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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Small Nations Get Voice in Peace; Parts Strikes Hit Auto Output; Vote Furlough Pay in Bonds

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 (EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Grim-faced, Russian Foreign Minister Molotov (at left) and aides ascend main staircase of Luxembourg palace for sessions of Paris peace parley.

PEACE PARLEY: Open Discussion

Smaller nations won the right to discuss any question pertaining to the peace treaty drafts for Germany's former European satellites at the Paris peace conference in a surprise concession by Russia.

The Russian action followed Greece's demand that the conference be allowed to consider any item which relates to a just and durable peace. After hearing Yugoslavia and the Ukraine of the Soviet bloc attack the proposal, Russian Foreign Minister Molotov advanced his compromise. By offering the opportunity for thoroughly discussing the treaty drafts, his plan would permit the molding of a sound peace, he said.

While moving for free discussion of the treaty drafts, Russia continued to insist upon a two-thirds vote for the adoption of any recommendations for changing or altering the terms drawn up by the Big Four. Backed by the U. S. on the two-thirds rule, Molotov pointed out that such a majority vote was in effect both at Versailles after World War I and at the United Nations conference in San Francisco.

KKK: Under Investigation

Ku Klux Klan activities in seven states were reported under investigation by the justice department as the government sought to prevent widespread outbreaks occasioned by Negro voting in southern primaries, dislocations of populations resulting from the war and congested living conditions.

Heralded by Attorney General Tom Clark's statement in Philadelphia, Pa., that "we must rid ourselves of such things as organized bigotry," the government investigation reached into New York, Michigan, Tennessee, Florida, California, Mississippi and Georgia for federal violations. While the inquiry was concentrated in the seven states, the department revealed that it had received complaints from all other parts of the country against Klan activities. Complainants included individuals, labor unions and civil rights societies, it was said.

PALESTINE: Plan Partition

Unless substantial American financial aid, estimated at 300 million dollars, is forthcoming, British officials declared that they may have to reconsider an Anglo-American plan for partitioning Palestine into four spheres to solve the complex Jewish resettlement problem. Of the 300 million dollars, it was reported, some 250 million would be advanced to the Arabs for self-liquidating projects, if they could not secure a loan from the international bank set up at Bretton Woods. At the same time, another 50 million dollars would be granted outright to the Arabs for economic development.

While the cost of Jewish resettlement was estimated at 280 million dollars, it was said that Jewish agencies and individuals would put up 200 million dollars, with the remaining 20 million drawn from Germany in reparations for Nazi confiscations.

WAR PROFITS: Garssons Kick

Denying the war department's charge that it made excessive profits on war contracts, Erie Basin Metal Products, Inc., asked the U. S. tax court to bar the government's efforts to obtain a refund of \$358,874.58 for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1943.

The company was an important unit in the Garsson munitions empire under scrutiny of the senate investigating committee headed by Senator Mead (Dem., N. Y.). Representative May (Dem., Ky.) was charged with having exerted his influence with the war department for awarding the combine war contracts and high army officers in Washington, D. C., were shown to have frolicked at the Garssons' expense and pushed their interests. Erie Basin asked the tax court to overrule government refusals to consider certain rentals, salaries, maintenance expenses and depreciation charges as legitimate expenses. Further, it asserted that the U. S. failed to consider such factors as efficiency, reasonableness of costs and its contribution to the war effort in charging it with excess profits.

RED CROSS: Continue Work

German war prisoners stood to benefit as the International Red Cross committee, meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, authorized the collection of \$3,750,000 from affiliated societies and governments for relief work up to 1950.

Humanitarian in its motives and recognizing no distinction in race, color or creed, the IRCC record of achievement during the war was especially noteworthy. The IRCC revealed that its activities included maintenance of a 27 million card index for 15 million prisoners of war; 900,000 inquiries to regiments regarding missing soldiers; visits by 420 IRCC delegates to POW camps in 56 countries to check on conditions, and safe delivery of 107 million letters or postal packages.

Of the \$11,250,000 the IRCC received during six years, the Swiss government and its private citizens contributed nearly \$5,000,000. France was next in line with \$980,000, followed by Great Britain with \$720,000, the U. S. with \$650,000 and Germany with \$500,000.

HUNGARY: Riding High

Uncontrollable inflation hit Hungary much as it hit Germany after World War I, leaving a stricken populace with bushel-baskets full of money virtually worthless in buying power.

As postwar production and distribution collapsed in the face of heavy demand, the government printed more and more currency to



Street car fares went up 2,100 times in inflation-ridden Hungary.

meet the need for additional money for the soaring price level.

Whereas a clerk or typist earned about 425 pengos (\$85) monthly before inflation, he got 32,000,000 by March. Street car fares went up 210,000 times and flour 2,200,000 times.

