

A Free, Responsible and Aggressive Press is Democracy's First Line of Defense

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Shall The U.S.A. Spend Itself Into The Poorhouse?

Noble, indeed, is President Truman's Point Four in his program for restoring and maintaining world peace. It is based, essentially, upon the belief that if the peoples of all nations are well fed, well housed, and their domestic economies in reasonable balance, they will not go to war.

History, however, proves this belief to be untrue. For example, take the case of Germany since this century began.

Under a Kaiser, Germany started World War I. At that time she was a literate, cultured, well fed and well clothed nation.

So she began World War I, bringing us and most of the remainder of the earth's population into it.

Hitler and his followers repeated the Kaiser's mistake. When Hitler took over it is true that Germany's domestic situation was far from happy; but her people well knew the ravages of war: intellectually and morally, they no doubt rebelled against another conflict.

But they were powerless, in the hands of the fanatic Nazis, to prevent World War II.

TO A GREAT EXTENT responsible for Hitler's rise and growth in power were other nations, including liberty-loving France, England and the United States.

Now the Truman administration, under the noble, but impractical, urges of generosity and benevolence (with the taxpayers' money), expect that Point Four will go a long way toward stabilizing the world situation.

Suppose, for illustration, that the United States had enough extra cash to loan or give to every needy nation on earth, thus stabilizing their respective economies.

How long do you presume that all of them would remain solvent? Just about as long, we think, as the average of, say, a thousand American families, from every walk of life.

Human nature being what it is today, there is no mere financial panacea for all human problems.

Chinese Reds May Start Big War

Intervention of Chinese Communists in the fighting in North Korea constitutes a grave threat and apparently offers the United Nations the option of taking retaliatory action and the risk of broadening the fighting front or else permitting the North Koreans to have violable bases and an untouchable manpower supply just beyond their borders.

It is difficult to see how the United Nations forces, now fighting under General MacArthur's command, can ignore the activity of Chinese Communists in Manchuria.

IN HIS REPORT on the situation, General MacArthur says the Korean war was practically ended with 135,000 North Korean prisoners and with total losses of 335,000 inflicted upon the enemy.

He quite correctly says that "the defeat of the North Koreans and destruction of their armies was thereby decisive."

He notes, however, that the Communists, without any notice of belligerency moved alien forces across the Yalu River, while massing a great concentration of reinforcing divisions with adequate supply behind the "privileged sanctuary of the adjacent Manchurian border."

Quite significantly, General MacArthur asks the question as to these reinforced units, whether they would be committed into action or not.

The present mission of the United Nations forces is, he says, "limited to the destruction of those forces now arrayed against us in North Korea."

He indicated, however, that the massing of reserves in neutral territory with intent of intervention might not forever command immunity.

DEPLOYMENT of Chinese Communists into the fighting creates a grave question for the United Nations and the United States, since we are supplying most of the fighting forces.

Either we must come to terms with the Chinese Government in regard to Korea or we must continue our campaign to free all of Korea. This may be a larger order than we think, depending upon the extent to which the Chinese Communists are willing to throw their armies into the fray.

It is a bad situation, promising to prolong the fighting in Korea and to multiply the chances that a much greater war may develop from the fighting in Korea.

From Our Point of View Many Americans are beginning to believe that this country's messed up foreign policy is foreign to the traditional spirit of our nation.

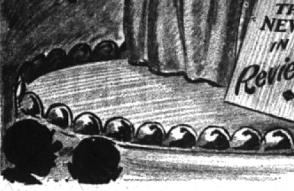
In the beginning, we felt that the United Nations, to make certain its decisions would be honored world-wide, should have an international police force at its disposal.

Now we wonder about the wisdom of giving it an international military force for the simple reason that, so far, even the democratic nations do not agree on all questions, even problems that jeopardize human freedom.

So They Say . . . Chiang Kai-shek, broadcasting to Chinese soldiers in Korea: "No citizens of China should fight against the United Nations. America is a friend of China."

Chester Bowles, Governor of Connecticut: "Fundamentally, the country wants to go ahead. It can't lick Communism with negativism."

Norman Cousins, editor, "Saturday Review of Literature": "The fate of Russia and the fate of the United States may very well be decided by peoples outside these two nations."



Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Glanned From Old Files Of The Eclectic—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

80 YEARS AGO December 9, 1900 We have been made happy with some Florida oranges raised on Frank Brooks' Florida orange grove.

Miss Adele Snow will have a collection of her beautiful china on sale at the church fair, Mrs. E. Parks will also have an exhibition and sale a number of fine water color pictures.

Mrs. Flora Foy is visiting her sister, Mrs. Clyde Wooster at Durand. Mr. Wooster is a railway engineer and doing very nicely at his work which he has been at for a number of years.

We lose a good family this time. Henry Yessen and his family have moved to Farmington where there is a nice situation with the Northwestern Electric railway. This was a loss to Birmingham and Farmington it to be congratulated.

Here is a bargain we offer our readers. The twice-a-week DETROIT FREE PRESS and the WEEKLY BOOK AND ENCYCLOPEDIA plus a full year of the ECCL. FREE for \$1.75. If a year's reading you cannot afford to be without.

