OPERATION UNITY

Europe Is Weary of Eternal War But Wary of Forming Alliances

By Farnham F. Dudg[illegible]

(Editor's note: This is [illegible] a series of articles pre[illegible] by the Editor of Wester[illegible] Paper Union while on [illegible]ting trip through Europe a[illegible] the Near East.)

Weary and wary.

That's a two-word diagnosis of Patient Europe's condition as the war fever mounts, recedes, and climbs again.

These countries are weary of war.

They are wary of alliances that might lead to another war.

Like Americans, these people would like to be left alone to "plow the fields". But unlike Americans, all they need do is look out across their fields, to see the massed forces of the Russian military machine aligned along the Iron Curtain.

In face of such a disheartening picture how has it been possible for the free world to effect any unity whatsoever in its political and military organizations? What force binds century-old nationalistic enemies together?

"Old time religion" is a pretty good answer.

Ike Is the Key

Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, key figure in both the political organization that is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and its military arm, SHAPE, has been tramping up and down Europe for nine months now with the zeal and much of same spiritual vigor of some of our legendary American evangelists.

In fact, he told us in his European headquarters that he had, indeed, been tagged as "another Billy Sunday". He is willing, he added, to accept the designation because it is his firm conviction that the only way in which the free countries can survive is by creating a unity which is based on a spiritual appeal direct to the hearts of men.

To emphasize this point, General Eisenhower said:

"Military might is the product and not the sum of spiritual strength, economic health and military power. If any factor is reduced to zero, the product of the three becomes zero."

Spark of Hope

Eisenhower's "right-hand", Chief of Staff Gen. Albert M. Gruenther, echoed this same philosophy in his briefings. Lieut. Gen. Lauris Norstad, commander of Allied Air Forces Central Europe, told us at his Fontainebleau headquarters, that in the year he had been in Europe he had seen a kindling of "the spark of reviving hope". He believes that the reviving hope is coming from the inspiration Europeans are getting from the feeling of collective security created by the cooperative military and political efforts of the United States. Everywhere in the SHAPE command you find this spirit.

But, of course it takes more than inspiration to mass the forces of the free world. What is the nature of the organization we have in Europe today, and how does it function?

Treaty Is Foundation

Foundation stone of this structure is the North Atlantic Treaty, ratified by the United States Senate in July 1949. In this treaty, the signatory nations agree that an armed attack against one or more of them shall be considered an attack against all. And they pledge themselves to a continuance of self-help and mutual aid for the purpose of developing their individual and joint capacity to resist aggression.

This treaty sets up NATO, which stands for North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Member nations are Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, and United States.

The announced object of the North Atlantic community of nations is to preserve peace through strength—by building up the powers of the free world to a point where no aggressor will be bold enough to strike.

To build up such a power, NATO, of course, had to develop a military force, and at the Brussels conference in December 1950, the members agreed on plans for building this force. The result is the greatest cooperative effort in history to create a joint army in peacetime for the prevention of war.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was designated supreme commander for the integrated army, and other top positions were filled by officers of the different member nations, who work together as a team.

Headquarters are located near Paris, France, and the command is designated by the initials SHAPE: Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe.

NATO Countries Cooperate

It was at this headquarters that we heard from General Eisenhower and his chief of staff, General Al Gruenther, just what their problems were with regard to the building up of this force, and a summary of some of the solutions which they were using to meet the complicated situations.

All of the countries belonging to NATO are expected to do everything possible to build their own defenses. America's contribution is made through the Mutual Defense Assistance Program—MDAP, which bolsters economical potential and actual military strength with funds, equipment and technical assistance.

These funds and this assistance are not confined to our NATO partners. Other free nations such as Yugoslavia, Turkey, Greece, and Italy share in MDAP programs.

The combined efforts are aimed at building for SHAPE, in the shortest possible time, forces of sufficient strength to deter aggression.

Our strategy then is to attempt to deter aggression with a show of military power. Russia seems to understand that kind of talk. But the big question remaining is whether or not we can build our forces fast enough to create the desired stalemate. A discussion of the problems connected with reaching this objective follows in a subsequent article in this series.

