

# Washington Digest

## UNRRA Test of Sentiment For World Co-Operation

### Faith in Ideal Necessary to Continue Work Of Allied Relief Agency After Reports Of Early Difficulties.

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The forces in Washington battling for world co-operation are finding the going tough. It is hard to get people to have faith in collective security when they witness such things as the breakdown of the foreign ministers' conference in London, Russia's reluctance to co-operate in the Far East advisory commission, Argentina's espousal of the ways of the dictators. At times it seems as though, internationally speaking, democracy were approaching the winter of its sorest discontent.

It is unfortunate that in the midst of this period of suspicion and anxiety, a yes and no vote has to be taken on a matter that may mean life or death, and to that extent, peace or anarchy, to hundreds of thousands of people in Europe. I refer to the 500 million dollar appropriation for UNRRA which has been winding a precarious way through congress.

By the time these lines appear, that appropriation which congress previously authorized may have been granted. There has never been much doubt as to its final approval. But the danger lies in the effect of proposed reservations.

This appropriation bill is considered a bell-wether. If it goes through unencumbered, it may mean that other measures affecting our relations with other nations are fairly safe and that such isolationism as exists in the country (and, therefore, in congress) is less than one-third of the whole.

It is true that there have been loud and emphatic demands that such knowledge as we possess concerning the atom and its potentiality be kept strictly to ourselves even though scientists say it cannot be less than common knowledge—even the "know-how" to turn it to military or commercial use—within a few years. But I believe that if you will submit to careful analysis the expressed sentiment of congress on this subject, it would reveal a line-up which takes little consideration of any international aspects of the use of atomic energy. In other words, the viewpoints so far expressed have differed as to whether this new force has been looked at as something to sell at home and the question has been whether it be produced under state control or by private enterprise. The question of internationalizing the bomb has remained in the domain of theory.

A look at the arguments for and against UNRRA and the reaction to them gives us a much clearer picture of tendencies, isolationist or otherwise, of the arguer.

### U. S. Support Is Vital

When a congressman casts his vote "aye" or "no" on the bill to appropriate the money for UNRRA he is not simply virtually voting aye or no on whether we help feed starving Europe. If he votes no and the noes have it, there will be no UNRRA. True, all contributing nations put in the same proportion of their national income—1 per cent—but it so happens that 1 per cent of the national income of the United States is nearly three-quarters of the entire sum contributed. Your voter knows this. And he can't help realizing the UNRRA is symbolic of American participation in any world organization. Without this country's advice, consent and support, no world organization can exist. And likewise, with American support no nation can afford to go along.

Another thing that the congressional voter knows when he votes on UNRRA is that it is far from perfect. He knows that the personnel, the efficiency, the standing of the organization have improved tremendously in the last few months since it has been able to get the personnel it required, which it couldn't get before because of the manpower and brainpower shortage due to the war. But he knows it is still hampered by its polyglot nature and he has to have faith enough in its purpose to make him feel that the risk of failure is worth taking. Because UNRRA, like any international organization, is everybody's baby, it can easily become nobody's baby. Each nation has been only too ready to criticize it, always excluding their own representatives' functions, of course. UNRRA has suffered greatly from a poor press because the task it faced was well nigh impossible in wartime.

The bad news, therefore, overbalanced the good news as far as reports of progress on the part of the active, contributing countries were concerned. From the passive, recipient countries naturally there were plenty of complaints. These "sins of omission" were ballyhooed. The other side of the story was not. It was the sad and familiar tale of priorities, a story many a business man can tell. Even when UNRRA had money in hand for food required (although some of the contributing members are very slow to pay, the United States still owes a little less than half of its allotment and authorization), it was impossible to get the combined food board, which decided who got what, to allot any to UNRRA until the armed forces, the domestic market, the lend-lease, and the liberated countries who had money to buy, got theirs. And even if the food was available, frequently there were no ships in which to transport it.

That situation has changed. Food is now being delivered to Europe. By Christmas it will be moving at the rate of half a million tons a month. But the memory of past deficiencies lingers and doubt as to future performance could easily be used as an excuse to defeat the measure unless one is really convinced that UNRRA's job is so important it must succeed. And so important it must succeed, so we must get down to the nub of the whole argument. For to agree with the thesis that UNRRA's objective is desirable is to agree that the good of one is the good of all and the good of the other fellow is the good of the us—"us" standing for the United States.

