



Washington, D. C.

ORLEMANSKI-LANGE TALKS WITH STALIN

Two of the most important diplomatic reports of the war have been received at the White House recently, not from any trained diplomats, but from two private American citizens—Father Orlemanski of Springfield, Mass., and Prof. Oscar Lange, Polish-American leader and a teacher at the University of Chicago, both of whom had interviews with Stalin.

Although less widely publicized than Father Orlemanski's interview, Professor Lange had a long separate talk with Marshal Stalin and, perhaps because he was not circumscribed by church superiors, his report, on the whole, has been the more penetrating and helpful.

New conclusion drawn from the Lange-Orlemanski reports is that Polish-Russian relations, one of the most troublesome problems of the war, are on the eve of a wholesome rapprochement, probably beginning about now.

It was shortly after the receipt of the Lange-Orlemanski reports that President Roosevelt began a series of three conferences with Polish Premier Mikolajczyk in Washington, the results of which exceeded expectations.

If Polish-Russian relations can be settled amicably, one of the worst obstacles to postwar peace will be removed. Poland, for a hundred years partially governed by Russia, has a deep-rooted suspicion of the Soviet, while the Russians, having borne the main brunt of the European war on land, naturally feel they are entitled to areas forcibly wrested away from them after the last war.

STALIN DISCUSSES POLISH BOUNDARIES

In their separate interviews with Stalin, the two Polish-Americans, Father Orlemanski and Professor Lange, heard the reassuring words from the strong man of Russia that his government wants a "strong, independent Poland after the war—a Poland which will be strong both internally and externally, but which will be favorably disposed to the Soviet Union."

Stalin went even further and said that he was ready to help create a new Polish army.

"I am ready to build an army for Poland, equip it fully and arm it with the best guns the Soviet Union can make," he told Professor Lange. "I will do this for at least 1,000,000 men."

Stalin also discussed the question of Poland's future boundaries and revealed that they had already been discussed in some detail at Teheran. In doing so, he let drop a very important point—that, at Teheran, Roosevelt and he had agreed to the breakup of Germany after the war.

"Poland should claim East Prussia," Stalin said, "and should also claim Upper Silesia and all the German territory, up to the Oder river, including Stettin."

NOTE—This would give Poland practically all of Pomerania, a great stronghold of Prussian militarism. Shortly after Teheran, this columnist reported that the Big Three had proposed giving Pomerania, East Prussia and Silesia to Poland, in order to separate the Prussian junkers from the rest of Germany and stamp out German militarism for keeps.

Stalin told his visitors that he was not sure whether Poland should get Breslau (in Silesia) or not.

When these plans for Poland had come up at Teheran, Stalin disclosed, President Roosevelt had been in complete agreement, but Prime Minister Churchill had hesitated.

"He asked me: 'Who is to guarantee the security of this new Polish state?' I answered him simply: 'The armed might of the Soviet Union.'"

POLES IN RUSSIA

Professor Lange had been permitted to visit with the Polish army inside Russia which is fighting side by side with the Red army. He also had talked with various Polish leaders inside Russia, and he told Stalin that he was deeply moved by the splendid treatment given the Polish army by the Red army.

Several days after Professor Lange had arranged with Wanda Wasiliewska, head of the pro-Soviet Union of Polish Patriots, to better the living conditions of Polish refugees in Russia, Stalin informed him, Wasiliewska that better war conditions now permitted better living conditions and that Polish refugees should share in the improvement.

SCORES POLISH INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Stalin was quite cynical about the Polish intelligence service inside Poland and the reports of alleged conditions it had made to Premier Mikolajczyk. All it did, he said, was deceive the Polish government-in-exile in London.

Foreign Commissar Molotov, who was present during the interview, interrupted at this point to say that, in a recent speech, Premier Mikolajczyk had claimed he had the support of 90 per cent of the Polish people.

Yanks Continue Their Mopping-Up Job on Saipan



A sidelight on the battle for Saipan Island. This photo (left) shows two youngsters holding food and candy given them by the Yanks standing outside compound in which are Jap prisoners taken in the battle for Saipan. Center shows Garapan on Saipan Island with fires caused by bombardment of the Pacific fleet. In the background are victims of the attack, sunken Japanese ships. Jeep (right) follows troops into the roads and fields of Saipan to evacuate the wounded. Medical corpsmen are giving a transfusion as the Jeep moves along. Many lives were saved by prompt action and available supplies in the field.

