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RUSSIA AND PEACE

To be fawned upon by those who have shunned you is a graitfying sensation. Last week Soviet Russia enjoyed this delicious revenge.

For 20 years, the U. S. S. R. has been treated as Europe's stable boy. Moscow was not even notified of the signing of the Munich pact last September, although Russia and France had jointly guaranteed Czechoslovakia. Responsible for that deliberate slight was Neville Chamberlain, who hates Red Russia with all the well-bred loathing of a British Tory, and whose followers have openly expressed the hope that "if we let Germany go east," Nazis and Communists would bleed each other to death.

When Hitler broke his personal word to Chamberlain and occupied Prague, however, the British Prime Minister went into reverse. English guarantees were given to Poland, Rumania and Greece. A treaty was arranged with Turkey, giving British ships the all-important right to use the Dardanelles. Turkey made one condition: that the inexhaustible man-power and immense natural resources of Russia be tied up with the peace front.

Accordingly the British Foreign Minister, Viscount Halifax, began cautious conversations with Soviet Ambassador Ivan Maisky. Britain proposed a complicated tie-up that would bind Russia to go to war if Britain and France should decide to fight. Russia, foreseeing that such an alliance would transfer control of her foreign policy to Neville Chamberlain, demanded a simple, clearcut military pact. Britain sputtered that Russia was unreasonable. The Russians yawned and showed signs of dropping the subject.

Matters dragged along in this fashion until two weeks ago, when with elaborate mumbo-jumbo, Germany and Italy signed a treaty of military alliance—a treaty which did not even mention bolshevism and which declared its aim to be the destruction of the status quo establish at Versailles.

Faced with the awful bugaboo of a Nazi-Communist alliance, British leaders shilly-shallied no longer. In a quiet two-hour session, the Cabinet voted to accept the Soviet terms. According to the best guesses, these terms would bind Britain, France and Russia to go to war immediately in defense of each other or of any small country guaranteed by any of the Big Three.

Together, Britain, France and Russia would control about one half the habitable globe and one third of the world's population.

—The Pathfinder.

Shortly after it was revealed that the Nazi government had barred broadcasts of all religious services and banned sale of Bibles in general book stores, the Protestant Confessional Synod declared last week it no longer considered orders of Dr. Friedrick Werner, head of the Supreme Council of the German Evangelical Church, "legally binding." Dr. Werner, said the Synod, by lacking Nazi religious policies had placed himself "beyond the pale of the Church of Christ."

Dr. M. A. Jull, head of the Unisity of Maryland Poultry Department, states there has been good demand for the 1939 Maryland Poultry Yearbook and that a number of libraries have requested copies for reference purposes. Increased interest has been shown because the publication takes up many problems dealing with the poultry industry. Additional copies may be had by writing the Department of Poultry at College Park.

Rural dwellers use their radios much more heavily in the daytime than city dwellers, according to a report issued by the Cooperative Analysis of Broadcasting, an organization that makes surveys of radio listening habits. Out of 67 daytime network programs, it was learned, only 11 were more popular in city than in country areas.

The Memorial Day address at Gettysburg was delivered by Senator Byrd of Virginia. It is the first time since Lincoln that a Southerner has been given this honor. The North and South observed their friendship at Gettyburg last Memorial Day.

In one minute the world produces $2,000 worth of wood products.

THE LITTLE FELLOW

J. E. Jones

Washington, D. C., June 12—There has been a long and persistent effort to induce people in moderate circumstances to buy homes, with the payments guaranteed by the Government.

Well, some statisticians have figured it out that these Government transactions turn out to be a sort of a bonus from the Government, which make it $150 to $300 a year cheaper to buy a home on the Government plan. The same authorities indicated that it is chaper to buy a house than pay rent. That is wholly, or partially true. It is an offer of the Government to help families own their own homes—their own roofs over their heads.

The terms of credit run for so long a period that practically all the houses being built are apt to be streamlined, modernized, and perhaps a little flimsy, so that they are apt to go into the scrap heap before the final payments are made. In congested city areas a tremendous proportion of these Government financed houses are defaulted, as the ciricumstances of the purchasers change, and their occupants move to other localities.

