



By Ruth Taylor

Conventions are the hall marks of civilized living. They are the traffic rules which man has adopted for the better conduct of his life.

There is no law against pushing your neighbor aside in the street, but if you do so, you prove yourself a boor. There is no law against eating peas with a knife—but if you do, you mark yourself ill-bred and unused to the amenities of civilized society.

Conventions are designed for the protection of all. The common usages of society are ingrained in children from their earliest contacts with those around them.

To those conventions with which we are all conversant, should now be added a new one. A person who condemns another not as an individual but because of the group from which he comes, should be considered as guilty of bad breeding as he who transgresses any of the other more material conventions.

We are now entering on one of the most trying years of our material life. Let us resolve to conduct ourselves as well-bred people during this trying time.

Observing at all times the conventions of society let us prove to the world that the democratic form of government with its freedom of speech for all people can still be not only the most civilized but the best bred form of government.



DO'S AND DON'TS:

Your tresses may be your crowning glory, but don't comb it in public. Arrange your coiffure in the privacy of your dressing room.

THE WORLD ABROAD

New York, N. Y.—The surrender talks at General MacArthur's headquarters in Manila produced many columns of newspaper stories, but as yet little hard news.

On the basis of statements by the Japanese surrender envoys, American estimates of damage done to the Japanese Fleet were more than confirmed.

In the furious air-sea battles which have been fought from Midway to the Japan's Inland Sea, our naval and air forces have destroyed all but 55 of Japan's 382 warships.

That leaves only 7 major warships, all heavily

Editorial: "A HELL OF A HOME WELCOME"



QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Be good and be game, Harry." —Mrs. Martha Truman, 92, to her son, the President.

"I was never so scared in my life!" —Admiral Halsey, after riding gray (not white) horse in Tokyo.

"Labor doesn't do business in the old-fashioned way any more." —Secy.-Treas. Geo. Ades, UAW-CIO, in re 30% wage boost demand.

"If industry and agriculture will recognize their natural interdependence, any strife between them will end." —Gov. Chauncey Sparks, of Alabama.

"America's standard of living today results from benefits of technological advances passed on to consumers in lower prices." —Walter E. Weisenburger, exec. vice-pres., Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers.

"Lending money is a poor road to international friendship." —Former Pres. Herbert Hoover.



WASHINGTON R. F. D.

Washington, DC.—Having entered the Buck Rogers Age with radar, jet propulsion and the atomic bomb, the Capital thinks a thoroughly impressed and somewhat frightened public will demand that Congress establish the "ably staffed, adequately financed, and properly equipped research and development program" call for by General H. H. Arnold, chief of the Army Air Forces.

Outcome of any future war is seen to hinge on science and military intelligence; the best preventive of war is seen to be the building of a topnotch corps of scientists and the freeinterchange of facts among all world peoples.

This new concept may defeat, or greatly modify, the peacetime conscription bill.

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Others here point out, however, that the reign of peace and prosperity made possible by the physical sciences can be realized only by rapid advances in the social sciences.

In our relations between man and man, they say, we are but little further advanced than the Greeks and the Romans. Most of our progress has been on the materialistic side. We haven't yet learned to adjust our ways of living and doing business to the machine, much less to atomic energy.

The proponents of research in the social sciences of economics, planning, social organization, government and distributin cite the following as American failures:

- (1) The richest country in the world has been unable to maintain steady employment.
(2) A country with marvelous production capacity has had to depend on depression to keep its economic machine balanced.
(3) Sapping the nation's manpower through unemployment is comparable to the blood-letting that was accepted medical practice two centuries ago.
(4) Public subsidies to keep the economy from collapsing have the same basic purpose as the bread and circuses the Roman emperors used to keep the populace from revolt.

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Most of the major bills scheduled for immediate Congressional attention are concerned with these weaknesses. There is the Murray-Patman full employment bill, the Murray-Wagner-Dingell public health measure, the unemployment compensation bill, one for federal education, and others.

The nation is burning the midnight oil over its lesson on the distribution of purchasing power. It has received an "A" grade on production. So far it is flunking the course on distribution.

The Murray-Patman full employment bill is conceded still to pass in some form. Skeptics claim it assures employment only to economists and statisticians. The bill provided that the President study

and report to Congress each year the employment situation for the ensuing year. It is aimed at stimulating private enterprise. Whether Congress authorizes public works and other public investment to take up the slack between the number of persons for whom private enterprise provides work and the number who want work is left to future legislation.

There is some danger that people may think passage of the Murray-Patman bill guarantees jobs for all, and that nothing more will be done.

Most Capital insiders feel that the country faces a stiff and continuing fight for years to make good on full production and full employment. The Murray-Patman bill was a start that may, and should, lead to supplementary measures which should have given it teeth.

There are pessimists here who believe that full-scale unemployment, depression, and possibly social upheaval are fast approaching. But more are optimistic, though even they view the immediate future with uncertainty.

Balancing up the conflicting views, it seems probable that reconversion will be rough, and unemployment severe for six months to a year, followed by recovery. Depression seems several years away. Whether it comes at all depends on how fast Americans think and act on the problems of distributing the fruits of the enormous production of which the nation has proven itself capable.

