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GOOD INTEREST, BAD RESULTS

Col. Juan Peron may not offer Secretary of State Byrnes the job of Postmaster General if he wins the presidential election in Argentina. (And does anybody want to bet he wins?) But he will have cause to thank our State Department for its left-handed and unintentional campaign help.

The State Department White Paper, which blasted the tie between the Nazis and Argentina's government of colonels, seems to have had the unhappy effect of uniting the Argentine nation by insulting it. Much the same thing apparently has happened in Spain since the three-power invitation to the Spanish people to get rid of Generalissimo Franco.

Ardent nationalism has no place in today's interdependent world, but it remains as alive as ever. The emotions of patriotism and chauvinism are stubborn and hard to down. Because of them, the most thoroughgoing scoundrel of a dictator can become practically a favorite native son when he is attacked from without.

America's indictment of Peron and the three-power indictment of Franco were justified. These men are admirers of and collaborators with a despicable, defeated enemy and a despicable way of which still flourishes.

Yet when these obvious facts are stated bluntly, they serve to move many anti-totalitarians to rally around the dictators' standard with shouts of "outside interference" (in Spain) and "Yankee imperialism" (in Argentina).

The trouble is that our good intentions are doubted abroad. Justifiable attempts at moral suasion are called interference. We try to help two people regain the freedoms for which the war was fought, and we are suspected of wanting to dominate Argentina and to get our finger on the Spanish pit. National pride has been aroused in both countries, with the result that we appear to have lost prestige and to have strengthened the dictators.

So now what do we do? Apparently nothing—unless we wish to embarrass our friendly neighbor, Britain. For a hungry Britain needs food from the Argentine and fruits from Spain. A war-weary British industry needs Spain's superior ore. A war-weakened British economy doesn't want to lose the multi-billion-dollar British investments in Argentina. Economic sanctions, logically the next step against the arrogant dictators, would put the United Kingdom in a worse plight than its present one.

Thus there is no strong backing for our strong words. We have stuck our neck out in two countries. The situation offers the old choice of put up or shut up. But America hasn't done either one. We have been right in principle and inept in practice—with the result that we may look a little foolish in the whole matter.

Q—What is a mestizo?

A—A person of mixed Chinese and Philippine blood, or a person of mixed Spanish and Indian blood.

Q—When were plans for a Panama Canal first discussed?

A—In 1523. A survey was submitted to the Spanish king in 1551. The French began actual digging in 1887.

Q—Where are U. S. helium plants located?

A—Biggest is at Amarillo, Tex.; others are at Extell, Tex., Otis, Kan., Cunningham, Kan., Shiprock, N. M.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DEW FRARSON

WASHINGTON—A group of atomic scientists were being quizzed by Senator Joe O'Mahoney at a private dinner. Leading scientist present was Dr. Leo Szilard, who discovered one method of creating the atom bomb.

The senate atomic committee had just voted to set up a military board with broad powers over the scientists, and Senator O'Mahoney was anxious to get Dr. Szilard's ideas on army control.

Szilard told several stories of how the army, because it lacked scientific knowledge, hampered the scientists during the war. At one time, Dr. Szilard said, he came into his office and found that the book-cases had been turned around to face the wall. He asked the army officer in charge why they had been moved and got this reply:

"There was a vial of uranium in your bookcase and orders are that nothing shall be revealed or exposed. So we turned the bookcases to the wall."

Dr. Szilard explained that many scientists were so apprehensive of the new army control and the possibility, in talking to another scientist, of accidentally revealing something, that they wanted to get out of atomic science altogether.

"That would be a tragic mistake," advised Senator O'Mahoney. "You must not do that. Atomic experimentation must continue."

Dr. Szilard told about some of the amazing new fields which the atom had opened up, especially in medicine. For instance, it is now possible to put an atom in carbon, feed it into the human body, and follow it through the body. Thus, for the first time in history, the exact flow of matter through the body can be traced.

"But," remarked the noted scientist, "according to the bill just adopted by the senate committee, all his previous experiences with the atom, and from my previous experiences with the army, such experiments will be very difficult in the future."

Congressional Tempers

Representatives Earl Michener of Michigan and Everett Dirksen of Illinois, both republicans, are usually mild-mannered. Both have served on the joint committee for the reorganization of congress, which proposed the plan of pensions for congressmen. This is a ticklish question and tempers were high during the vote which finally defeated it.

When the house vote came up, Michigan's Michener voted in favor of the pension plan. Beside him, he heard Illinois' able Dirksen vote "present," which means neither yes nor nay.

"Everett," whispered Michener, "you haven't got any guts."

Dirksen saw red. Calling Michener an unpatriotic name, he replied: "I don't vote the way I see things instead of ducking back and forth and boning up only when it's safe to make my position known. You always know where I stand on an issue just as soon as I do—but it's an awful tough job to figure out your position."