President Roosevelt's latest suggestion is for an extra acre to provide space for a cow, pigs, fruit trees and vegetable gardens. It is not resisted because it is a friendly gesture and not an offer of more of the taxpayers money.

But this is the little-fellows day of opportunity to secure Government help. A lot of folks are taking advantage of current opportunities.

* * * *

Hitting The Highways

The man who wrote the "highways are more than just roads leading from place to place," is not a mere observer in the parade of progress—he is a modern philosopher.

Old Sol has come out from cold weather quarters to usher in the days of summer. That means weekends and longer vacations.

The problems in the early days was to blaze a trail through the wilderness. Then with the turn of this century the first automobiles were hunting for a decent road. Finally America was dug out of the mud.

Presto, how the landscape has been glorified. On every highway the farms and homes have been dressed up to make a good apperance. Paint has had boom days ever since the beginning of new highway building.

The highways brought a challenge in the problems of safety. Safety campaigns have been largely responsibile in cutting down the number of accidents and deaths, something more than 20 percent during the past year.

The automobile is a part of the daily life of the entire Nation. New horizons of industry have followed in the wheel-track of automobiles, as witnessed by the fact that materials from very state are required for their manufacture.

Today, this country has about 3 million miles of highways and roads, of which hundreds of thousands of miles are hard surfaced.

What an opportunity the highways offer to all, especially the Summer vacationist or those who have the disposition to tour the country.

* * * *

This Country's All Right

Some of the noises from Washington about un-American activities, and the resistance of capital, labor unions and radicals to the Democratic order of Government need not be disturbing. We always have had minority groups, and rare individuals with cock-eyed notions, and we always will have. Fortunately there are not enough of them to be disturbed about.

* * * *

Hail The King And Queen

The oldest Washingtonians will probably agree that the most enthusiastic personal welcome they ever witnessed was accorded Charles Lindbergh upon his return from his famous "hop" to Europe. Now comes the King and Queen of all the Britons and the good old National Capital tears down all the reserves to shout its biggest welcome. "They speak our language," "they are a lovely young couple," and "they are our kind" are some of the alibis of our country, which once hated Kings and Queens so intensively that it set up a new kind of "radical government." Britain now claims to be a "democracy." So, there is wholesome sincerity in the greetings to the King and Queen—it willl help rub out the memories of 1776. Transportation and communication have done much to make these changes, and to make far better civilization.

SCHOOL SURVEY BILL SIGNED BY GOVERNOR O'CONOR

Five-man Commission will Review Public Elementary and High Schools and State Teachers Colleges

Annapolis, June 7—In signing House Bill 486, known as the School Survey Bill, Governor Herbert R. O'Conor took the first step towards adapting the Public School System of the State to meet the changed conditions that now confront it. This bill authorizes Governor O'Conor to appoint a commission of five members to make a survey of the Public Elementary and High Schools, and the State Teachers' Colleges of the State of Maryland. The commission is to be an unpaid group of outstanding citizens of the State interested in the problems of youth and the problems of public education.

Twenty-five thousand dollars has been appropriated in the supplementary budget to finance this survey for the two fiscal years 1940 and 1941. The results of the survey are to be reported to Governor O'Coner and the General Assembly at its next session in 1941. The actual work of the study is to be made by outstanding national educational leaders who are to be selected and appointed by the commission.

New Conditions A Problem

The depression, technological changes in industry and new social legislation raising the age limits for entering employment, have multiplied the problems of youth, which in turn have reflected their influence on public school systems throughout the states. Youth is no longer able to secure jobs in many of the occupations which were accessible to them ten or fifteen years ago. Thus there is a serious gap in the life of youth—that period between leaving or graduating from school and securing employment.

The school must be a social as well as an educational institution, and the situation of the youth of the State of Maryland is now so acute that serious and intelligent consideration of the responsibility of the school as a social and educational agency is imperative. Many and complex solutions have been offered to the problem. It is the purpose of the survey to study the conditions in the State and to make recommendations to Governor O'Conor for changes within the financial limitations of the State.

New Cycle Of Education

A progressive system of education must move forward, must throw off the cloak of self-satisfaction, and establish new cycles. These cycles must come in order, and it is believed by many leaders in our parent-teacher organizations and by leaders of public education in the state that the time has arrived to enter a new cycle of further development of educational service to youth.

