Washington Digest

International Unity Aided By Moscow Conference

Results of Famed Tripartite Meeting Continue To Grow; Spirit of Compromise Achieved in Moscow.

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Some weeks before Secretary Hull left for his Mission to Moscow, I interviewed him in his office in the state department. Shortly after he returned, he received a number of us in that same office and gave us an informal talk about his trip.

One of the things which impressed me greatly as I heard the secretary in the course of the hour-long meeting, telling us sidelights on his remarkable experience, was the way one word which he had used in his talk with me kept cropping up again and again. It was the word "understanding." He applied it to personal relationships and exchanges between the members of the tripartite meeting and to the whole discussion and the decisions which grew out of it.

It seemed to be a case of progressive understanding.

In our first conversation, the secretary, indicating the papers which covered his great desk, said they all dealt with Russia. I did not know then that there was to be a Moscow meeting. And he made the point with considerable emphasis, that there was so much suspicion on the part of persons discussing the Russian situation that it was exceedingly hard to work toward an agreement.

Open Discussion

Then, in his talk on his return, he repeated this thought, saying that many people, because of their deep prejudices, had made it hard to bring about an understanding between the three nations. He said that when he left for Moscow, he felt that much of the misunderstanding was due to misinformation which all the parties shared concerning the others. In order to correct that, every effort was made at frank and open discussion and, as a result, questions which had been considered most difficult to solve automatically disappeared.

And the secretary pointed out that as the conference progressed many points immediately developed where what might be called the "selfish interests" of each nation were discovered to be common interests.

He explained how military co-operation had been achieved as the need for it grew and how, with this development, it became clear that similar co-operation must be established along political and economic lines, especially regarding an international organization to preserve peace.

The secretary set off for Moscow under a hail of attack from one section of the press which labeled him "anti-Russian." If there ever was justice in such a charge, which Mr. Hull emphatically denied, he came back with no such feeling. In fact, he made it clear that he was now convinced that few countries had more in common and less in conflict, especially in the economic field.

Unconvinced

Although all of the official statements issued in Moscow and in London and Washington after the delegates had returned to their respective homes, stressed the accomplishments of the conference, their importance and the probability of their effect on future negotiations, still there were those who chose to see great gaps yawning and unbridged between the three nations.

Of course, only time can tell how thorough the common understanding really is and how far the respective nations will be able to go to hold to a unity of purpose through the stormy times ahead. But there have already been evidences that a spirit of compromise was achieved which did bear actual fruit.

This was true in the case of Italy. Some time ago, a magazine article appeared which purported to outline the plan by which the countries liberated from Axis domination would be governed by the successful Allies. The plan was a pretty rigid one, with the AMG (Allied Military Government) seeming to be rooted deeply into the governmental fabric of the liberated nations. There was criticism here to the effect that the United States was taking on the responsibility of running the world and it was predicted that there could never be an agreement between three victors, one with a hereditary monarch, Britain; one with a communistic form of government, Russia; and one, a democratic republic, the United States.

The test came in Italy. After the parleys at Moscow, the AMG was limited in its functions, taking over only the districts nearest the front. An Allied military commission was formed which is making maximum use of the local native civilian officials.

Italian Government

But what about the government which the Allies would accept as satisfactorily representing the will of the Italian people? Surely Britain would demand that monarchy be given a chance to remain in power. Surely Russia would have no traffic with kings and would instead demand a strong left-wing set-up.

The supposed American compromise was a temporary regency, that is, a liberal regent such as Count Carlo Sforza who was in exile from the Fascist regime and who left America shortly after the surrender of Italy. The little son of the crown prince would remain the symbolic head of the state. Many said that neither Russia nor Britain would accept this suggestion.

However, although no definite step has been taken, semi-official sources have indicated that when Rome is recaptured and Marshal Badoglio, now premier, steps out, there will be virtual agreement on the part of the three victor nations on the American compromise. All that remains will be an agreement on the part of the Italian people. Even if the latter is not achieved, there is evidence enough already of tripartite compromise and unity to seem to confirm the success of the Mission to Moscow.

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Economic Questions

The ways and means committee of the house has only been able to agree on methods of raising one-fifth of the money which the government says it is necessary to have to continue the war. Not only has it been unwilling to tax the higher brackets further but it also is afraid to recommend the sales tax because that affects the largest group of voters—everybody.

Naturally the first thing that a citizen leaps to defend is his pocketbook. The administration has attempted to lay down as a goal a maximum net income of $25,000 in wartime, perhaps twice as much in peacetime. Now perhaps the American people don't want to put any limit whatever on incentive. Nevertheless, there is always an outcry against the accumulation of wealth and we know that when wealth becomes concentrated, panics result.