Five pengos were worth a dollar before inflation, but by May, one billion were valued at only 10 cents. As a last resort, the Hungarian government decided to retire the pengos with this month and replace it with a new currency unit, the florint.

OPA: Farmers to Pay More

Farm machinery prices were scheduled to rise as the revised OPA took steps to comply with the compromise bill designed to assure dealers of adequate profit margins.

Heading the congressional provision for restoring dealers' peacetime profit margins, OPA granted a 6 per cent boost in retail ceilings for farm machinery. Previously OPA had compelled dealers to absorb part of higher manufacturers' prices on the grounds that large volume and less selling effort would afford sufficient return.

Higher fertilizer prices also appeared in the offering as OPA granted producers of ammonium sulphate a 10 per cent rise in ceilings and permitted importers of Chilean nitrate of soda and nitrate of soda-potash an increase of \$5.50 a ton in their ton.



While Walter Winchell is on vacation, Jack Lait, writer of the "Broadway and Elsewhere" column, will appear in this space as guest columnist. Winchell's column will be resumed on his return in September.

Follies of 1946—

The dogdays are here. . . . It shouldn't happen to a dachshund. . . . Winchell is on vacation, meaning he can get up at 7 p. m., instead of 6. . . . But the show must go on. . . . So Lait will juggle the dots and juggle the dashes. . . . It's fun. . . . Let's get started!

Unreported incidents in Hollywood, eye-witnessed by my bureau of information, which never sleeps, never drinks, seldom eats: Betty Grable said she would not accompany Harry James east on his six-week tour. Almost as soon as he got off the train, she got on a plane—for New York. . . . Before John Perona flew to Paris, Mary Pickford gave him a solid gold St. Anthony's medal. . . . Bill Cagney begged Howard Hughes to take him up on that test flight and was turned down. . . . A movie company is paying \$2,000 to advertise its picture-to-be, "The Egg and I," on an ostrich egg which is being hatched at a farm which raises the big birds in Pasadena. Thousands visit there daily. The deal is that as each party goes through, the mother ostrich is to be shooed off her future offspring, so that gawkers can read the copy. There are seven words painted on the egg, which figures out at a rate of \$275.75 per word.

The following acknowledgment is being received by those who order from a large Manhattan auto agency: "We are enclosing herewith accepted copy of your order, subject to further delays due to conditions beyond our control. Delivery should be expected from 18 to 25 months."

Department of Internal Revenue has had an agent in Hollywood checking into the extraordinary number of refunds claimed and gotten by high-salaried movie people. By virtue of an ancient law, the government pays 6 per cent interest on sums paid and held, until refunded. There is virtually no such thing these days as a 6 per cent investment, but anyone who wants to miscout or forget to enter a just and provable claim for allowance can draw 6 per cent on such a sum, plus retrieving it in full. During 1945, the United States paid out \$17,000,000 of such interest. In 1944, the amount was \$23,000,000. This year, the interest will be only about \$4,000,000, as the government is "hep" and rushing the kickbacks. Most of this, of course, is legitimate. But some big moneymakers have deliberately used it as a racket.

Howard Hughes, the incredibly rugged individualist, despite his excruciating physical agony and his multifarious mental misgivings, has refused to take one sedative. . . . Even the mildest sleeping-aids and pain-relievers, given patients who stub a toe, he has stubbornly turned down. . . . In fact, he refused to eat or drink, fearing some palliative may have been slipped in. . . . He has lived entirely on orange juice since his injuries, and demands that it be squeezed in his presence, from the fruit, uncut until he sees it halved. . . . Physicians say they never heard of such a case. . . . But who ever heard of a Howard Hughes before?

Father Andrew Cervini, Jesuit missionary, who lost his left foot while a prisoner in a Jap camp, has just finished a book of his experiences. . . . The publishers weighed several titles. . . . Then Jim Harkins came up with, "How about 'One Foot in Heaven?'"

Jane Churchill, the girl-in-the-middle of the Tommy Dorsey-Jon Hall imbroglio, dyed her hair red and is in New York, trying to get a show job. . . . John Gart, the musical director, tells of a young male bit-player in Hollywood, assigned to escort a famous film beauty to a premiere. Next day he grumbled because it was such a terrible picture, he could hardly concentrate on it. . . . "This Is Your FBI," official air program, reveals: "America's annual crime bill is 17 billion dollars; its total education bill—from kindergartens through colleges—is less than four billion dollars."