It is easy to show that millions in Europe will starve this winter unless they get food from outside their own borders. It is easy to prove that in those countries which are UNRRA's concern—the ones which were invaded and which cannot pay for food—starvation will lead to disease, riots, revolt—and death. And we know that under such conditions, nations turn to totalitarianism and when that fails, to chaos. We also know that unless we help tide these people over, we cannot expect to sell them our surpluses because "you can't do business with a graveyard." Nevertheless the isolationist would respond, what of it? Let's stay in our own backyard.

Therefore, the voter, weighing UNRRA's past errors with its future potentialities, will vote for it only if he still believes that world co-operation is something worth taking a risk for.

So UNRRA becomes a test of how well this belief is standing the test of misunderstandings and disappointments on the diplomatic front which we have faced in the past weeks.

We hear a great deal about the difficulty of understanding the Japanese mind and many people have their fears as to how we are going to get along in the years ahead during which we will occupy the country and attempt a reconversion of Japanese thinking as well as economic life.

Recently I had a long conversation with an officer who had interviewed some of the more intelligent Japanese officers captured in the Philippines just before the surrender. Several remarks of one of these men illustrated the difficulty of reaching the enemy mind.

My friend asked the prisoner: "What did you think of our propaganda?" "It made us laugh," the Jap replied.

"Be specific," my friend said.

"Well, you sent us leaflets saying, 'Surrender; come over to our lines and receive plenty of hot food and cold water.' We laughed at that. We had plenty of cold water in the mountains. What we wanted was hot water."

Water, to a Jap, meant in this case a bath. They bathe in very hot water. That was what they wanted and couldn't get. To the Americans—water means, after the heat of battle, first, a drink.

### BARBS... by Baukhage

Three wheeled "bug"—little tear-drop cars run by an airplane engine—will soon be available at around a thousand dollars. More use for DDT.

About 800 "lasters" in 26 shoe factories were among the many strikers of the day. The question is how long can a laster last when he isn't laster?

The department of justice has over 97 million fingerprint cards. But they don't all belong to crooks. They've got mine among others.

The rubber manufacturers say there is going to be a revolution in sports wear, curtains and wall coverings. They can be coated with new substances which will resist not only water but oil and grease.

## How Christmas Is Celebrated In Peacetime

### Most Countries Will Honor Day With Their Local Yule Pageants.

Christmas is Christmas from one corner of the earth to the other. This year the day means something special, a period of thanksgiving for the end of a long bitter struggle. While most nations will celebrate the day in reverence to Christ, the customs vary in different countries and different regions.

### RELIGIOUS PARADE

For eight evenings before Christmas, there is a religious procession held in Mexico at the head of which the figures of Joseph and Mary are borne. A lighted taper is carried by each member of the group, and they go about the streets singing Christmas songs. Admittance to a home is sought every night. On the ninth evening they are admitted and a religious ceremony conducted about the straw-filled manger of the Christ Child.

That is why La Befana brings toys and confections to Italian children on Epiphany Eve; and Russian Babouska holds a candle to the face of each sleeping child while she slips a present under his pillow—hoping that some day she will find the Babe of Bethlehem.

### 'CRAZY COW' FIESTA

For weeks prior to Christmas, the children of Colombia thrill to the painstaking preparations for a glorious fireworks celebration. "Vacacion Locas,"—"Crazy Cow," is the fireworks on the Christmas fiestas in each village square, when men don fireproof garments and crawl into the wooden framework of a cow loaded down with sizzling firecrackers and glittering Roman candles.

In the regions of Unrasch, Switzerland, young people go from house to house wearing masks and elaborate headresses, representing houses, ships and biblical scenes. Extremist cowbells are worn on a leather harness. These merry-makers dance and yodel until they are thrown a few coins.

### PARADE OF MASKS

The Polish Wigilia, or Christmas feast, symbolizes "The Last Supper," and is the feature of their Christmas celebration. Twelve types of dishes, prepared in their individual style, are served only once a year and at this time.

After the feast, the lights are put out and bowls of nuts, raisins and fruits and Christmas cakes and candies are passed around and eaten by the tree in the flicker of the candles.

### SANTA'S HELPERS

Santa has had to call upon many people to help him with his toys. Fire departments have become centers of repair work in many cities. They are often given expert assistance by boys and girls, who know just what each boy and girl wants.

### POLISH WIGILIA

The boys and girls in Holland look upon St. Nicholas Eve as their very own and call the good Saint, Sinter Klaas. Sinter Klaas visits the children Christmas Eve to determine if they are worthy of presents.