If the various influences resisting taxation which will bring down their ceiling on incomes succeed in forcing congress to defeat such laws, and granted the rest of the people accept the defeat, democracy is not to blame. The selfish group has won—and it has won, not because congress wants to please a few voters but because congress has been convinced that the special interests are represented by a majority of voters—in other words, the majority wins.

Another current issue which is very much before congress is the threat to little business. Right now, 70 per cent of the war contracts are held by about 100 firms.

Senator O'Mahoney is proposing a measure which would produce an incentive on the part of the investors, that is, those with large capitals to spend, to invest in small rather than large business; that would be done by making taxes on big business so heavy so that the profits resulting to the investor would not be as large as if he had his money in small business.

Small business has to be protected, it is admitted, if free enterprise in America is to continue. If any single group or groups manage to convince the elected officials of the country that they can muster enough votes to defeat the people who are responsible for such a tax plan, it is obvious that the majority's will will be frustrated. There again it goes back to the individual. Individuals who do not vote destroy the democratic processes by permitting a minority of the people to become the majority of the voters.

BRIEFS . . . *by Baukhage*

Declaring that the German regime in Austria is opposed by practically everybody, the Swedish newspaper Nya Dagligt Allehanda reports that Austrians are now greeting each other with the salute "K D F," a pun on the German expression "Kraft Durch Freude" ("Strength Through Joy"). "K D F," the paper said, stands for "Kaputt Durch Fuehrer" ("Defeat Through the Fuehrer").

WPB has directed manufacturers of flashlight batteries to distribute approximately 20 per cent of their fourth-quarter production to farmers to assist them in the care of young stock during the winter months.

Even under point rationing, American kitchens will use enough tin cans in one year to provide steel for almost 23,000 medium tanks or 900 destroyers.

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THE SOCIAL NEWS ITEMS OF MILLINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Church, Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Wallen, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Gale, and Mrs. Emma Skinner were guests on Thanksgiving Day of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Caldwell near Chesapeake City.

Mrs. Emma Airey of Catonsville and Miss Dorothy Jones of Towson spent the holiday with their parents Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Jones.

Mrs. Frances Price and daughter, Arrilee, and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Edwards were guests on Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. George Ringgold of Kennedyville.

Miss Elizabeth Stevens and Mr. George Sanders of Philadelphia were Thursday visitors of her mother, Mrs. Ethel Stevens.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rasin and daughters Jane and Charlotte were guests on Thanksgiving Day of Mr. and Mrs. James Kirby of Kennedyville.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higman and son Pat were holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Thompson of Chester.

Mrs. Robert Higman of Wilmington spent the holidays with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Belle Higman.

Miss Marie Glenn of Wilmington spent Tuesday with Mrs. Frances Price.

Edwin Besson of Washington College was the guest on Thanksgiving day of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Stevens of Baltimore spent the week-end with his mother, Mrs. Ethel Stevens.

Mrs. Howard Toulson of Lititiz has returned home after spending sometime with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fellows.

Mr. and Mrs. John Higman and Miss Clara Bryan spent the week-end at Rehoboth Beach.

Miss Maraget Edwards and Mr. Marvin Edwards of Wilmington were guests on Thanksgiving Day of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Edwards.

The regualr monthly meeting of the Philathea Class of Asbury Church will be held Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Jonathan Jones. Mrs. Dorothy Davis, Mrs. Betty Wallace and Mrs. Margaet Anthony will be the hostesses.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bamberger of Denton were Sunday guests of Mrs. Addie Dixon of near town.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Moore spent Sunday with his parents at Millsboro, Del.

Phil Edwards of Centreville spent the holiday with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Edwards.

Candidate James Higman of Edgewood Arsenal was a week-end guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higman.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Dawson of Philadelphia were guests on Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Dixon.

Frank K. Barnhart, U. S. Navy and Mrs. Annie Barnhart of Wilmington visited friends in town on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fellows and children spent Thanksgiving Day with Mr. and Mrs. Geary of Still Pond.

Mrs. Mary Spear of Baltimore is spending sometime at her home near town.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stevens and Mrs. Mollie Boggs were guests on Thanksgiving Day of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jones of Smyrna.

Mrs. R. J. Taylor and Mrs. Sidney Dixon spent Friday in Wilmington.

