

Lots of Table Talk—But Little Battlefield Action

When the North Korean Communists, aided by Russia, started a war against South Korea, it was a threat to the integrity of the United Nations. So the UN declared war against North Korea—ex-President Truman called it a "police action." (Scores of living and dead Americans called it something else.) Although fighting has stopped in Korea, no lasting peace is in sight there.

Now comes Indochina, a French colonial possession, with the French about to pull out. Led and inspired by Chinese Communists, given weapons by Russia, the anti-French forces have fought for seven years and have made much inroads upon the enemy.

In the light of all this, high administration leaders in the United States, topped by Vice-Pres. Nixon, now say something to the effect that our own troops may have to fight the Reds in Indochina because, as President Eisenhower states, "we cannot afford any retreat in Asia."

AND ALL THIS TROUBLE, you should

not forget, is presumed to be the concern of the United Nations itself... specifically the free nations who are pledged to fight Communism wherever it threatens human freedom.

So Mister Eisenhower, who campaigned against Truman's "police action," and who stretched the end of actual fighting in Korea, now admits that American sons and daughters may have to shed their blood in far-off Indochina... a land exploited for years by the French, and now about to be abandoned by them and other ill-service-rendering members of the vacillating and basically weak UN international organization.

Do not think that this newspaper is opposed to the idea of having nations gather around a conference table to settle their differences wherever possible... we merely rail against the hypocrisy of these UN member nations who could, but won't, roll up their sleeves and pitch in to defend the free nations against totalitarianism.

Is Oppenheimer to Be Exonerated?

We have read a reasonable amount of the reports about J. Robert Oppenheimer, the mentally brilliant scientist who headed up our atom bomb project in World War II, and who did plenty to bring about the H-bomb.

This recognized great physicist has been suspended from government activities, while his record of alleged pro-Communist leanings is being investigated. Yet many Americans somehow or other get the impression that Oppenheimer, admittedly a foolish and naive citizen regarding most anything outside of his scientific laboratory, is not being treated decently.

Food Goes Down the Rivers!

J. N. (Ding) Darling, the famous cartoonist, put the case for soil conservation in these memorable words: "Goofsteak and potatoes, roast duck, ham and eggs, and bread and butter with jam on it, are being washed down our rivers each year in the form of good rich farm topsoil."

We have long passed the point where we can afford to let this happen. We will have to feed a population which is growing at a dizzy rate from an agricultural acreage which is virtually fixed. That fact imposes a dual obligation: to get maximum production from our land and, at the same time to save and whenever possible improve that land for the needs of the years ahead.

Labor Under Socialism

Working people who still believe that government ownership or control of basic industry is in their interest would do well to read a recent Reader's Digest article by Joseph A. Fisher, president of the Utility Workers Union (CIO) of America.

Mr. Fisher said: "We know from experience that our members employed by Government-sponsored agencies of the Rural Electrification Administration, as well as those employed by municipalities which run their own light-and-power business, work under conditions inferior to those en-

joyed by our members employed in private industry... Consumer rates wages and conditions of employment are fixed by political management while the worker is denied the right to use either economic or legal appeal against the Government."

The concluding sentence to Mr. Fisher's article is also memorable. He said: "Our union calls for curtailment of Government encroachment on private enterprise and actively with the problem. Modern farm machinery provides an efficient, low-cost means of doing the actual work."

Every time an acre of farmland is properly and scientifically conserved, the whole country is permanently enriched.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Certain labor leaders seldom, if ever, have a fair word to say for those who own and manage big industries. They seem to think that the best way for them to keep a hold on their membership is to flay the daylight out of everything they yet can't control themselves. They will praise politicians who honestly or dishonestly side with labor for votes. They will criticize honest politicians who try to do their own personal thinking. And, of course, most labor leaders criticize the press for alleged

"one-sidedness." (Did you ever read labor papers? They are the tops in slanted reporting.)

