the one he can never repay."

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

Aug. 30, 1952 (Saturday)
Six injured in week end traffic accident; many persons jailed for being drunk in public and being drunk on a public highway.

Portland's Bob Atkinson and Medford's Eddie Simmons are finalists in annual Southern Oregon Golf tournament here.

20 YEARS AGO

Aug. 30, 1942 (Sunday)
Assessor's levy on cities in Jackson county is announced; Eagle Point is lowest with 39.8; Jacksonville's 61.9 tax is county's highest.

From Arthur Peery's "Ye Smudge Pot" column: "The esteemed Oregonian in a recent issue editorially discussed politics and war, without stating any conclusions as to which was worse or which caused the other."

30 YEARS AGO

Aug. 30, 1922 (Tuesday)
Holly theater celebrates its second anniversary with third edition of "Holly Follies" vaudeville show.

Jackson county government moves into new courthouse in the midst of "impressive ceremonies"; Engineer Paul B. Rynning and Assessor J. B. Coleman among those making the change.

40 YEARS AGO

Aug. 30, 1922 (Wednesday)
Mail Tribune campaigns editorially for crossings of the Southern Pacific tracks at Fourth, Fifth and Sixth sts.; favors extending Sixth st. under tracks for fire protection.

Miss Flo Thompson assumes charge of the Jacksonville post office; she replaces John Miller who was temporarily appointed following the resignation of Louis Ulrich.

50 YEARS AGO

Aug. 30, 1912 (Friday)
Lone fisherman struggles more than an hour to land 20-pound salmon on swaying foot bridge over the Rogue river at Gold Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Humphries appear at Medford's Star theater at end of first lap of proposed tandem motorcycle trip around the world; Humphries led theater magnate Oscar Hammerstein he would cover 45,000 miles in 100 days.

What's Your I.Q.?

- Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.
1. Does two-thirds of the area of Africa lie north or south of the equator?
2. How often must Congress meet?
3. What was the pen name used by Samuel L. Clemens?
4. What is another name for punishment by death?
5. What is the Kohinoor?
6. What is a lester bed?
7. What is another name for smear case?
8. In South Africa a group, band, or flock of lions is called a what?
9. Is Jude all of the same color?
10. Was the first printing press of the New World located in Mexico City, St. Augustine, Plymouth or Charleston?

Answers: 1. North. 2. Annually. 3. Mark Twain. 4. Capital punishment. 5. Large diamond. 6. Canopied bed. 7. Colgate cheese. 8. Pride. 9. No. It varies greatly. 10. Mexico City.