After Sinter Klaas leaves, each youngster places his wooden shoes before the fireplace. In them he puts hay and carrots for Sinter Klaas' great white horse, then he retires to spend a restless night.

## EPIPHANY TIME OF GIFT-GIVING

### 'My Daily Prayer This Year Threshold of a New Year.

Epiphany being the time of gift-giving in many lands, presents are associated with the Wise Men and their gift-bearing satellites.

According to Spanish legend, the Wise Men pass through Spain each year on Epiphany Eve as they journey to Bethlehem to pay homage to the Christ Child. Children, envisioning the procession of the Magi winding its way across the horizon—the gem-set crowns and blazing torches melting with the sunset—place their shoes on window sills and balconies before going to bed. The shoes are filled with hay for the Wise Men's horses: on Epiphany morning, the hay is gone and toys and sweetmeats overflow such receptacles.

Befana was cleaning house when the Wise Men stopped to inquire how near they were to Bethlehem; Befana knew nothing about Bethlehem, nor had she heard of the Holy Infant whom the Magi were seeking; so she finished her sweeping and went to bed. But Befana could not sleep; the regal cortege which had passed her door, the bright Star which gleamed in the sky, and her own premonitions haunted her; so Befana started for Bethlehem at midnight on Epiphany Eve.

Alas, the magic hour had passed and, although Befana has wandered ever since, she has never found her way to Bethlehem.

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### STORY OF 'THE VISIT OF ST. NICHOLAS' WAS WRITTEN FOR OWN KIN

On December 23, 1822, Dr. Clement Clark Moore told his children the story of St. Nicholas and read to them a poem entitled "The Visit of St. Nicholas," which he had written especially for the occasion.

Dr. Moore was chagrined when "The Visit of St. Nicholas" was published in the Troy (N. Y.) Sentinel on December 23, 1823, as an anonymous contribution; a Doctor of Divinity, he considered the poem beneath his dignity and many years passed before Dr. Moore allowed it to become known that he was the author thereof; no doubt he suspected how "The Visit of St. Nicholas" had found its way to the Sentinel.

Miss Harriet Butler, daughter of the Rev. David Butler, had been a guest in the Moore home on "the night before Christmas" in '22 and had hastily copied Dr. Moore's narration in her album. Treasuring the poem throughout the entire year, Miss Butler sent a copy of it to the Sentinel as the Christmas season of 1823 approached.

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### Bayberry Candle Tradition Given

Economic expediency—not Christmas traditions—prompted Puritan housewives of colonial New England to make their own bayberry candles. Puritan antipathy to Christmas celebrations disembered from the Mayflower with the Pilgrims. The Massachusetts general court in 1659 welcomed (somewhat belatedly—communications being slow in those days) the tidings that the Roundhead Parliament had abolished the observance of Christmas in 1643.

Restoration of English royalty in 1655 brought a revival of Christmas customs to England but in several New England communities the Puritan prejudice against Christmas festivities persisted—in spite of improved facilities of communications—until the early part of the 20th century.

### Foreign Christmas

Various foreign countries contribute many strange Christmas customs. In Norway there is a myth that the spruce grew from the bloodsoaked ground where two lovers died. The lights symbolize their love, faith and hope. At Saint Marks in Naples, the dogs are taken to church on Christmas morning. There they wait patiently until their masters leave.

Russia holds that Mary is omnipotent and uses a scene with her rather than the Christ Child.



### TOO RAPID COMMUNICATION

Seth Hankins was a deep-dyed reactionary. Sitting in his little general store up-in the Tennessee mountains, he cursed all modern conveniences—the telegraph most of all. Once a wholesaler had wired him a price on some much-desired merchandise, and before he could wire back an acceptance the man had sold it to another customer.

"Dad blast it!" Seth had complained. "Ef it hadn't been fur that dad-blamed telegraph he woulda writ me and I woulda writ him back afore he knew about any other buyer, and I'da had that stuff."

Then he summed up his case against the telegraph in these words: "Nowadays ef a relative drops dead at the other end of creation, you know about it in 10 minutes. And why should you?—less it's your mother-in-law. Ef they'd only sit down and write you a letter instead you'd have less time to be miserable in."

### Quick Thinking

Jones—Is it true that the wild beasts in the jungle won't harm you if you carry a torch?  
Pacific Veteran—That all depends on how fast you carry it.

### RIGHT EXCUSE



Teacher—Your hands are very dirty. What did you wash them in?  
Smarty—In a great hurry!

### Slightly Tight

Jack—That candy you're eating looks good.  
Mac—It is good.  
Jack—I makes my mouth water.  
Mac—I was going to offer you a drink but in that case, I won't need to.

