

A TIME FOR DECISION

This is no time for hysteria.
This is no time for apathy.

The democratic nations of the world are under siege. That is why the United States, Britain, and France are holding conferences of their foreign ministers in London this week.

The moral and practical advantages of righteousness and freedom are on the western nations' side. But advantages don't count unless they are used. Let us use them, let us develop them.

Messrs. Acheson, Bevin, and Schuman can do what is needed for peace and freedom at London if their peoples do what is needed. The United States, Britain, and France can be built into a dynamic core at the center of western defense if their peoples show that they understand how urgent is the necessity.

Of the three men at London, Mr. Acheson needs and deserves the greatest support from the home front. This is true partly because the State Department is suffering from attacks which in a parliamentary system such as Britain's or France's could be answered by a timely vote of confidence, but which have no such adequate answer in Washington. But it is also true because Mr. Acheson's responsibility for world leadership is greater than that of his London colleagues simply because of American power.

Yet Mr. Acheson had to prepare for London with knowledge that the European Recovery Program would be subjected to attack from Senator Taft and other legislators who refuse to recognize any vital difference between foreign aid and domestic spending. Mr. Acheson had to go to Europe, backed up by a Senate vote on ERP which says that Americans may have what it takes to save freedom and prevent war, but they are not prepared to give Europe's survival a priority over unusable beds for veterans' hospitals or untimely expenditures for improvements to American rivers and harbors.

This really isn't America talking. But it's time the real America began. It's time for Americans and their allies to be counting the strength in the free world position and organizing these strengths against the threats against that position. The strengths are not too little and we are not yet too late.

At London the Big Three should determine how American economic power can be deployed usefully throughout the western community.

The relationship of America, Britain and France requires tightening.

A basis for using West German resources safely, for keeping Germany as a member of the Western group instead of letting it drift to an uncertain neutrality, should be found.

The risks which France must take in such an association must be balanced by American and British guarantees. British participation in a united Europe must be made economically safe.

The question of relieving Communist pressure on French military resources in the Far East must be faced. At the same time ways must be found to show Far Eastern peoples that the West is not an obstacle to their natural development.

The first requisite to success in such a challenging program is the equipment of statesmen to deal with it. This equipment consists mainly of the knowledge that the peoples they represent are prepared for the decisions which must be taken—decisions with no less compelling an objective than survival itself.

—Christian Science Monitor

HOW TO SAVE \$70,000

If Congress wants to save \$70,000, here is a suggestion: Strike out the recent authorization for a \$70,000 flood control survey of the Milwaukee river.

First, there is already in existence a perfectly good, detailed flood control survey of the Milwaukee River, with recommendations, that has never been used. It was done in 1939, for \$7,500, by state engineers with WPA help. Nothing was done with it for the simple reason that the cost of carrying out the recommendations, then estimated at \$1,000,000 at the least, was considered out of reason.

Secondly, there is in existence a 1942 report of the division office of the army engineers (yes, the same engineers) which stated flatly: "The cost of providing total or partial flood protection in the basin of the Milwaukee river is not economically justified by the benefits to be reasonably anticipated."

We know that \$70,000 isn't much in a \$2,000,000,000 rivers and harbors bill. . . . Probably we should be joyful to see the Milwaukee area get more of that federal gravy. Could be we're disloyal or something like that.

But we still think. . . that here is a good place to save \$70,000. After all, the word economy is still in the language.

—Milwaukee Journal

This, That and the Other

Mrs. Theo. B. Davis

Every year I think the limit has been reached in advertising gifts for "Mother on her day;" and each time the record has been broken by the following year's ads. One fairly new gift we are urged to buy Mother is a smoking set. Evidently the lady has changed her habits to some extent. And if the dear soul wears the extremely high-heeled pumps another enthusiastic writer begs us to give her, and is not slow and careful, she's going to fall and break her neck, no matter how many strands of Mother's Day genuine simulated pearls encircle it. She may take off her finery, even to the "luscious nylon slip" that simply must be among her gifts, (and will some one please tell me what sort of slip could be luscious?), and get busy with the numerous household appliances that are to be hers if she may be the victim of the article that insisted on precious

Mother's having breakfast in bed on her special day. Anyway, if she has a few grains of sense, some sensibility and several children, she is liable to be fairly well mixed in her emotions next Sunday.

Personally, I feel that if one wears a white flower for the mother who is dead, it should be just that — a flower, and not a bunch of them. A big corsage looks like taking advantage of the occasion. Of course those who can use red flowers have the joyful right to wear as many as they please.

Preachers will have my sympathy next Sunday. They don't want to ignore Mother's Day, nor do they want to go sticky sweet over it. Steering the right course is difficult. It was a fine idea to ask for donations for charity cases in our hospitals on this date.

Although I have seen decoration applied to many articles, until last week I had never looked

upon a prettied-up fly-swatter. Son Barrie and his wife brought me one they had bought from a lady, and it has a fancy border of wool in gray, black, red and white, the same wool being used to cover the handle and make a rosette. I've no idea how long that much work took; and am sure the padding of wool will help keep the swatter from making scratches on furniture; but so far have not felt like marring the appearance of my gift. I think it will be used only to swat my Sunday flies.

