

This Week in WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Prime Minister Attlee's visit to Washington is somewhat overshadowed by the multi-sided efforts which are being made here to achieve peace on the labor-management front. The British prime minister came to the United States primarily to try to reach some agreement with President Truman on the disposal of atomic bomb information. But, although that subject is one of worldwide importance, officials here seem to be more immediately concerned with our problem of getting industry back into full production and avoiding a depression.

Mr. Attlee proposes that the secret of the atomic bomb be put under the control of the security council of the United Nations, but that suggestion is meeting with a rather cool reception here. A second proposal of the British which appears to be more acceptable to our leaders, is that the United States be appointed custodian of the bomb secret but that its use be entirely under the direction of the council.

Efforts to have the bomb banned as an instrument of war, with all nations pledging not to use it,

seem to be considered impractical by most members of our government. The feelings of many of them were expressed by Senator Johnson of Colorado when he asked: "If it is possible to outlaw the bomb, why not go the whole step and outlaw war?"

Developments aimed at settling our labor problems include: (1) A conscientious effort on the part of those attending the labor-management conference here to make the conference a success—to end it some concrete proposals which will really result in greater harmony; (2) The insistence of President Truman, in his talks with leaders of labor and management, to show the world that we can bring about economic stabilization on the home front; (3) The action of the House of Representatives aimed at repeal of the Smith-Connally act and substitution of legislation which would penalize strikers and curb the political activities of unions and (4) The statistics released by Secretary Wallace purporting to show that industry in general can afford to raise pay 10 per cent and that the automobile can afford to raise pay 15 per cent without necessitating price increases.

With labor problems now being analyzed from so many different angles, there is considerable optimism here that the strikes which threatened to disrupt our whole reconversion program may possibly be avoided.

The joint committee on internal revenue taxation will soon release a report showing that billions of dollars of untaxed income, including the income of tax-exempt organizations such as labor unions and co-operatives, is costing the federal government a huge sum of money. When the report is released, it is expected that legislation may be introduced to tighten up on the regulations governing tax exemptions.

In addition to organizations which are legally tax exempt, the treasury is also having difficulty in collecting millions of dollars in personal income taxes which, year after year, go unreported. Pointing out there are many in small as well as large income brackets who "get around" the tax, a treasury official used as an example the waiters in restaurants who, although they make their money from tips, report only their actual salary.

During the next year the whole tax situation will be reviewed and many radical changes in taxation methods are expected to result. The new tax bill for 1946 is considered a stop-gap measure aimed at reducing taxes for the coming year but without attempting to revise taxing methods.

TODAY and TOMORROW

By DON ROBINSON

DDT effectiveness
I have heard so many conflicting stories about the powers of DDT—the new insecticide which helped win the war—that I decided it was time to look up the facts and find out just what we can expect d-dichloro-dimethyl-trichloroethane to do for us.

During the war this super insect killer was used indiscriminately to rid invasion spots of any itchy or bitey or germ-carrying bug that might succumb to it. When it was sprayed on the beaches at Okinawa and Saipan, the marines weren't interested in whether it would harm vegetation or kill animals—their whole interest was in making the invasion easier for our men. But when we consider DDT for civilians, we are vitally interested in its effect on all forms of life.

From what I have been able to find out, DDT isn't as dangerous as some of the rumors indicate. For instance, it won't hurt human beings unless they swallow a fair-sized quantity of it unless they go out of their way to apply it to their skin. But it does have poisonous qualities and should be handled with a normal amount of precaution.

As for the insects it will kill, tests have shown that it means certain death to flies, mosquitoes, termites, fleas, lice, bedbugs, Japanese beetles, a number of vegetable and fruit insects, and, unfortunately, honeybees. It is somewhat effective in killing cockroaches and moths, but not too sure for them, and it doesn't seem even to worry certain nuisance insects, such as the Mexican bean beetle.

BIRDS
According to my informants, DDT is not particularly harmful to any warm-blooded animal. It is most harmful to insects which have what is called a lipid layer in their skin—a sort of protective coating. DDT goes into solution in that layer and from there attacks the nervous system of the insect.

Everything you have heard about DDT's effectiveness in getting rid of flies and mosquitoes is probably true. If sprayed on screens or woodwork, it will kill these insects for months after the spraying was done. It can be sprayed on floors, ceilings, walls and rugs and give you absolute relief

The Right Spirit



from these pests. Whether it can eventually wipe flies and mosquitoes from the face of the earth is still a question, but from now on there is no reason to have them in your house or barns.

It is true that it can be effective if put in paint, but that appears to be somewhat of a wasteful process—since it needs only be on the surface where a fly or mosquito would light.

That rumor about DDT possibly depopulating the world of bird life shouldn't be taken too seriously. Nor should the one about DDT endangering pollination and leading to the gradual end of fruit and vegetables. Our scientists are smart enough to guard against those possibilities—and DDT will only be recommended for gardens and fruit solutions which will not harm necessary insects and birds. If used without instruction, DDT might do great harm—but no farmer is going to be foolish enough to use it until experiments have proved how it can be used safely.

FARMERS
DDT is available in both powder and liquid form. When used on people or dogs, the powder form is recommended, but for fighting flies, mosquitoes, etc., a liquid spray is best.

There is still a lot of experimenting to be done with DDT. Dr. Paul Muller of Switzerland, who discovered the insecticidal properties of this compound, thinks it is possible that it will eventually free the world of germ-carrying insects and be supplied in forms which will rid us of "bad" insects and be harmless to "good" insects. But that may be a long time, off.

Farmers will probably use DDT solutions more and more from now on. By next spring some farmers are expected to mix it with their soil in order to get rid of certain harmful insects. It is found that DDT is about 102 times as effective as lead arsenate for this purpose—and only 15 pounds of DDT are needed per acre to do an effective job.

But farmers are warned not to use it as a general spray without instruction and until further research has been completed. They have managed to get along without DDT until now, and there is no use taking chances with it until its potential dangers have

Six Trich. Sermon

Rev. ROBERT H. HARPER

The Outreach of the Church. Lesson for November 18—Acts 11:21-30; 12:24-13:1-4. Memory Selection—Mark 16:15

The martyrdom of Stephen and persecutions of Christians in Jerusalem had served to scatter the disciples abroad and spread the gospel farther. From Cyprus and Cyrene certain Christians had gone to Antioch and preached Jesus into the Greeks there. When the Jerusalem church heard of this, the leaders sent Barnabas to Antioch. He soon went to Tarsus for Saul—upon his return to Antioch with Saul a year's ministry was begun in that city which attained unto its greatest distinction in its history when the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

In sending Barnabas to Antioch, the Jerusalem church broke with tradition—in time Jewish messengers of the gospel were going into all parts to the gentiles.

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hearts of those who gave in Antioch and those who received in Jerusalem. In the time of the great famine, the church in Antioch sent relief by Barnabas and Saul to their needy brethren in Judaea. The two then returned to Antioch, "talking with them John whose surname was Mark."

Among the prophets and teachers of the church in Antioch, whose names are given in Acts 13:1, Barnabas and Saul were chosen for the first missionary journey, and they went down to Seleucia and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

In the midst of manifold needs today, let the church find an example in those who were the first Christians, so called, and reach out everywhere in their spirit of love and service.

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