Michener was now fighting mad. He accused Dirksen of insulting him and insisted that Dirksen liked to duck issues. Several other members tried to calm them. Finally Dirksen, in a voice loud enough to be heard some distance across the house floor, said:

"All right, Earl, there's no sense in fighting in here. You come on outside with me to settle this, and I'll give you the thrashing you're asking for."

Dirksen, a man of heavyweight proportions, started up from his seat. But other members pulled him down, also held Michener down. The two glared at each other, but finally decided that discussion was the better part of valor.

Merry-Go-Round

Secretary of the Treasury Vinson showed foreign delegates to the monetary conference what baseball is like, by arranging for the Brooklyn Dodgers to play an unscheduled exhibition game in Savannah, Ga. . . . Vinson is the capitol's more ardent baseball fan. . . . The War Department summoned Jimmy Doolittle back to Washington from terminal leave to keep him away from a civilian educational and church group conference on control of atomic energy. The astute Jimmy, however, checked on what brass hats were up to, and then high-balled back to Florida to attend the atomic meeting anyhow. He has had army run-arounds before. . . . One of the best current books on atomic control is, "One World—Or None," put out by McGraw-Hill, which explains atomic energy in words of one syllable. . . . President Truman may attend the "inner circle" dinner March 30, entitled the "Shamrock and the Sickle" given by New York political writers to rig the left-wing Tammany Hall political alliance.

Kaiser Mediates

It was an accidental dinner-table conversation by Henry Kaiser which finally broke the strike of 100,000 General Electric workers, away from their machines for two long months.

Kaiser found himself seated next to General Electric President Charlie Wilson at a dinner and heard Wilson bemoaning his strike troubles, and how tough it was to get along with the CIO. Kaiser laughed, said he had no trouble at all, but had found Phil Murray easy to do business with.

Finally, Kaiser asked Wilson if he would mind sitting down and talking the matter over secretly with CIO General Counsel Lee Pressman in Kaiser's New York office. Wilson finally agreed. Next morning Pressman came to New York, talked with Wilson for four hours, and together they cleaned out the underbrush that had been blocking a settlement.

Kaiser sat through it all, nervous and perspiring. It was his first effort at mediating someone else's strike.

To clinch the agreement, Kaiser and Pressman arranged for Wilson to make a flying trip to Florida, sign the final deal with Murray. That's how 100,000 more men went back to the production line.

Note—General Electric's Charles E. Wilson is frequently confused with General Motors' Charles E. Wilson. Both had long strikes on their hands. Both strikes ended the same day. (Copyright, 1946, by the Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Ah, C'mon, Joe, Let it Cool Off!



Star Gazer Wants A Trip to Moon

SANTA MONICA, Cal. (UP)—When and if the first atom-powered rocket ship takes off for the moon, violin teacher Millard Williams wants to go along.

He would like to get firsthand proof for his theory that the moon once had air, water and life.

Williams fiddles by day but star gazes at night. Through three long telescopes mounted on the lawn of his home, he has been studying the solar system for 15 years.

"I've got proof of life on the moon," he said, "but most astronomers won't believe the moon had oceans and rivers in ancient times until they get up there and pick up a sea shell."

Now that scientists have contacted the moon by radar, Williams believes the next step will be a lunar expedition. He said scientists will find a soundless, dustless, odorless and lifeless world. They'll also discover what caused the "face" of the man in the moon.

Williams interprets these evidences of erosion as great gray plains that once were seas and lakes. Many astronomers consider them the result of crashing meteors.

Williams said many authorities believe the moon still boasts an atmosphere and moisture, which can be seen as a feathery mist.

The violin teacher predicted that the earth, like the moon, someday may lose its air and water by gravitational pull—unless science comes to the rescue. He also forecasts the moon may lose speed and come so close to the earth that it will explode. Then, he said, it would dress up our planet with a shimmering halo.

"I hope atomic energy gets us to the moon while it's still there," he said.

University Will Publish New Book

LINCOLN, (UP) A new book by Wendell Berge, assistant U. S. attorney general in the antitrust division of the Department of Justice, has been accepted for publication by the University of Nebraska Press this spring. Miss Emily Schossberger, university editor, announced Saturday.

Entitled, "Economic Freedom for the West," the new book is scheduled to appear in the bookstands the last week in May. The book, according to Miss Schossberger, states in "clear, simple and forceful" language that the west is still an economic frontier which has immense industrial possibilities which can be exploited only by the removal of artificial barriers.

Says Butter, Bread And Milk Are Going

CHICAGO (UP)—Owen M. Richards, manager of the American Dairy Association, believes that "butter is gone, bread is going—and milk is next on the list."