Mrs. Watson of Chesapeake City is spending sometime with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Walraven.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Walls entertained on Thanksgiving Day the following guests; Mr. and Mrs. S. McCosh Walls, Mr. and Mrs. Ennis Walls, Mr. and Mrs. Cheston Knotts and family of Wilmington; Mr. and Mrs. John Walls and famiy of Chestertown, Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Walls and son of Centreville, Mrs. Wm. Reynolds and daughter of Middletown, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Walls and family of Elkton.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Shivery and Miss Ethel Jones spent Monday in Wilmington.

Mr. Warner Porter of New York spent Sunday with Mrs. Porter.

Mrs. Charles Mohle of Wilmington was a week-end visitor of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Jones.

Paul Bowman, U. S. Merchant Marines of Sheeps Head Bay, N. Y. spent the week-end with his wife.

George Duling of Bainbridge and Mrs. Duling of Wilmington and Mr. Wesley Duling were week-end guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Duling.

Pvt. Marvin Robinson of New Cumberland, Pa. spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Robinson.

Mrs. Ethel Powell, Mrs. Mattie Neal and Patty Coleman were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Marple Lynch of Elkton on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Rasin of Kennedyville have returned home after spending sometime with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rasin.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Adkinson entertained the following guests on Sunday; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ray of Aberdeen, Mr. B. D. Adkinson and Mr. Harry Adkinson of Havre de Grace, Mr. Joseph F. Adkinson and son John of Chester, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Stevens of Wilmington were Sunday visitors of his mother, Mrs. Ethel Stevens.

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A 5-pound 100-egg bird eats about 9½ pounds of feed per dozen eggs produced, whereas a 5-pound 200-egg bird eats about 5½ pounds of feed per dozen eggs produced. If feed costs $60 per ton, the 200-egg bird produces eggs at 10 cents less per dozen than the 100-egg bird. This difference is worth a great deal to a 100-bird flock owner, as well as a 1,000-bird flock owner.

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Now that telephone materials have gone to war, we must get along with the facilities we have until a happier day. By using these facilities to the best advantage, you can help keep service good for everyone, including yourself. Try following these simple rules:—

1. Be sure you have the right number before placing a call. Consult your directory.
2. Answer all calls as promptly as possible.
3. If you're on a party line, apply the Golden Rule to your use of the line.
4. Don't ask "Information" for numbers that are listed in the directory.
5. Hang up carefully after each call. Don't let a book, or other object, hold the receiver off the hook.
6. Take good care of the telephone instrument and cord in your home and office. They're made of scarce and critical materials.

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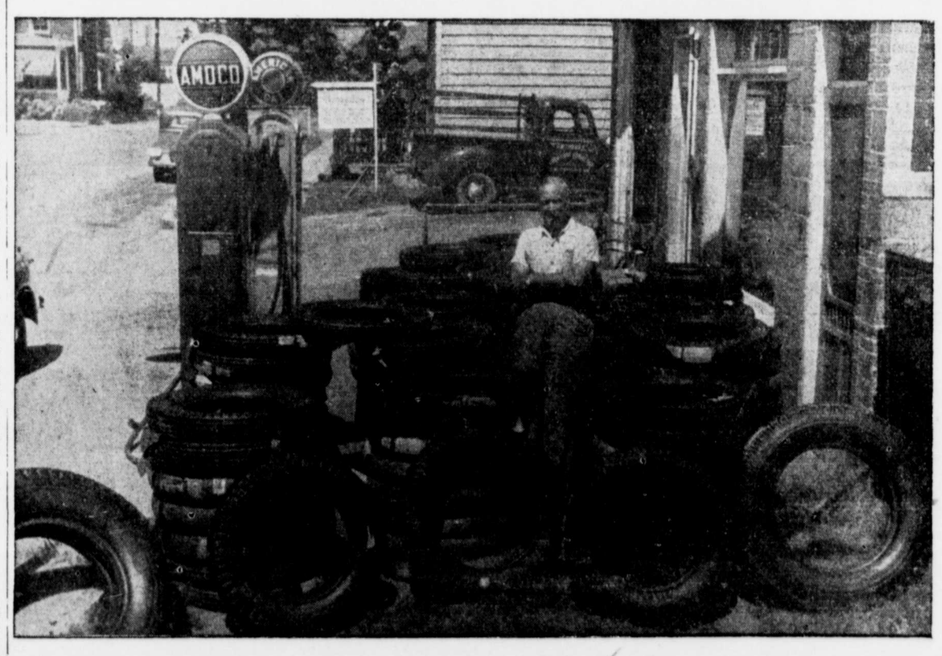

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