The development of the A and H bombs have brought the human race closer to eternity than all the past and present theologians have been able to do, apparently. The only difference is that the scientific minds behind the bombs haven't given us any definite choice of the two well known roadsto Eternity.

Harvard University plans to spend three millions of dollars to erect a transmitter that will allow radio contact with the planet Mars. Just what good for the human race this will result in is not mentioned... so why not include the transmission of TV programs from Mars to this planet? Maybe the Martians will beam back some of their own soap operas.

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So They Say... Arthur Radford, Admiral, U. S. N., chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. "This nation would be a prisoner of its own military posture if it had no capability, other than to deliver a massive atomic attack."

Ready for Those Spring Chores



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

We've never noted for knowing when to keep quiet about things, and have no doubt but what this is one of the times when we should.

However, we're getting so thoroughly bewildered about the "juvenile problem" that we may as well speak our piece as increase our ulcers worrying about it.

No matter where one goes, the first 15 minutes of conversation is bound to bring out something derogatory about the high school gang—and sometimes their younger brothers and sisters. All kinds of devilment is charged up to them, from malicious destruction to a brand of activities that is downright dangerous.

We hear of gangs roaming around, threatening people; of gangs stealing cars, entering homes, damaging unfinished houses, breaking into public buildings and messing things up in general.

WE ARE TOLD of teen-age drinking and smoking and loitering around. We listen to reports of hot rods racing about with no regard to the safety of passengers or "innocent bystanders."

We say "hear" because we have not actually seen any of these things. To us it is all "hearsay." However, if all these things are true, why in the name of heaven isn't something being done about it before matters really become serious?

Are we, for the sake of peace and quiet, or some other obscure reason, sitting calmly on the sidelines while trouble hatches? Are we hiding our heads in the sands of indifference and letting youngsters romp down the road that is leading to sadness and destruction for some of them?

WE ADULTS have a terrific responsibility in this thing. Somewhere down the line we have done something, or left something undone, which is the key to the whole affair.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

One of the greatest mistakes I believe a person can make is to fall into the habit of thinking only small thoughts. People think small because they lack faith—in themselves, their ability, their actions.

Thinking big is the greatest result-producer.

An example is one of the most successful manufacturers in the U.S. who shortly after his graduation from Amherst, took a job in an old-fashioned plant.

He didn't have any business experience, but he had an open mind and began looking about for new ideas. At that time the Taylor efficiency system was just attracting attention. The young man persuaded his bosses to try a few of the new ideas. Such success followed that the young man got an idea that has made him rich.

HE TOLD HIMSELF he didn't need money, but just the ability to manage properties so they made a profit. He went to banks that were losing money in business establishments, took these losing ventures over, and paid for them out of profits.

He began with a single small plant in a little country town. He was so successful that others were offered him. Taking after his own plan, he built up a management organization of his own. He is a national advertiser today and owns a number of great manufacturing plants. He is recognized as a leader in his field.

When he wants to buy a new plant, his associates usually are against him. They are content to let things stand. He laughs at this attitude, and his associates are certain each time he takes on more work, he will ruin everything he has built up.

WHILE THEY LACK courage and vision, he has both. He dares think in terms that fill them with fear.

Then there is the cigar salesman taught to think in larger terms by Billy Love, then manager of the Thornton Hotel at Battle, Mont. This salesman had made many small sales, but they averaged less than \$75 each.

"Have you any cigars that retail for \$1?" asked Love.

"Yes," the salesman gulped. From the bottom of his case he brought out a cigar wrapped in gold foil with a multi-colored band. The man had never expected to sell

any of that particular brand. "What's the price?" asked Love, thumbing through his price list, the salesman replied, "Fifty cigars for \$40."

"How much for 5,000?"

THE SALESMAN WAS STUMPED. He said he would have to wire his company. He received a reply the next morning: "Price for 5,000 cigars to retail for \$1 is \$3,250. Who wants to know? Get all the money or half of it in advance if someone isn't kidding you. This company doesn't tolerate drinking. Explain by letter."