20 YEARS AGO December 11, 1930 Village Manager James W. Parry Monday evening appointments. Vern W. Griffith chief of the Birmingham Fire department. Commissioners will consider the appointment next week before passing official approval.

The village, this year, will aid local merchants in the Civic park Christmas tree decorations. A committee has also been named by the American Legion to assist with the work. The lighted tree is the background for the Christmas sign held in the park each year.

Hundreds of children from Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills are to participate in Christ Church Cranbrook's annual "Festival of Gifts". The affair will be held Sunday afternoon at 4:30, opening with a program of seasonal hymns.

Businessmen, police and firemen have been enlisted to take an active part in the Goodfellow's sale of newspapers. The committee plans a large campaign here to raise funds for the needy.

The largest permit for plumbing construction in the history of Bloomfield Hills was filed last week. Village Clerk William Story reports the permit to be for new piping at Cranbrook school at a cost of \$121.25.

5 YEARS AGO December 13, 1945 Louis Hazell again heads the Birmingham Gun club which remained its entire slate at the annual business meeting Wednesday. The meeting was held at the club schedule for the coming year with many new plans to come.

F. H. Phelps, president of the Houseman-Spitzley corporation of Detroit, has planned to build 200 new fancy-type homes were planned for the Pembroke Manor subdivision. Phelps added that the first five units would be ready for occupancy within a month.

Commissioner John Mertz Monday evening reported more local support was being given the proposed electric power plant.

We Heard It Said By—Harold King, of Arcadia, Calif., former Birmingham resident: "Recently I listed to Secretary of State Dean Acheson on television. He said he was going to stop talking back to a billy, said: 'I don't like the way you speak and act towards me. If you don't stop, I'm going to call you a name, and it will be a mean name, too; then if you don't stop I'm going to stop speaking to you altogether.' We in California believe that Acheson and his pro-Communists in the State Dept. are largely responsible for the Chinese Reds and what they now are doing to us in Korea. Acheson ought to be fired!"

Old Pipes By BEATRICE McDONALD Old pipes that lie around to gather dust And little heaps of burned-out ash that spill To litter tabletop and windowsill, Grubby smelly pipes with seamy rust . . .

Once he was sick a long, long time, and when I found the old pipes lying here and there And little heaps of spilled-out ash again I knew how wonderful life was . . . how fair.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

A New York tycoon said his rise to stock market fame started with sales on the curb. Well, that's one way to get out of the gutter.

This double-feature was advertised in Cleveland theater: "All Quiet on the Western Front" and "Rear Window." The picture of the first wouldn't know whether to shout or shut up.

When the fall fever season comes around, several daily newspapers report the pollen count per cubic yard of air. I wonder in whose cubic yard they do the counting.

During the baseball season in Topeka, Kan., a minister complained that the loud-speakers at a nearby baseball park blared the pollen count per cubic yard of air. I wonder in whose cubic yard they do the counting.

During the first few weeks of school, teachers always find the three "B's" written on the blackboard: "Recitment, Reliance and Rambunctiousness."

LOOKING AHEAD

People of good will have hoped and prayed since the dawn of civilization for "peace and plenty on earth. Philosophers have propounded ten thousand learned theories on how it might be achieved.

But only one recipe for lasting peace has appeared. The Man of Peace has failed to make it work. Peace on earth thus remains a spiritual goal.

It perhaps is THE goal, mankind's ultimate quest, that may be attained only if Christianity is lived in all nations, becomes a flame in the hearts of all men.

ON THE OTHER hand, "plenty" is a relative term in popular understanding. The word makes me recall the picture in my old school reader showing "The First Thanksgiving" as it was observed by the American pilgrims.

The "plenty" in that picture was food—turkey, a red pumpkin pie, and potatoes baked under the coals. The Pilgrims were thankful for their prospects in the new world, for their freedom, and for their "plenty" of sufficiency.

Unquestionably the Pilgrims would have been only a little less satisfied had their harvest of food-stuff been considerably less bountiful.

YET "BREAD"—meaning, in its broadest sense, a sufficiency of food, or "plenty"—has become the great political and social watchword in our strife-torn world. Some people would "love" a "plenty" of Communist leaders are marshaling great masses of humanity to make war over it.

Every newspaper in Michigan for two weeks has been reminding us of the number of shopping days until Christmas. Says one writer, "Unfortunately my remaining years are few. I shall not be here to complain when right after Labor Day our waiting merchants commence hanging up Christmas decorations."

The critic was directed at cities more than at small towns. Rural communities still follow the traditional opening of the Christmas season following Thanksgiving.

But not all is commerce. Every charity and civic organization in the State is making a list of gifts to guarantee a merry yuletide season for all. For the time the season is a happy one. It is impossible to discover and reach all those in need.

On the political scene the holiday season is a dreary one fraught with anxiety. G.O.P. Whorehouses look darkly at Wayne county and his friends fraud at the ballot boxes as the recent results loom near. Democrats return to the fray fearlessly, claiming partisan politics by the state board of canvassers.