Richards, addressing directors at the ADA's annual meeting, assailed "arbitrary, man-made laws" which he said had depleted cow herds at the greatest rate since the drought years.

He said 225 of every 1,000 milk cows on the farms at the beginning of 1945 had been culled out or died during the year.

Custom Made Spring Dresses Are Presented

NEW YORK (UP)—A group of afternoon and cocktail dresses as graceful and gay as the tassels of the 19th century window valance, were among the highlights of Bergdorf Goodman's spring custom made collection presented this week.

And some of them even looked like tassels, with their gently flared, triply divided skirts. One showed a purple and white striped skirt knife pleated around the hem and hip, under an all purple top which set the pattern for the entire group—a V-neck extending on the shoulders, a snug bodice and straight, snug short sleeves.

The same line was presented in a yellow printed skirt, accented pleated, with a black hem and top, and in an all-over black and white pointed stripe which was tiered with grosgrain ruching.

All were distinguished by an appearance of ladylike coolness equally at home at a garden party or night club. The group of dressy short clothes of which they were part was one of the outstanding features of a particularly beautiful collection which ranged from suits and coats to complete formalities.

Several slim dark dinner dresses were shown with irregular hemlines. One, in black, carried two ankle length points in back, another at center front. As it walked, they flickered like black flames around the ankles with distinctly wicked grace.

Another was almost ankle-length in front, caught into a higher line at back with a grosgrain bustle bow.

One slim black skirt alternated scallop rows of crepe and net over a light slip.

A high waisted grey crepe was trimmed with a boat neck band of pearls and gold.

Necklines in both short and long party dresses were frequently low, but always within the bounds of ladylike good taste—the wasn't a "shocker" in a hundred—nor a boner.

1500 Vets Placed In Civil Service

DURING the month of January 1946 approximately 1500 veterans were placed in federal civil service jobs in the Eighth United States civil service region which includes the states of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. This is an increase of 58% over the number of placements made in the previous month according to Miss Rena E. Smith, director, Eighth United States Civil Service Region.

Veteran placements for 1945 totaled 285,123—an average of 23,760 a month. The majority of these placements were made in the War and Navy Departments, Post Office Department, and Veterans Administration.

Enemy of Gobblers

CHICAGO (UP)—The current American Journal of Veterinary Research reports 26 per cent of the snakes caught in seven different localities were carriers of germs responsible for wholesale destruction of turkey flocks.

Essay Contests to Open March 15

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Thirteen cash awards totaling \$2,500, with a top prize of \$1,000, are being offered by the American Legion for the best essays on "Jobs for All."

The contest opens March 15 and closes April 30, 1946. Essays must not exceed 3,000 words.

An outgrowth of the American Legion's national employment conference, the contest is designed to develop new ideas on the best ways and means of achieving the Legion's maximum employment program. That program calls for 5,000,000 postwar jobs. Of these, 7,000,000 are to be created in the undeveloped fields of distribution, sales and service.

Second-prize will be \$500; third, \$250; there will be five prizes of \$100 each and five more of \$50 each.

Contest Rules

National American Legion Employment Chairman Lawrence J. Fenlon, of Chicago, Ill., has announced the following contest rules:

1. Essays must suggest how best the Legion's program for maximum employment and veterans' employment can be carried out.

2. Everybody except paid employees of the American Legion is eligible to enter the contest.

3. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, not exceed 3,000 words, and be submitted in quadruplicate to the Employment Division, The American Legion, 1608 K St. N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

4. The contest opens March 15 and closes April 30, 1946.

5. Three nationally-known leaders in the employment field will serve as judges.

6. Contestants may obtain copies of the American Legion's program for maximum employment by writing to national headquarters, 777 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis 6, Ind., or to the Washington office, or to any Legion state headquarters.

President Will Get Final Say on Ttom Bombs in New Bill

WASHINGTON (UP)—The senate atomic energy committee voted Saturday to give the president the final say on the volume of atomic weapons manufactured in the United States.

The committee approved provisions of the atomic energy control bill that would make the proposed five member civilian commission the sole atomic weapon manufacturing agent in the nation.

The commission could operate only under the expressed consent and direction of the president. The president would be required to give the commission instructions at least once a year.

Other sections of the bill would give the commission authority to:

1. Ban the export of any fissionable materials or source materials.

2. Give the atomic commission all government owned property used and operated by the Manhattan project in developing the original atomic bomb.

3. Authorize the commission to allocate atomic by-products with priorities to organizations carrying on medical research.

EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—No one point in current negotiations between John L. Lewis's United Mine Workers and the coal operators is apt to be more kicked around and misunderstood than the question of organizing the so-called supervisory employees.