Throughout the past ten or more years Maryland has succeeded, according to the testimony of leading educational experts of national renown, in securing educational results comparable with those of the best state school systems of the country. These results have been obtained because the emphasis has been placed on the securing of a high quality of teaching; through the training, selection, and supervision of teachers; and through an economical system of organization.

Increased Services Expected

Now the public is requesting and expecting increased educational services from public educational agencies. The secondary schools of the State ca nno longer be justified as college preparatory public schools alone. Subject matter, courses of study, and school organization must be adjusted to offer a broader service to the youth of Maryland.

Some persons feel that this can be done by lengthening the school term from the present organization of seven elementary years and four high school years to one of eight elementary years and four high school years. Others maintain that the solution is six years of elementary grade, three years of senior high school grade. Another group maintains that to lengthen the school terms would do little to make the adjustment unless the service be made much broader in its offering, so that subjects which will render a genuine educational service to those youths who are not going to college and in many cases will not even finish high school may be included in the curriculum.

Previous Survey Resultful

Such are the problems facing the School Survey Commission which is to be appointed by Governor O'Conor. As a result of a similar commission appointed in 1915 and making its recommendations in 1916, which in turn were put into effect through the support and cooperation of the late Governor Ritchie, Maryland has enjoyed the distinction of having one of the outstanding state school systems of the country. This accomplishment has had national recognition during the past fifteen years, and now Governor O'Conor has made it possible for his administration to stand out in the history of the state school system of Maryland.

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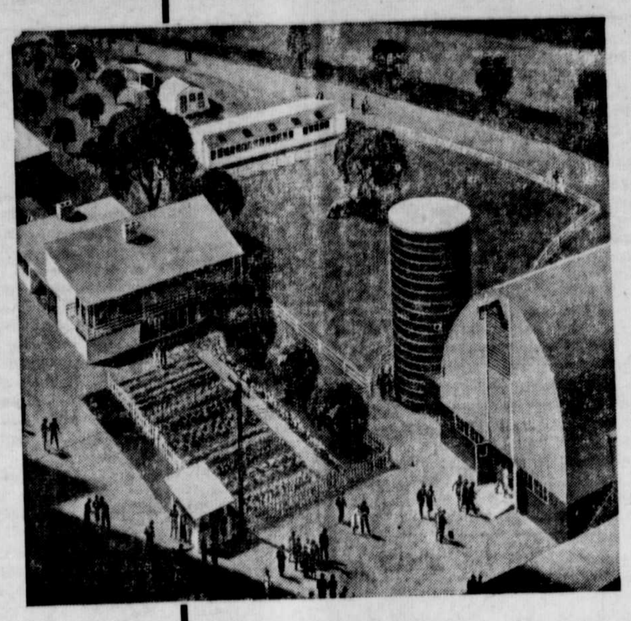

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New Cycles in Sunspots Found

Scientist Believes Rhythm of Eruptions Has Now Been Discovered.

WASHINGTON.—A new way to clock sunspots was revealed with announcement Smithsonian institution mathematicians had discovered a new fundamental time division.

The discovery was called "the 89.36 year sunspot cycle" by its discoverer, H. Clem Clayton.

Clayton, in a mathematical analysis of solar activity, said that by means of the new time division he can make fairly accurate predictions not only of the times of recurrence of maximum and minimum sunspots in the sun's atmosphere, but also their amplitude at different occasions.

Split Into Eight.

The mathematician said the great time cycle of 89.36 years is split into eight component cycles. He said:

"These might be likened to eight seasons on the sun, due to some unknown factors in its own physical constitution."

He also explained that sunspots are attracting more and more attention because of their known and suspected correlation with conditions on earth.

Hitherto, it had been believed sunspots occurred in approximate 11-year cycles and it also had been impossible to predict very accurately the amplitude of either minima or maxima.

Prediction Difficult.

Nobody has been able to predict with any confidence when a cycle would repeat itself, according to Clayton.

He hoped his new fundamental time division would allow definite predictions. Pouring over yearly sunspot data since 1793, Clayton evolved the 89.36 year cycle.