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The end of meat rationing appears to be just around the corner, though fats and oils and sugar will remain or rationing for some time. Some food experts doubt the wisdom of lifting meat rationing if Europe is to be sent the increased food supplies which are necessary to maintain stability there.

to an end on August 21, 1945.

Over 41 billion dollars worth of goods and services were "Lend-Leased" to our Allies. By way of reverse Lend-Lease we received 5 1/2 billion dollars, most of it from the British Empire.

From now on transactions will have to be on a cash basis, or else regular loans or credit will have to be arranged.

The end of Lend-Lease raises an immediate and very difficult problem for Great Britain. Speaking in the House of Commons, Oliver Lyttleton, President of the Board of Trade in the Churchill Government, said:

"The standard of life of every citizen of this country and of nearly every citizen of the British Empire depends upon our receiving sympathetic help and a larger measure of financial aid from the United States."

Mr. Lyttleton evoked a sharp rebuke from Laborite leader Morrison, when he continued: "If you wish wish to obtain assistance from the United States, you must be careful about the nasty things you say about private enterprise that will affront American opinion."

Although Mr. Morrison declared that "the United States would not presume to dictate to the British Government on its economic policy", Britishers are probably not unaware of the pressure of some Americans upon President Truman to do just that.

Very likely uncertainty as to our future policy toward Britain, now that she has a Labor Government, may have much to do with that Government's unwillingness to depart from the Churchill foreign policy of "what we have, we mean to hold." Foreign Secretary Bevin's first speech in the House of Commons was disappointing to Labor and the progressive forces in other countries and actually received applause from the Conservative benches.

Very likely, in refusing to give up Hong Kong, (which most Americans seem to think should go

back to China), Mr. Bevin is motivated by the realization that, until the American attitude is clear, Britain cannot afford to give up an ounce of economic strength anywhere in the world.

One of the great questionmarks overhanging the whole world now is:

"How is the United States going to use its enormous economic power? To build up world trade and thus insure its own prosperity? Or to try to enforce its particular form of free capitalism upon other peoples and thus endanger not only its own and the world's prosperity but the maintenance of world peace?"

OVERTONES

(BY AL HENINGBURG)

SURPLUS PROPERTIES:

Now is the time for community-minded citizens to make plans for the wise use of surplus properties. Education and health aids are available for a wide range of uses. Scientific and technical equipment is available for trade schools. All these items are free to organizations which can show need, and can provide housing for them. Keep your eyes open for announcements affecting your city.

FRENCH APOLOGY.

How do the Chinese feel when the French say: "Our shipping is a bit under par at present, so we cannot take complete possession of Indo-China at this time, but you look after our interests until we get there." Of course the Chinese answer politely, but a good guess is that they don't feel too good over this situation. And it's worth noting that another war is in the making every time ANY western power insists on holding colonies in the Pacific, when the people concerned resent such colonialization. World War II won't mean much either here or abroad until some of the noble ideals become actualities.

CAN MacARTHUR BE WRONG?

MacArthur's announcement that 200,000 men would be sufficient to police Japan has stirred up a hornet's nest in Washington. The State Department states very sharply that the Department and not the General will make the policy with respect to Japan. But Mr. Truman would not wish to offend the General, who probably knows more about matters in Japan than all the wisecracks in the State Department put together. But nobody wishes to see a mere handful of American soldiers in Japan fall victim to widespread fanaticism on the part of the Japanese one night, and wake up next morning to find themselves dead.

THE AGE OF STRIKES:

The thousands of men now out on strike will undoubtedly increase in number during the next few weeks. Some business interests are determined to break the power of organized labor, and too many labor people are prepared to fight among themselves. Watch Detroit on this prediction.

THEY WERE THERE:

One of the best things ever to happen to Negroes in this country was the manpower shortage which resulted in the inclusion of a million and a half Negroes in war plants. The record shows that all kinds of jobs were taken almost overnight by the very men and women who up to that time had been limited to the hardest and the dirtiest work in America. At the peak of wartime production, there was hardly a skill at which Negroes were not employed. This is worth remembering, for in the lean years race baiters will again charge that black men cannot perform creditably in competition with white men. You've heard this already about the armed forces, and you'll hear it again about industry. But they were there, on D-Day in Normandy, and on D-Day in Detroit.

SELMA BURKE SCORES:

A few days ago President Truman unveiled a plaque of the late President Roosevelt in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in Washington. The artist who had been given the commission for the plaque as the result of stiff competitive tryouts was Selma Burke, a young Negro sculptor from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Time Magazine comments on the "going forwardness" of Mr. Roosevelt as shown by the Burke plaque. As far as Negroes and other poor people are concerned, Mr. Roosevelt had more "going forwardness" than any other man who has ever been in the White House.

SHOES OFF PLEASE:

While Japanese propaganda has been trying to show that American soldiers in Japan are intent on raping and looting, the press here at home tries to prove that our boys over there are acting like gentlemen. Of course we have the advantage in this exchange, for we can put any Japanese paper out of business if MacArthur thinks such a measure necessary. Our guess is that neither side is completely right. If all the Americans abroad act like gentlemen, they have certainly changed since they left home. But they do seem quite adept in taking off their shoes, for that is an absolute must before entering one of the famed Geisha houses, where a poor GI Joe can have a very good time at thirteen dollars per hour.

Encourage your white neighbors to subscribe to THE OMAHA GUIDE and learn what the darker one tenth of the American population is think-