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Comments About Unknown Quanities

Naturally there has been a keen interest in the agreement by Foreign Secretaries of the United States, Russia and Britain at the Moscow Conference. Who is going to own what—or lead nations around on a string?

A Commission of eleven nations, with a council of four nations will establish fixed policy and rule over Japan. According to our best recollection the United States with the aid of the atomic bomb brought Japan to its knees—but the different nations must connect—to help to keep he peace.

The situation in Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Finland and elsewhere seem to be in the patchwork stage and new treaties are straightening them out.

We used to hear about Persia, but that big spot in the World has been covered up under the name of Iran. There is lots of political speculation about what is going to happen in Iran, inasmuch as the oil beneath the surface in that part of the World is being sought by a numbr of nations, including our own. For, be it known, American oil interests have long had their eyes peeled on Iran. Stalin says that Russia is not seeking to dominate Iran.

Korea is promised a new form of a provisional government with assurance that it will become an independent nation. China is scheduled to have a "unified democratic government." There may be a single independent government, but you have got to stretch your imagination a good deal to believe that it will ever be democratic.

"Of course" the atomic bomb will be controlled by all the big nations and the news from Moscow is that it will be eliminated from World arsenals. Your guess is as good an anybody's.

Oh, Sugar!

In another six months the Philippine Islands will become independent, and on their own. But the United States is not going to give them up—and the Philippines are no going to give us up. The population of the Philippines, at the time of taking the 1940 census, was 16,350,000 and the land area of the Islands was 114,830 square miles.

Reciprocal free trade relations have existed between theUnited States and thePhilippines since 1909. Under the new relationship covering the forthcoming independence of the Philippines free trade will continue for ten years. The most important shipments of the Islands to our own country has been sugar. The Philippines are insisting that its sugar should be shipped without tariff to the United States, indefinitely.

But the United States is being accused of letting Cuba down by failure to provide the market for all of its sugar.

All restrictions on the shipments of sugar from Hawaii were removed by an order by President Roosevelt in 1942. So Hawaii figures in our three-cornered sugar puzzle.

A lot of people keep right on asking why sugar production is not developed in the United States so as to take care of our own demands. Ah, there is the rub! A half dozen of our own Southern States have grown as fine a quality of sugarcane and sugarbeets as has ever been produced in any part of the World.

Farmers Hold Up Their End

When one stops to analyze different elements of our population engaged in industry, agriculture and labor, it is impossible to escape the conviction that whenever these great group close their ranks and move ahead in orderly ways that they are all bound to strengthen their country and improve their own individual conditions. Right now a good part of our country and its affairs seems to be suffering from dizziness. However there is no question as to the direction agriculture wants to go. The farmer's main aim in life is to produce as abundantly as he knows how. It has been part of farm thinking in all times to weigh the goodness of the earth in terms of bumper harvests, livestock fattened for market, and well-laden dinner tables.

While industry was adding millions of workers to its payroll, and engaged in near civil warfare with strikers, agriculture was unable to get enough new machinery and often not enough repair parts for its needs. While industry built thousands of new plants and expanded thousands of old plants, agriculture had to be content with merely making better use of its acres, animals, and equipment.

But you have got to take off your hats to the farmers, who have held up their head and fought nobly to the end that they have never failed to hold up their end.

The President and Congress

One of the most popular men in Congress was Harry S. Truman before he was "upped" to the Presidency. During the first few months in his new position he remained popular with the Legislators on Capitol Hill.But as Mr. Shakespeare wisely observed: "The course of true love never did run smooth."

The President has received many rebuffs from Congress on domestic issues. Many of his appointments to high positions in the Government are regarded in Washington as poor selections—but Congress has not interfered in the reshuffling of the Administrative branch of the Government. It may be definitely said that Mr. Truman's methods for handling the labor strikes has lost him a great deal of the most valuable support that he had in Congress.Congress has taken the position that "full employment," and a whole list of Presidential recommendations, too numerous to mention, have been very disappointing. That seems to explain the existing approval and disapproval in Congress, of the President's programs.