Wounded Flown Over Atlantic to Home Hospitals



Yank heroes wounded at Normandy are being loaded aboard transport planes in Scotland for return to hospitals in the United States. Pfc. Christian J. Mohr of Kenosha, Wis. (right), at transport command, Prestwick, Scotland, before he started the long air-ride. Mohr was one of fourteen wounded veterans of the Normandy fighting, making up the first full plane load of wounded-flown to the United States. Upon arrival at Mitchel Field, New York, they were rushed into waiting ambulances for dash to nearby hospitals. Army tries to send wounded to hospitals nearest their homes.

Youngsters Learn Railroading



Sixteen and seventeen-year-old boys are being used to augment the railroads depleted operating force. A speed-up system that teaches in a brief period of 19 days all that a youngster needs to know to become a useful switchman, fireman, brakeman or flagman, is proving effective. Half of day is spent in school, half in actual work.

Addresses Monetary Conference



Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. addresses the opening meeting of the Bretton Woods Monetary conference, now meeting to discuss the reconversion of industry back to a peacetime basis and the means of encouraging international investments and other financial problems that will arise in the postwar period.

Gabreski Tops Aces



Lieut. Col. Francis Gabreski secured his 28th German plane when he shot down a Messerschmitt 109 over France, placing him as the top scoring ace in the U. S. air force. He is 25 and a former Notre Dame pre-med student from Oil City, Pa. His fighter group has a record of 597, having added 17 on flight in which Colonel Gabreski secured his 28th German plane.

Aces' Italian Art



Italian artists have found a profitable outlet for their ability among members of the air force, whose desire for jacket art in oils runs from a Varga girl to a zooming plane.



HIGH COSTS REPORTED ON COLLECTIVIST PROJECTS

ONE OF THE NEW DEAL theoretical ideas for aid to the down-trodden farmer was the establishment of collectivist farms under government management. It was the product of the brain of Rexford Tugwell when he was assistant secretary of agriculture, and was supposed to be along the lines of the Russian collective, government-managed farms.

Recently Democratic Congressman Harold D. Cooley of North Carolina offered some figures showing what results were attained. There were 197 such projects established in the United States, one of the larger ones being the Scuppernong homesteads of 11,300 acres in North Carolina, with a government investment of \$796,000, an average of \$11,000 for each farm family involved and settled on the land.

It was a strictly and completely government-managed property, including farm, community and home managers. The loss on operation alone to June, 1942, amounted to \$74,000. When to that loss were added interest on the investment and government loans to the farm families, it meant a cost to the government of \$18,000 for each one of the farm families, no one of which was permanently benefitted.

Scuppernong is a sample of government management, but it was not the most costly of the 197 collectivist farm experiments. In all, 15,500 farm families were involved in these experiments, none of which were permanently benefitted. On the other hand, the Farm Security administration, by a simple rehabilitation loan program, rendered material aid in putting 950,000 farmers on their feet. Of the amount due on those loans 93 per cent has been repaid. The loans meant the creation of opportunity for the individual to help himself—the maintenance of his American self-respect and his operation under the private enterprise system.

The American farmer is too much of a sturdy individualist to take kindly to, or develop under, any system of regulation or regimentation. He can manage his own affairs.

NATIONAL DEBT JUST KEEPS GOING UP

YEARS AGO, back in 1880, when I was but a small boy, a group of town and farm patriarchs would sit around the big wood-burning stove in the general store of the village of Ainsworth, Iowa. Their discussions centered frequently on national affairs and especially the, to them, appalling national debt occasioned by the cost of the Civil war. Some of them harked back to the good old days of 1840 when the national debt amounted to but 21 cents per capita, with a national population of but 17 million. In 1880, because of the cost of the Civil war, it stood at the, to them, staggering sum of \$1.69 per capita, with a population of over 50 million. I wonder what those good citizens of 1880 would say of conditions of today with a national debt of well beyond \$1,300 per capita, over \$6,000 for the average-sized family. Those patriarchs realized they and their children had to pay that debt of 1880, and we and our children must pay, each his full share, the debt of today and tomorrow and next year. We have reason to demand economy in the civilian activities of government.