The wire was handed to Love, who made out a \$2,500 check. The salesman turned to go.

"Just wait a minute, youngster," the customer commanded. "I want to order some cigars to sell two-for-a-quarter, and some that sell for two bits." Mr. Love then bought an additional lot costing over \$1,200.

THEN THE CIGAR salesman got a lesson in salesmanship. He was instructed to show his high-priced lines first.

"Expect your customer to want the best," Love counseled. Assume the best is none too good for them. You'll be surprised to find they'll do business with you on that basis. You can always drop down if you have to. But start at the top."

I think that philosophy can be applied to more than salesmanship. If more of those men pretending to leadership in the world would spend less of their time damning conditions they think wrong, and devote more of their time in work expressive of a greater faith in the future of our country, both they and the country would be more prosperous.

TOO OFTEN THEY GO about with nickel cigar thoughts, while they should be thinking more in terms of those dollar cigars.

For thoughts are like magnets. They attract the kind of people, ideas, orders, promotions, honors, rewards that belong to them.

It is the thinker of big thoughts who is the creator of great businesses. There are no others who can accomplish that result, unless the example of the Amherst graduate who began his fortune, and still conducts it, with big ideas, dollar cigar thoughts.

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Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Cleared From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Made Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO April 29, 1914 "Last fall a wild goose in passing with others over the farm of Dick Erwin fell to the ground disabled. It was caught, cared for and now the Erwin farm is the proud owner of seven wild geese eggs that are wonders in size and weight."

"In order that her boy may not be handicapped through life with a common name, an Oxford mother has named her only son Adolphus Ebenezer Nicodemus Obeliah. The family name is Pigg."

An advertisement: "When in Detroit eat at 21 Michigan avenue. Meals 15c."

"The Royal Oak baseball club has been reorganized. Gus Dundro is manager this season and James Lawson will captain the team."

"A disastrous fire with spectacular and sensational features occurred at the plant of the Cadillac Automobile Co. Cass and Amsterdam avenues, Detroit, causing a damage of \$200,000."

Carrie M. Bingham was a delegate to the District Woman's Home Missionary convention held in Saginaw last week.

30 YEARS AGO April 25, 1934 Miss Mary Martin of the Community House will champion a group of Blue Birds to Detroit Saturday morning to see the performance of the "Tinder Box" at the Alhambra theater. The play is for children and is given for the benefit of the Vaasar endowment fund.

Dr. and Mrs. George G. Booth have returned home from an extended trip in Europe.

Dr. Preston Slawson, a professor at the University of Michigan, was arrested by Mr. and Mrs. Lee A. White at their home on Brookside drive over the past weekend.

The Boys' Camp Cooking class gave a dinner on Monday night at which 20 were present, including

the young ladies who were the guests of the boys. The tables were attractively decorated with napdragons and margolids and lighted by candles, and favors were at all the places.

The silver cup was awarded the Baldwin school, this week in the music memory contest which has been conducted in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades of the local schools. The individual winner for the school was William Bowls, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bowls of Pierce street.

15 YEARS AGO April 27, 1939 In years to come, Constance Coulter may count among her souvenirs, the word "souvenir" which won for her and Birmingham the district championship in the annual spelling bee sponsored by the Detroit News, held Friday afternoon at Baldwin High school.

The City Commission Monday night voted to contribute the sum of \$200 toward financing the city's summer recreation program, on condition that the same amount be donated by a group of local organizations including the Board of Education, the Young Men's Association, the Community House and the Parent Teacher's Association.

Teachers and school principals in the Birmingham public school system next year will receive the local salary increases approximating \$9,000.

For the first time in the history of the school, the championship Baldwin high school track team will have adequate home facilities for practice and meets, following the dedication of the Pierce Field track on Friday, May 5.

First prize of \$1,000 for a distinguished low cost single, family dwelling of Middle Western design has been awarded to Harry Weems, a student at the Cranbrook Academy of Art.

To buy or sell used automobiles, or read a used automobile classified Ads.