### Pleasingly Plump

Jones—They say he's put a fortune in his wife's figure.  
Smith—Paying for her expensive beauty treatments, I suppose.  
Jones—No. Feeding her in expensive restaurants.

### No Sale

Customer—I'd like some soap.  
Clerk—Yes, ma'am, we have just the thing for your delicate rose petal complexion, something that—  
Customer—I'm sorry, it isn't soft soap that I want.

### Trial By Fire

Sambo—What you'll doin' 'bout mah chickens? Fixin' to steal 'em?  
Rastus—Nossuh, 'not me. De reverend reformed me. Ah's just out seel'n' how Ah stands a test.

### Deadly Serious

Brown—Lend me 10 dollars, will you?  
Blue—No.  
Brown—Oh, I was only fooling.  
Blue—I wasn't!

### Face to Fit

Nit—You mean to say you don't like beer?  
Wit—No, why?  
Nit—You've got the mug for it!

### SCOTCH FUN



Mack—Is Sandy tight?  
Jack—Tight? Why he's so tight he can't even spend a vacation.

### Welcome Home

Mac—A fellow I've never seen before just up and kissed me.  
Kay—One of those returned veterans probably?  
Mac—Yeah.  
Kay—Did you slap his face?  
Mac—I didn't know him well enough.

### Daily Rites

Nit—Do you know what a veterinarian is?  
Wit—Sure. He's a fellow who was once a soldier.

## SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

### Gay Jumper and Matching Jacket



matching jacket has a pert peter pan collar and can have long or short sleeves.

Pattern No. 8947 is for sizes 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. Size 3, jumper requires 1 yard of 35 or 38-inch material; jacket, short sleeves, 1 1/2 yards; long sleeves, 1 3/4 yards.

Due to an unusually large demand and current conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

Send your order to:

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1158 Sixth Ave. New York, N. Y.  
Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.  
Pattern No. \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_  
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### 8947 2-8 yrs.

THIS gay little jumper is bound to delight the younger set. Pretty to wear with snowy blouses or brightly colored sweaters. The

### Box Car on Highway

Biggest conveyance ever to ride an American highway was a truck and trailer with an over-all length of 85 feet which operated between Evansville, Ind., and Bridgeport, Conn., hauling airplane parts.

The trailer itself is 73 feet long, with the box, 10 feet wide inside, requiring a 15-foot clearance.



### Try ALL-BRAN Apple Spice Muffins!

(No sugar, no shortening, but lots of praise!)  
It's hard to believe such luscious muffins are sugarless and shortening-less—but they are! They owe their wonderful flavor to a combination of ginger, cinnamon, molasses and the tasty, nut-sweet goodness of Kellogg's ALL-BRAN. And they owe their tender texture to the fact that ALL-BRAN is milled extra-fine for golden softness.

2 cups Kellogg's 1 1/2 teaspoons ALL-BRAN cinnamon  
1/2 cup molasses 1/2 teaspoon ginger  
1 1/2 cups milk 15 slices raw apple or other fruit  
1 cup sifted flour cinnamon-and-sugar mixture  
1 teaspoon soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
Add ALL-BRAN to molasses and milk and allow to soak for 15 minutes. Add egg. Sift flour, soda, salt and spices together and combine with ALL-BRAN mixture. Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full. Dip apple slices in cinnamon-sugar mixture and place on top. Bake in moderately hot oven (400°F.) about 20 minutes. Makes 15 muffins.

Good Nutrition, too!  
ALL-BRAN is made from the VITAL OUTER LAYER of finest wheat—contains a concentration of the protective food elements found in the whole grain. One-half cup provides over 1/2 your daily minimum need for iron. Serve Kellogg's ALL-BRAN daily!

# SORRY

We can't make enough Smith Bros. Cough Drops to satisfy everybody. Our output is still restricted. By only what you need. Smith Bros. have soothed coughs due to colds since 1847. Black or Menthol—still only 5¢.

**SMITH BROS. COUGH DROPS**  
BLACK OR MENTHOL—5¢

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Muscular Aches and Pains • Stiff Joints • Bruises

What you NEED is

# SLOAN'S LINIMENT

Years for Better Baking

The Baking Powder with the BALANCED Double Action

Clabber Girl is today's baking powder... the natural choice for the modern recipe. Its balanced double action guarantees just the right action in the mixing bowl, plus that final rise to light and fluffy loaves in the oven.

# CLABBER GIRL