

Looking at WASHINGTON

No Aid for the Chinese

It begins to look as if the Chinese will receive no more money from the United States because of testimony received by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, indicating that Communist forces could take over control of all China at will.

Major-General David G. Barr, Chief of the U. S. Military Advisory group to China, was quoted by Committee-men as saying that the Chinese Communist army could push across the whole of China whenever it decided to drive southward. He said that there was no real line of defense south of the Yangtze River and that the disorganized Nationalist Army could offer no effective resistance.

The General indicated that the sudden collapse of the Nationalist forces found the Red Army unprepared to advance beyond its immediate military objectives and expressed the opinion that the Communists probably would push supplies into China in the next two years while attempting to establish a government. After that, in his opinion, would come chaos.

According to this representative of the United States, the masses of China are still loyal to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek but have an overwhelming desire for peace. Moreover, their confidence in the Nationalist Government is badly shaken by the presence of corrupt officials. In addition, the United States has "lost face" because of the defeat of the Nationalist forces and the fight of the Generalissimo.

We have it stated, in other places, that much of the arms and equipment sent to the Nationalist Army in China by the United States has been captured by the Communists. Certainly, until it is reasonably certain that the opposition to the Reds in China can stage a worthwhile fight, it would be somewhat foolish for the United States to send additional supplies into the area.

Hits Lobbyists and Trouble Makers

President Truman made the real estate lobby the principal target of a speech to the conference of Mayors. In addition, the President hit at the "trouble makers" who make it appear that there is bad feeling between him and the Congress.

The Chief Executive charged that "the lobbyists" have been fighting low-rent housing and slum-clearance, as well as rent control. He insisted that "it is a terrible and shocking thing that the real estate lobby, which pretends to speak for those whose business is providing houses, has become the real enemy of the American home."

Mr. Truman says that the real estate lobby, knowing that most cities have neither the "legal authority nor the financial resources to carry out a successful program of rent-control," wants to turn it over to local authority—"not in order to strengthen local authority but in order to destroy rent control."

The charge made by the President is somewhat serious but obviously it is not possible for people throughout the United States to know the full facts as to what goes on in Washington. There have been reports, before this, of a very active real estate lobby, which successfully fought the effort of the Government to provide the means by which the people of this country could get adequate housing following the shortage caused by the war.

Mr. Truman complained of "the usual trouble-makers who make it appear that there is bad feeling between him and the Congress. He explained that many 'newspapers and columnists' charge dictation when the President makes a recommendation to Congress and, in the event that Congress differs with the recommendations, set up a 'gleeful chorus about how the Congress has thrown the whole Democratic program overboard.'"

The President is on fairly firm ground in making this observation. We have repeatedly called attention to the fact that newspaper writers and radio commentators, in the effort to highlight the news, try to make a serious conflict out of practically every difference of opinion between the President and Congress. This is apparent to everyone who reads the newspaper reports or listens to the voices on the air.

The World Needs Free Trade

When the thirteen Colonies won their independence from Britain, they represented thirteen independent and sovereign states. Each colony issued its own money and had the right to set up tariffs to prevent the sale of the products of all the other colonies inside its domain. The money issued by each colony was of dubious value in the other colonies and, consequently, hampered the development of economic intercourse between the peoples of the colonies.

If that condition had continued, after the formation of the Federal Union, there would have been no development of the economy of this Continent to compare with what the years have produced. Instead of a manufacturer in one state being able to ship his products freely to a buyer in other states, there would have been ques-

tions of currency valuation and exchange, in addition to possible prohibitory tariffs, to prevent such business.

Now, if we glance away from our own continent and look into the Western part of Europe, we find a group of nations operating economically as the colonies did before the Union was formed. This means, for example, that if a manufacturer in Belgium wants to sell some goods in France, he must not only pay the tariff levied against his products, but he must arrange some method to collect the amount due to him for his goods.

Naturally, he cannot accept French currency unless he wants to buy something in France, because, obviously, it is not usable in Belgium. If the manufacturer does want to buy in France, he must require the French purchaser to pay him in the money of a third country, which, under present conditions, is usually the dollar or the pound.

It is not surprising that trade between the European countries lags far behind that between the forty-eight states of the American Union. Likewise, the economic development of the European area does not compare with that which took place on the American continent. The full answer may not be found in the tariffs and currency barriers, but many economists and political students are convinced that much of the blame for a retarded economy is to be assessed against these factors.

Recently, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg formed a customs union so that they could exchange their goods without any money difficulties. Now, an effort is being made to extend the boundaries of the Union so that France and Western Germany may be included. The idea is sound and should be broadened to include most of the nations in Western Europe. In fact, it should be gradually extended to include all the nations of the earth.

There is, we think, a lesson for the United States to learn in the history of its own development and the lesser development of other areas. We set the world an example by establishing high tariffs, which led to quota restrictions, currency controls and other barriers to world trade. Now, we are suggesting to the Western nations of Europe that they act to permit the unimpeded flow of trade between them and, if we are logical, we must be ready to assist in the development of the world's economy by joining in the effort to facilitate the swapping of goods and services between all peoples.

Those who oppose the removal of tariffs and other trade barriers generally fear that such removal will injure their business. This might conceivably be the result in certain instances, but what the business men overlook is the prospect that a greater flow of international trade will permit them to make more profits than they now get through the operation of tariffs, currency controls and other hampering barriers that stop the flow of commerce.

Legion To Award Four Scholarships

Four scholarships of \$250 each will be awarded by the North Carolina Department of the American Legion for the year 1949-50, it is announced by Legion Department headquarters.

The scholarships are open to any son or daughter of deceased Legionnaires of either World War I or

World War II actually in need of financial assistance to continue his education after finishing high school. The cause of the parents' death is not a factor in determining eligibility for these scholarships but the deceased parent must have been a member of an American Legion Post in North Carolina some time during his lifetime.

There is no special type of application to file for one of these scholarships, but the applicant must be endorsed by the local Legion Post and must submit a statement from some person in the community showing that the applicant is a person of character, ability and ambition.

Deadline for the filing of requests for one of these scholarships is midnight June 30, 1949, and all requests should be completed and mailed in plenty of time to reach State American Legion headquarters, Box 2509, Raleigh, before that date. Further information may be obtained by contacting the local American Legion Post.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER IN EDENTON CATHOLIC CHURCH

Maundy Thursday, April 14, Feast of Institution of Holy Eucharist will be observed with the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass starting at 7:30 A. M. and including Holy Communion, concluding in 30 minutes, followed by Rosary, with confessions 7 to 7:25.

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SOLD BY: ROBERSON'S "On The Corner"

A. M. in St. Ann's Catholic Church, Edenton, stated Father F. J. McCourt, pastor, who invites everybody to all services.

Good Friday, April 15, 2:45 to 3:15 P. M., meditation, Seven Last Words on the Cross; confessions, 7:30, choir practice; 8 P. M., Rosary, Way of the Cross, sermon on "Christ's Crucifixion and Death," confessions.

Holy Saturday, April 16, 7:30 A. M., mass, Communion, over in 30 minutes, Rosary. Confessions, 7 to 7:25 A. M., 4 to 6, 7:30 to 9:30 P. M.

Easter Sunday, April 17, Holy Masses at 9 and 11 A. M., each including sermon on "The Easter Communion," followed by Rosary; confessions previous.

Farm prosperity is essential to national prosperity, and, at times, to having something on the table to eat.

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