WORLD WAR I BRIDES



World War II Brides



MARKED CONTRAST. . . Foreign girls were wooed and won by American soldiers in both world wars but, as the above pictures attest, there was a marked difference in the brides of two generations. Photo (1) shows a group of American soldiers in World War I's army of occupation entraining at Coblenz, many bringing back wives and children. Girls like those shown in photo (2) won the hearts of American servicemen in World War I, the picture showing typical war brides ready to embark for the U. S. In contrast to their sister war brides of a quarter century ago, World War II brides show every evidence of modernity. Photo (3) shows joyous wives of ex-G.I.s obligingly posing on the railing of a transport in typical Hollywood style, although minus the finishing touches. Longer duration of World War II resulted in larger families for G.I.s and their foreign brides. Larger than ordinary is the family of Arthur Smith of Greenville, N. C. Mrs. Smith is shown in photo (4) arriving from England with her four children, two of which were by a former marriage. An Italian girl "fell hard" for Joseph Cianciotto of Rochester, N. Y., and they were married in Italy. Mrs. Cianciotto "fell hard" for him again when her war bride ship docked in New York, as photo (5) attests. Even modern modes of transportation were utilized in reuniting G.I.s and their foreign brides, photo (6) showing a group of war brides arriving in America by airliner.

'LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON'

Statistics Show Equal Foreign Marriage Rate for Both Wars

Influx of war brides to all parts of the United States leads to the general impression that G.I.s serving overseas during World War II were more addicted to marrying foreign girls than were their doughboy fathers of World War I. From the British Isles, France and Germany, even from far-away Australia and the Philippines, have come bride ships transporting war wives to America to join their former G. I.

The common impression that the average G.I. of World War II was more inclined to take a foreign wife than was his counterpart of World War I is contradicted in statistics compiled by Metropolitan Life Insurance company.

Records indicate that there were about 52,500 marriages with foreign girls during World War II, compared with an estimated 4,000 to 8,000 during the war of a quarter century ago. Records for war marriages at that time are very incomplete.

Despite the increased number, however, the foreign marriage rate of the two generations of servicemen is practically equal.

Longer duration of World War II and the far greater numbers serving overseas account for the increase in marriages, statisticians point out.

Third Have Children. Duration of the war also is responsible for an increased number of children in war marriages. The 52,500 foreign brides coming to the U. S. to join their husbands were accompanied by 17,500 children, indicating that nearly a third had children. In a majority of cases there was only one child, although there are instances of as many as three children.

War marriages were most common in European and Mediterranean theaters. Nearly 60,000 of the

70,000 brides and children came from these two areas and they represented more than 30 different nationalities.

Great Britain had the largest percentage of war brides, 75 per cent, followed by France and Italy with 15 per cent each, Belgium and Ireland with 3 per cent each, with about 4 per cent from the other countries of Europe and North Africa.

Many From Australia. From the Pacific area came 10,000 war brides, 85 per cent of whom were from Australia. Another 10 per cent are from New Zealand and 5 per cent from other countries, particularly the Philippines.

Age of war brides varies considerably, with marked concentrations in the late teens and early twenties.

Just as personnel of the armed forces was recruited from every state in the Union, so will these wives and children of ex-G.I.s settle in every part of the country.

Blood Test Used To Fix Maternity In Animal World

CHICAGO.—An equine parallel to Hollywood's recent series of paternity disputes was reported by the American Veterinary Medical association.

The investigation described by the veterinary authorities was made by two French veterinary scientists and was believed to be the first practical application of blood grouping to determine parentage in horses.

The problem was to determine which of two mares, "Fanny" or "Clairette," was the mother of a colt named "Robert." Serum tests showed that Fanny's blood belonged to group "AB," Clairette's to group "A" and Robert's to group "O."

Soil Termed Great Laboratory For Production of New Drugs

Soil not only is the source of life-supporting food but also is a great laboratory in which are produced many new-found drugs for curing diseases of man and beast against which even good nutrition cannot prevail, according to Aiden Stahr and Dr. Boyd Woodruff in an article in Capper's Farmer.

"These are the so-called miracle drugs, first of which was tyrothricin," says the article. "Then came penicillin, used extensively during the war, followed by actinomycin, streptothrichin, clavacin and gungamicin. Others have been discovered and more are in prospect."

Among the things scientists have seen and identified, Stahr and Woodruff point out, are: One-celled plants, molds, green plants, animals, protozoa, worms and nematodes. And these soil inhabitants

do more than provide fertility to the soil. In their struggle for existence, many of them throw off waste products and create chemical substances which are deadly to disease germs. Thus a very special strain or species of fungi yielded penicillin, which shared the credit with blood plasma and the sulfa drugs in greatly reducing the wound mortality rate in World War II as compared with the First World War. "The soil," conclude the writers, "is so complex a mixture that there must be many other healing agents found in it. Many of man's 2,000 diseases still are unconquered. Most prevalent of all, of course, is the common cold, which causes more economic loss and discomfort to people than any other disease and, weakening the system, paves the way for more serious ailments."