It will be represented as "an attempt by labor to usurp the powers of management." It will be tied in with the drive against the foremen's union in the automobile industry. There is no connection, except that both grew out of short-sighted policies which did not give the foremen and supervisory employees their proper place in the industrial scheme of things, thereby forcing them to break away from top management and join forces with rank-and-file labor.

In the first place, it is the contention of the United Mine Workers that it does not seek, and never has, wanted, to organize the mine superintendents, foremen, fire bosses, tripple foremen, or others who have the right to hire and fire and are recognizably a part of management.

ORGANIZATION of supervisory employees in the mines grew out of mechanization of the mines. Before coal cutting and loading machinery came into use, there were only a few foremen in a mine. With the introduction of mining machinery, a crew of 10 men had to be assigned to each unit, and, naturally enough, one man out of the 10 had to be boss.

At first the supervisors were paid a dollar a day more than other miners, or they were paid a straight salary instead of an hourly rate and, being a part of management, were expected to work overtime without compensation. When they became dissatisfied with this deal, they began to talk of organizing their own union.

As soon as the new supervisors' union began to show signs of strength, representatives of the operators came to Washington to protest to John L. Lewis against having to deal with two unions. It is the United Mine Workers' contention that the operators asked that supervisors be admitted into the U. M. W.

THEN, in May, 1943, in the celebrated Maryland Dry Dock case, the National Labor Relations Board handed down a ruling forbidding, in effect, the organization in labor unions of foremen and supervisory employees.

With that ruling behind them, the coal operators did an about-face, charged the miners with trying to take over management, and the fight was on. Opposition only made the union stronger. The whole matter came to a head last fall in a series of unauthorized strikes of supervisory employees, which U. M. W. district officials found it impossible to check until Lewis postponed to a later date his negotiations with the operators in October.

But now, on the eve of resuming negotiations with the operators for a general new contract, Lewis is handed a beautiful break in a National Labor Relations Board decision in the Jones and Laughlin case. It is a specific ruling that supervisory employees in coal mines who wish to join a union for collective bargaining are eligible to do so under the Wagner Act.

Navy forwarded it first to Pearl Harbor, and thence to Washington.

The Navy reports that the President has indicated he will give the petition consideration.

The Japanese, who occupied the island early in the war, brought in 700 Ocean islanders for forced labor, but did nothing to help the Kusaie economy, which depends on its chief crop of copra.

Navy Aided Nativese

The island was bypassed for some months after the war ended. Its people had gone without medical care for many months. When the Navy came, with a military government staff, it quickly established a dispensary and issued clothing. The 700 Ocean islanders were removed to their home. Kusaie handicrafts were placed on sale in Navy ships stores and post exchanges throughout the South Pacific.

The petition followed within a few months after the Americans came.

Caroline Isle Wants to Fly American Flag

HONOLULU (UP)—King John Sirah of Kusaie, a tiny island in the East Carolines, located about 500 miles south of Bikini atoll in the Marshalls, where the atomic-bomb tests will be conducted, has asked President Truman for U. S. protection.

In a letter relayed by the U. S. Navy, the bearded ruler of 1,558 subjects who endured oppression during Japanese occupation, asked that Kusaie become a permanent American possession.

"In the name of the people of Kusaie," he wrote, "we address our deep gratitude to you and the people of the United States for the freedom of oppression which has been given us. Our greatest need is that this freedom will endure."

"Therefore we earnestly desire that Kusaie be made a permanent possession of the United States of America and we request that our people shall be kept forever under the protection of the American flag."

Village Chiefs Concur

The petition was initiated when King John and five subordinate chiefs appeared at the office of the Naval commander on the island and presented their case in Kusaie language. The Navy arranged, in the absence of protocol or an American diplomatic representative, to have the petition translated and neatly typed, first in Kusaie, then in English.

King John then signed it, in both languages, as did Kanuku, chief of Lelu village; Paul, chief of Molem village; Tulenea, chief of Tafonsak village; and Tulenru, chief of Utwe village. The

Dances are either formal or you wear your own clothes

It won't be long now till sunshine and the neighbors' chickens will be making folks' seeds come up.

Bills often stop the coming in a love nest.

According to a school superintendent, children are not as well traiped as they were 30 years ago. Perhaps parents have been asleep at the switch.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

WATER LEVEL OF THE EARTH'S OCEANS WOULD HAVE TO BE LOWERED TWO MILES IN ORDER TO MAKE THE LAND AREA OF OUR GLOBE EQUAL IN SIZE TO THE WATER AREA.

SOMETIMES YOU CLIMB TO GO DOWN A MOUNTAIN, says E. A. SMENT, La Salle, Illinois

IN THE U.S. SIXTEEN PERSONS ARE BURNED TO DEATH DAILY, AND A HOME BURNS EVERY OTHER MINUTE.

T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF. 3-18

NEXT: What causes tidal waves?