The eight cycles or seasons within the master cycle occur at 11.17, 5.56, 8.12, 8.94, 9.93, 11.14, 14.89 and 19.86 year intervals. He said:

"It is all convincing evidence, that these solar tempests cannot be considered as irregular explosions in the sun occurring with a randomness which cannot be predicted but that their frequency is governed by definite laws, however complex these may be."

YEAR'S BEST DETECTIVE STORY

A exciting true story of a police sergeant who fought death for weeks to get his man. Don't miss this thrilling story in the June 25th issue of The Ameican Weekly, distributed regularly with the Baltimore Sunday American. On sale by all newsboys and newsdealers.

Air, Kiln Drying Usual Ways of Curing Lumber

Lumber to be satisfactory must be thoroughly dry. There are two methods. 1. Air drying. 2. Kiln drying.

Air drying is the age old method in which the seasoning process is largely left to weather. Rainy weather sometimes interferes with the seasoning process. That nature does a good job, however, is attested by the huge amount of lumber seasoned by air drying, according to a writer in the Chicago Tribune.

Kiln drying is the more modern method and a more costly one. It is often used by larger mills. Lumber is carefully piled in the kiln with separating strips between each piece. Then warm air is blown through the piles of lumber by large fans. Live steam is introduced into the kilns so that the drying process will not proceed too rapidly and result in weakened lumber.

Dealers say that lumber should be reasonably dry before it is used—in home construction particularly. If it is not properly dry the lumber warps and shrinks with the natural drying caused by the heating of the house. This may result in cracked plaster, squeaking floors, and other annoyances.

Mark Twain's Weather Comment

The following lines are from a speech which Mark Twain made on the subject of weather, at a dinner given by the New England society: "There is a sumptuous variety about the New England weather that compels the stranger's admiration—and regret. The weather is always doing something there; always attending strictly to business; always getting up new designs and trying them on people to see how they will go. But it gets through more business in spring than in any other season. In the spring I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours."

Meaning of Name Sheldon

Sheldon is one of the names on which authorities differ widely. One says it is Teutonic and means "a shield bearer," another that it is an Anglo-Saxon residence name meaning "from the hill on the ledge." Since other Shel combinations are unanimously accorded a "ledge" meaning, it would seem that the second meaning is probably the more nearly accurate. However, it makes better sense to turn it around, "from the ledge on the hill." It would seem that the original words were shelf and down.

West Highland White Terrier

One of the most satisfactory of all the terrier breeds, if not of all breeds, is the West Highland White Terrier, writes P. Hamilton Goodsell in the Detroit News. Like all the terriers from the land of Haggis and bagpipes, Scotties, Cairns, Dandie Dinmonts, Skyes, etc., this breed probably is descended from a common stock, all being branches of the same tree. It originated at Poltallock, the family home of the Malcolm family, and is said to have been bred there for more than 100 years before it made its appearance at dog shows as a recognized breed. The lineage of these terriers of the Malcolms possibly dates back to the time of King James I, who asked for some "earth-dogges" out of Argyleshire. For a long time the breed was named the Roseneath terrier, after the duke of Argyle's seat in Dumbartonshire, and also the Poltallock terrier.

Antelope Beautiful, Graceful

The antelope is one of the most beautiful and graceful big-game animals in America and in the open country of the West it stands picturesque with horns curving above its head like parentheses. If alarmed, notes a writer in the Los Angeles Times, it will raise the white hairs on its rump and as it disappears these hairs form a dazzling white rosette that stands out in the sunlight long after the animal's rich tan has merged with the colors of the landscape. The name "antelope" is firmly fixed in our usage; however, "pronghorn" is nearer the true name of this fleet animal for it combines the peculiarities of the giraffe, goat, antelope and deer. As a matter of fact, there is only one specie or family of pronghorn antelope and that is found only on this continent.

Why Laundries Are Named 'Troy'

The city of Troy, N. Y., the birthplace of the collar, cuff and shirt industry, was practically the home and for many years was the center of the steam laundry interests of the country; an interest which has extended to every city or place of any importance in the land. So general is the recognition of this fact, that the name, Troy laundry, is retained by hundreds of laundries in various parts of the United States, and is even seen abroad. It was natural that the earliest organized movement to produce the machines demanded for laundering purposes should have been made in Troy.

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