Pilot Lunches at Farm After Near-Miss Crash

SALEM, Ore.—An Air Force pilot, Lt. Clarence Burke, bailed out of his flaming F-51 and then accepted the calm invitation to lunch in a farm home that was almost destroyed by his crashing aircraft.

He parachuted to safety from 3,000 feet and then ran to the spot where the plane crashed. The only damage was done by a wing tip that punched a hole in the roof. The plane exploded in the yard. Mrs. James Jackson calmly invited the lieutenant to lunch—and he accepted.

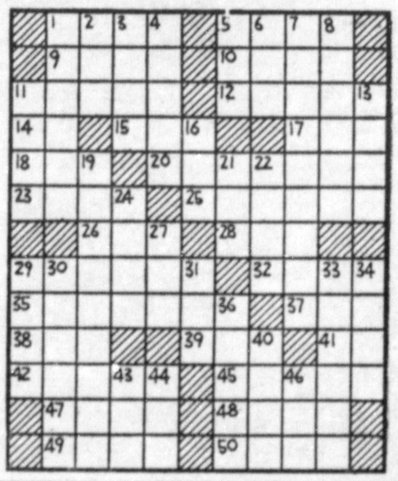
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

NO. 0-8

ACROSS
1. Pant
5. Thick, stout cord
9. External seed covering
10. Blunders
11. Not fresh
12. Projection on a gear-wheel
14. Exclamation
15. Simpleton
17. Japanese porgy
18. Support
20. Writing pads
23. Opiate
25. Tailor's smoothing irons
26. Writing fluid
28. Gun (slang)
29. One of the Graces
32. Declare for score (Pinochle)
35. Chafed
37. Perish
38. A red dye
39. Slight taste
41. Thoron (abbr.)
42. Bamboo-like grasses
45. Sports
47. Largest continent
48. One who mixes icing
49. Descry
50. Basque-like caps

DOWN
1. Glean
2. Constellation
3. Fodder vat
4. Fold over, as cloth
5. Soak flax
6. Province in Ecuador
7. Objected
8. Landed property
11. Vended
13. Sibilant sound
16. Cigarette (slang)
19. Innocent
21. Marsh
22. Rich, fertile soil
24. Insect
27. Young cat
29. At a distance
30. Watchers for the Gorgons (Myth.)
31. Copper money (Rom.)
33. Measures of capacity
34. Lairs
36. Thumb, finger or toe
40. Rodent (So. Am.)
43. Slope
44. Speak
46. Hebrew letter



THE FICTION CORNER

FELIX AND MARY

By Richard Hill Wilkinson

3-Minute Fiction

FELIX felt somewhat like the man who said there was no use running after a street car once you'd caught it. Mary Snell, after two years of courtship on Felix's part, had finally given in and said she would marry him. When Mary Snell said "Yes" or "No," she meant "Yes" or "No."

Felix knew it, too. He knew the battle was won. Mary had said "Yes," and that settled it. Nothing could change her mind.

Mary wanted to set a date for the wedding, but Felix suggested waiting a while. The fact is, he wanted a chance to catch his breath. He wanted, as the story books put it, to have one last fling before becoming a Benedict.

So Felix, without saying a word to any one, packed a bag and set off for Cedar Springs. The first Mary knew about it was a letter which she received from the Springs signed by Felix.

In part, the letter said: "I am combining a short business trip with some deep-set fishing. Please do not worry about me, darling, as I will be home shortly, and we will make plans for the wedding."

Felix did not mention that on the deep-sea fishing trip he had met a party of young folks, including a very attractive red-headed girl named Nan.

In fact, Felix had such a nice time during the next few days that he decided to prolong his visit. Which he did, writing Mary Snell to this effect. Mary replied that she was glad he was having such a good time and getting rested. She, of course, was busy making plans for the wedding. She went on to give the town gossip, including the fact that Paul Strachey was spending a few days in town.

Felix did not mention that he had met an attractive red-head named Nan.

Who, wrote Felix in his next letter, was Paul Strachey?

He could tell by Mary's reply that she was surprised that he didn't know Paul Strachey.

Felix wrote he still didn't know who Paul Strachey was, but wasn't Paul surprised to know that Mary was engaged? He, Felix, incidentally, was spending another week at the Springs, on account, of course, of business.