Perhaps all this new upset in Washington may mean that there may be a sharp revision of membership of both the old political parties before another election, resulting in hundreds of thousands of Democrats becoming Republicans, and hundreds of thousands of Republicans going into reverse the same way. Mr. Truman may sometimes think of that famous observation of Grover Cleveland in his Milwaukee speech, when he stopped suddenly and exclaimed: "Where am I at!"

NOT TOO HOT NOT TOO COLD

Bissy Rides the Express

As the full story of the American war effort comes to light, some startling incidents will be recorded. For example, it was found necessary to make heavy express shipments of dairy cows. During 1944 there were 397 carloads of cows transported by express and for th efirst nine month of this year, 345 carloads.

Apparently this was all in the day's work for the express company which handles livestock, even in peacetime. But it would have astounded the originator of the Railway Express Agency, who carried the parcels of his client in a carpet bag. He would have been even more astounded could he have seen some other wartime merchandise that sed through the expediting channels of express during the war years—ammunition, guns, tank parts, truck parts, serums, and a thousand other things of war that became routine maters. Special trainloads of airplanes were handled with the same dispatch that was for merly accorded the contents of the carpet bag, and were shipments of millions of pints of blood for the Red Cross in refrigerated containers.

The wartime record of express is one of countless industrial epics. Most of them the public will never hear about. The sum total of these epics brought victory to the United States, and proved the soundness of private enterprise.

Crime Wave Sweeps the Nation

Edgar J. Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reminds his fellow countrymen that "after every great war or period of national emergency there has been a recession of moral frtitude." In more common terms there is a wholesale increase of crimes, a multiplication of crooks. Mr. Hoover is number A-1 authority. And, sad to note, he points the finger of shame on juvenile delinquents.

He pointed out that the arrests of girls under 18 have increased 198 per cent since 1939 while arrests of boys under 18 have increased 48 per cent for homicide, 70 per cent for rape, 39 per cent for robbery, 72 per cent for assault, 55 per cent for auto thefts and 101 per cent for drunkenness and driving while intoxicated.

Stop Your Squawking

The American Government isn't trying to starve any part of Europe, and the attacks upon Congress because it doesn't keep on sending shipload after shipload of food to "the starving people" of Europe is all nonsense. The Senate Appropriations Committee has just approved a 550 million dollar appropriation, and House Foreign Affairs Committee has approved a new $1,350,000,000 for UNNRA. There has been a lot of criticism of the Administration and Congress. So, these are the facts which prove that Uncle Sam is sympathetic, and just as soft and generous as ever.

Investigations

The investigation going on on Capital Hill shows the Executive heads of the Government had not only days, but weeks of warnings, before the attack on Pearl Harbor. Even Army and Navy "top hats" in Hawaii had plenty of notice. You know the rest of the story as well as anybody else. The blame is so wide-spread that it will fade into: "Give 'er up, give 'er up."

Oh, Margarine!

According to Our New Modern Encyclopedia, margarine is a mixture of fats and milk used to substitute butter, and "the physical properties of margarine are so similar to that of buter that it is difficult to distinguish between them by any superficial tests. Analysis shows it to contain a larger percentage of fatty acids not soluable in water than does butter." Margarine has been let out o fthe dog house, as a result of public opinion. More people have eaten margarine during the past three or four years than in all previous time. Thus, margarine has arrived and become a recognized article of good food. Believe it or not, that's what has happened. And if you have any doubts about it, you might ask your merchants, they know.

Keep Out of Jail

There as so many men, women and boys and girls violating the laws, is a small and big way, that they are almost in a new class—up from Class Rare to Class Devilish A word to you little and big Devils: Our jails and prisons are already crowded and if some busy Judge has to take time to give you what you stick your neck out for,you may wind up in a dirty jail. So, wait awhile, and give your blood pressure a chance to drop back to normal. In a few weeks you may find satisfaction in keeping out of jail.

In This Era Of Indecision

President Truman has suggested plenty of plans to put the Government in action. Washington knows that Truman is trying to help Congress put through some important legislation that is needed to break down this era of indecision and get the United States back on its "hind legs"—plowing forward, instead of wasting more time in speech making.

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