Michigan, having had a taste of winter, now is bedded down for the winter sports season. After a virtually snowless season last year, operators are preparing for their biggest winter.

Michigan's automobile industry offers an interesting picture in a decade, another optically announces the nation's output will reach 8,000,000 units for 1955. Rex Motors, Inc., of Lansing justly reveals it is on the threshold of its best year.

But all will agree that the industry suffering a shortage of youth for key positions—are all businesses. Behind the cold statistics there are the breaking individuals with their own personal problems. The primary problem is that of the youth generation are shying away from the years of training at

REMARKS AT RANDOM

A Knoxville, Tenn., thief went through a construction house project and stole all the ways in the new locks to be installed in the housing development. Do you suppose he was planning for the future?

The FCC has warned Boston operators of small boats to cut out the profane language on their ship-to-shore radios. The ruling undoubtedly is for the latter's benefit.

An Indiana motorist landed in a ditch as he attempted a collision with a runaway snow-tricken people who called the snow besides a "road hog."

The Oesterreichische and Bayerische Unternehmungen Vahle of Chicago has changed its name. It now reads: "The Austrian and Bavarian Land and Sea Society." I suppose the other name got tiring some after a spell.

A laborer in Malaya lost 15 teeth in an accident. Now he fears his chances of finding a wife will be harmed. Well, why can't he bridge that problem when he gets to 18?

A man in Florida tells how he caught a lovely fellow of fish on a hook which he painted with nail polish. He's running the risk of being labeled a "red baiter."

In the West, archaeologists found the petrified remains of a man with one foot in his mouth. Probably an old fisherman who had eaten too much fish.

Phone vision TV won't be popular. It would take a Pole, not a call from a bar and say he's just leaving the office. And any man who rings a girl with her hair up in curlers will think he has the wrong number.

Over in Grand Rapids, a 70-year-old doctor was arrested for selling waterpumps made of No. 10 motor oil. Let me to me that his stuff would help to keep the nose running.

THEIR AGRICULTURE has progressed little in the last thousand years. It is upon these people, uninformed and constantly at grips with hunger, that the Kremlin propaganda is waging their propaganda wars.

Had these masses achieved any substantial degree of "plenty" it is doubtful that the Reds would have succeeded so well in this effort.

THIS "plenty" is a practical stepstone toward peace on earth as well as a humane ideal. We in America have found a recipe for "plenty"—our freedom philosophy government and our free enterprise economic system.

IT HASN'T MADE everybody rich but the poorest American citizen is twice as well fed as ninety-nine percent of Asia's millions, and we are a nation of peace-lovers.

The degree and the wide distribution of America's "plenty" caused the Communist plotters long ago to give up the idea of forcing revolution here. So "plenty" is a factor in war or peace.

Until world-girdling, war-making Communism is overcome, we need as a nation to concentrate our thinking and planning, and action on that objective.

But if we are victorious there is a great challenging task awaiting the expansion of "plenty" to the underdeveloped and unwieldy jungles of the earth.

WE CANNOT DO it by sending federal government funds and a handful of technicians to Borneo and Madagascar or a handful of electric generators to Yugoslavia or a combine to China.

The true great hopes for future peace and plenty on earth (and the expansion of Christianity) are education and research.

Once the world menace of international Communism is overcome, we could take a trade mission to the Marshall Plan and bring a million college-age youth to America to learn, first hand, what makes America tick.

Those with aptitudes could be kept here for extended training in the ways America people get things done—in agriculture, in industry, in forestry and mineral development.

THINK OF WHAT 100,000 Chinese with American agricultural and industrial know-how, and with a first hand knowledge of our distribution and marketing system, could do in a generation in a free enterprise China.

And during that 30 years, American science, through research would be further exploring and developing the limitless possibilities of God's material blessings to the people of the earth—the natural resources.

MICHIGAN MIRROR

HOW MANY DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS? Every newspaper in Michigan for two weeks has been reminding us of the number of shopping days until Christmas.

A unique method for teaching safety to the tykes has been perfected by Neil Newman of Williamston, a retired police lieutenant. He tells the story of a dog who obeyed while his trained terrier acts the tale.

Legislators, mulling the way to spend the \$65,000,000 bond issue approved Nov. 7, for mental hospitals, have learned that the state's mental institutions are overcrowded 20 percent. The report by A.N. Angus, building director, says all facilities are over the 100 percent occupancy mark.

Fred Custer may yet be an air cadet. Once rejected as a pilot, he is now being accepted as a joint army-air force station. The army has reversed its original stand and now would be "glad to consider joint occupancy."

A plea has been made and supported by Dr. Lee M. Thurston, state superintendent of public instruction, for an up-to-date history of Michigan for public schools.

The deer season—back and antlerless—is closed. Business in every city is back to normal. Mechanics again are available and that insurance premium again or doctor bill can be paid in person.

Conservation officials ask, however, that rather than have good venison sportsmen call their local charitable organizations to take it off their hands. Sportsmen in the woods, by sportsmen at home, the department says.

Ticklers By George

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