Mary wrote that she hoped his business wouldn't keep him away too long. The taxpayers had voted to build a new school house, and Paul Strachey was still in town.

Felix replied that he had thought Paul Strachey was only staying a few days, and the weather was not very good at the Springs and he thought he would come home pretty soon.

Mary wrote that she hoped he would come home soon, and Paul Strachey was still in town because he had decided to extend his visit.

THE next day Felix returned to Dalevale.

By the time his train pulled in he had stopped thinking about Nan and was pondering on Strachey.

"Oh, Felix!" Mary Snell exclaimed when he phoned. "I'm so glad you've come. I had an appointment with Paul, but I'll cancel it, of course."

Felix immediately rushed over to Mary Snell's house and asked her how plans for the wedding were coming along. Mary hedged.

"Well," she said, "when did you want to get married, Felix?"

Black suspicion leaped into Felix's mind. He controlled himself with an effort. "I was thinking," he remarked casually, "that we might surprise everybody by doing what they don't expect. I mean, let's pop off tonight and get married."

"Tonight!" gasped Mary Snell.

"You mean, you don't want to?" said Felix.

Mary considered. Her face brightened. "All right!" she said. "Let's!"

"Now," said Felix, after the ceremony and they were well [illegible] their [illegible] to the seashore for [illegible] "[illegible]ll you [illegible]

GRASSROOTS

Local Government Is as Extravagant as National

By Wright A. Patterson

I WONDER if in your town, wherever it may be, you are experiencing as I am in my town, an ever-increasing tax burden, that is hard to account for. It is an in[illegible]rden that comes either [illegible] of an increased tax rate, [illegible]ed valuation on real [illegible] new form of taxes.

[illegible] time, not so long [illegible] town gathered up [illegible]om the town [illegible] to the home [illegible] the city officials [illegible] were overlooking a [illegible]me other town was charg[illegible] a special tax for such a serv[illegible], and a tax of 50 cents a [illegible]th for each home was added [illegible]t service to meet a need [illegible]d revenu[illegible] the need [illegible]

[illegible]lists. With no reason, I was nicked for a material increase on both the county and town tax bills. Because of that, I am howling, but I realize it is voting, not howling that offers the real solution, and at the next county and town elections I, for one, will do the needed voting and register my protest about those tax increases.

We do a lot of complaining about the increased taxes of the federal government, but we do little or nothing about these close-to-home spenders. They are proportionately as bad as Washington. Can we not find those who will find ways to save, as well as ways to spend, or do we try to find them? The tax burden, national, state, county and town has gone far beyond the limit.

If the police would give tickets to the speeding drivers, the fines assessed would help to pay the cost of my home-town govern[illegible]ent as well as stop the speed[illegible]. If the fines collected could [illegible] pay police salaries it might [illegible]

during his adolescent years. The boy replied by expressing a wish. "Mother," he said, "the one thing I wish for more than anything else, is to get through the adolescent years, and into the years of adultery."

Just at that moment there broke into the room a bevy of high school students, boys and girls of the senior class of the community high school. The girls, all too scantily clad, danced through the room, leaving the imprint of lip stick on the tops of several bald heads, and arrayed th[illegible]lves on the stage, where they g[illegible]t man and boy audience an [illegible] of tap dancing and high [illegible]kick[illegible]uch to the edification of both [illegible]and boys.

It [illegible]n answer to that adolescent [illegible] wish. We are prone to be[illegible] the delinquency of youth, and then we encourage some of it by such u[illegible]aped display of the community's daughters as was given at that service club luncheon.

What is there in our high school [illegible]that calls for such dis[illegible]y it is not the teach[illegible]

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JUST JESTING

Silent Manners

Teacher: "What is etiquette, Jackie?"

Jackie: "Etiquette is the noise you don't make when you are eating soup."

—•—

Difficult Feat

Professor of History: "What in your estimation was the greatest achievement of the Romans?"

Sophomore: "I'd say it was speaking Latin."

—•—

Greatest Respect

Customer: "Do you have anything for gray hair?"

Conscientious Druggist: "Nothing, sir, but the greatest respect."

—•—

Future Days

In the very near future, men will eat baked beans and say: "Ah, dear, these are just like mother used to open."

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RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, HEADACHES

[illegible] Ben-Gay for Children.