PAY FARMER FOR PRODUCING NEEDED ITEMS

A CASTOR BEAN PLANT persists in growing in my yard. Each time I see it I am reminded of the more than 50 million we pay to farmers in other lands for the castor beans we import each year. With a bit of encouragement in the way of a protected home market, or a small subsidy to provide a start, that 50 million dollars might be going to American farmers. There are but few, if any, sections in the United States in which castor beans would not grow. In addition to what we are now importing we could use more, far more, as a substitute for wood pulp in the making of paper. We are depending upon imports for more than 60 other products that could be raised on American farms if we were inclined to encourage their production. The total would add hundreds of millions to our farm income. We could pay the farmer for producing rather than for not producing.

DOING YOUR BEST ON EVERY JOB

NOT ALL OF US HAVE the ability to fill executive positions, but the demand for executives is never entirely filled. We are not capable of judging our own qualifications for such a job, others must do that for us. What it takes we can demonstrate by doing our best on each job we hold on the way to the top. Chances are if we do not achieve our ambition it is because of something lacking on the part of the aspirant.

Let's Face Facts

Republicans Promise Farmers Fair Share Of National Income

By BARROW LYONS

—WNU Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.

There is a plank in the Republican agricultural platform that goes to the heart of what the farmer wants. It reads: "We propose . . . an American market price to the American farmer and the protection of such price by means of support prices, commodity loans, or a combination thereof, together with other means as will assure an income to agriculture that is fair and equitable in comparison with labor, business and industry. We oppose subsidies as a substitute for fair markets."



Barrow Lyons

One need reflect on this only a little to realize how far the farmer and the Republican party has moved from traditional moorings at the post of the good old law of supply and demand as the principle price determinant. Although the plank does not mention parity prices, viewed in the light of this plank's history, parity price and parity income are implied.

It means that the organized farmer realizes that to prosper, a way must be found to control farm prices, and that farm income must be held in fair relation to the income of labor and business. Of course, this means that an equitable share should go also to labor and to business. Obviously, this calls for national machinery to determine what income actually is going to the various segments of society.

Congress is the only body in a position to pass final judgment on what is a fair share for each, although labor and business may raise objections because about 74 per cent of the congressmen come from rural areas. Anyhow, if the implications of this plank are squarely faced, it holds promise both for the farmer and for the city worker.

This plank does not sound as though it had been written by any interests that desire to purchase farm products at low prices, such as the millers or meat packers. Governor Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa, who was the chairman of the Republican agricultural subcommittee which drafted the farm planks, assured me in a long interview in Chicago that no pressure was brought upon the committee by commercial interests to influence the farm plank.

"The committee held regional hearings in Chicago, Salt Lake City and New York," he said, "and nowhere was it approached by milling, packing or railway interests—at least to the best of my knowledge, and I think I would know."

This idea of protecting the farmer's share of national income probably is typical of the rejuvenated Republican party. Superficially it does not fit into the picture of the Republican party as the party of the great industrial interests. It implies that the share of the farmer has been too small in the past, which can only mean that the share of someone else has been too great.

Stand on Labor

At the hearing held by the agricultural subcommittee it was clear that the Grange and the Farmers Union felt that the share of many underpaid industrial workers had not been too great. The American Farm Bureau federation has not taken as generous a stand toward labor. Certainly, the plank needs definition and clarification in respect to some of its implications. Governor Hickenlooper said he believed industry was beginning to accept the idea that adequate income for the farmer and industrial worker was good for industry also.

Another extremely interesting plank is that which declares for "arrangements which will enable farmers to make necessary adjustments in production of any given basic crop, only if domestic surpluses should become abnormal and exceed manageable proportions."

Apparently there is a limit even to the political concept of an economy of abundance. It may be presumed that one of the evidences of surpluses becoming unmanageable would be the tendency for market prices to fall below support price.

In other words, production is to be controlled only when development of new uses for a commodity, government purchases of surpluses and commodity loans fail to do the job. We hope those remedies never prove to be too late to sustain farm income in "fair and equitable comparison with labor, business and industry."

"Sound irrigation projects administered as far as possible at state and regional levels," is included in the last paragraph of the farm platform. This is an extremely controversial plank, and straddles a serious conflict. In the Central Valley of California, where large corporation farms have been highly developed, the big farmers are anxious to modify the operation of the Reclamation act, which makes it necessary for farms of more than 160 acres to dispose of the balance of land above that amount, if they receive water from the new project.

Gems of Thought

EARNESTNESS is the best gift of mental power, and deficiency of heart is the cause of many men never becoming great.—Bulwer.

God hath no regard to the multitude of words, but to the purity of the intent.—Mollins.

How beautiful is youth! how bright it gleams! With its illusions, aspirations, dreams! —LONGFELLOW.

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