The first mock-orange sprays I cut this spring were put at once into water, but the blossoms withered right away. Then I remembered that this shrub has hard weed and slender boughs, and needs to have the stems beaten with a hammer until crushed, before going into water. Mashing enables the stems to take up water and the flowers to last for days.

Social and Personal Items

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Dawson have returned from a trip to Jacksonville and Wilmington.

Mrs. Hardin Hinton has returned home from Rex Hospital following an operation.

Mrs. Charles Curtis is seriously ill in Rex Hospital.

Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Fisher spent Friday night with Dr. Fisher's sister, Mrs. W. D. Finch, enroute to Duke University to be initiated into ODK as an outstanding alumna.

Fred Ellington, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ellington had his tonsils out Tuesday morning at Rex Hospital.

Mrs. L. E. Long has returned from Tucker Sanatorium in Richmond, Va. She suffered a broken arm in a fall Saturday night, prior to her return on Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Bowden and son Bobby, and Miss Maxine Medlin of Raleigh were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Farmer Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Peoples and Frank are spending this week in Louisburg.

Mrs. Russell Temple and daughter, Mary Russell, of Raleigh spent Wednesday night with Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Temple.

Mr. and Mrs. Dighton Fiddner were called to Pine Bluff early Wednesday morning at the death of Mr. Fiddner's grandmother. They returned Thursday night.

Mrs. A. C. Temple danced in a talent contest at Smithfield Saturday night.

Little Charlotte Scarboro has been sick with abscessed teeth but is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Talton attended a dinner in honor of her

father's 80th birthday in Four Oaks last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Johnson of Raleigh and Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Driver spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Williams, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Hepler and Connie, spent the weekend in Staley, N. C., where her parents celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Most of the community attended. An outdoor dinner was held on the grounds.

Mrs. Ben Mercer, Jr. of Wilson spent Wednesday and Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beck.

Robin Anne Brantley will return to her home in Charlotte today after spending several days with her grandmother, Mrs. R. H. Brantley.

Rev. and Mrs. E. M. Hall of Raleigh were dinner guests of Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Coltrane Sunday. Visitors in the Coltrane home during the afternoon were his nephew and wife, Dr. and Mrs. J. Fred Merritt of Greensboro.

Mrs. A. B. Knott of Wendell, daughter of Mr. Clarence Strickland is ill in Duke Hospital.

Mr. Elwood Mintz was carried to Veterans' Hospital in Fayetteville early Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Ed Hales and daughter are visiting her relatives in Ayden this week.

Mr. W. A. Adcock, father of Mrs. M. D. Hood, is seriously ill at his home in Wendell.

Mrs. Vera Rhodes was a supper guest of Mr. Morris Hood Sunday night.

Miss Jewel Hood, who has made her home in California for the past year, will come in August for a visit with her parents, the Morris Hoods.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Watson of Fayetteville announce the birth of a daughter, Kathleen Marie, at Highsmith Hospital on May 10.

Mrs. Charles Hawkins was hostess to the Bridgettes at her home here to Wednesday night. Her living room was beautifully decorated with arrangements of roses and pansies.

After several progressions high score prize was awarded Mrs. Frank Coiner, floating to Mrs. Bert Peoples, and low to Mrs. Aaron Lowry. Mrs. Durwood Stallings, guest, was remembered with a gift.

The hostess served delicious refreshments of punch, brownies, pickle, and angel tips.

Playing were Mesdames Thurman Murray, Bert Peoples, Frank Coiner, C. L. Matheny, Harry Patton, Aaron Lowry, Francis Wade, and Mrs. Durwood Stallings.

Mrs. Helen Gregory was hostess to the Wednesday Afternoon Club at the home of Mrs. Ben Thomas this week. Beautiful arrangements of snapdragons, roses and larkspur decorated the living room where two tables of bridge were in play.

Winner of high score award was Mrs. Irby Gill, and low Mrs. L. M. Massey.

Delicious refreshments of frozen salad, open faced sandwiches, pickle and coffee were served by the hostess.

Present were Mesdames Irby Gill, L. M. Massey, Foster Finch, F. L. Page, Wallace Chamblee, Charles Flowers, J. K. Barrow, and Miss Mary Lacy Palmer.

Mrs. Thomas was presented a gift by the hostess.

Sunday School Lesson

Golden Text: "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely."—Hosea 14:4. Scripture lesson: Hosea 11:1-4, 8-11; 14:4-9.

Next Sunday, May 14, we study the second of two lessons on Hosea, the great forgiver — and believer. This prophet more nearly approached the Christian spirit in practice, perhaps, than any other of the ancient Jews.

Hosea points out in the scripture lesson that God loves Israel dearly, that He is reluctant to punish his children, and that He will

forgive those sinners who repent. The humble and contrite sinner, Hosea declares, will have God's grace revealed to him.

Hosea in his dealings with the Lord learned that man must act toward his fellows as God acts toward man, insofar as forgiveness is concerned. This prophet, in losing his wife to another, was humiliated in probably the greatest way man can be hurt; but he was not full of pride, and he forgave his wife.

He suggests that all men, includ-

ing the Christians or pseudo-Christians of this day, may come closer to their God by practicing this forgiveness. Hosea does not suggest that transgressions, whether by nations or individuals, go unpunished; but he does declare that punishment is not an end within itself.

His message is, then, one of intolerance for sin but of tolerance for the hapless one committing that sin: a message of mercy and hope rather than one of revenge and despair.