

The Eagle

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NATIONS ARE PERSONS

Second in a series of guest editorials presented by the Rotary Club of Cherryville in commemoration of the Golden Anniversary of Rotary.

2 March, 1955. Suppose every wage earner in Cherryville got a notice today that he or she was going to receive a bonus of one month's pay this year. Imagine the celebration! Yet, the idea is not so fantastic; for that is roughly the amount taken from everyone's income to finance the preparation for international conflict. That is one way of measuring our stake in the advancement of international understanding.

But there are even more striking measurements. If so much of our life's effort goes in tribute to the present lack of international understanding, much more is involved in the threat of a complete breakdown. Atomic warfare, at super-sonic speeds, threatens our very lives and all we hold dear. Those who survived would exist in a world incredibly impoverished and disorganized. On the other hand, what great stores of energy would be released for the improvement and enjoyment of life if this doom that hangs over civilization were lifted.

These considerations should impress anyone with his or her personal stake in the advancement of international understanding.

But what can he or she do about it? To most of us the relations between nations lie far beyond our reach and control. The daily flood of news and interpretation about international affairs swirls over us, leaving us angry, fearful, suspicious and frustrated. As individuals, we cannot cope with nations. Indeed, we can hardly conceive of them save as ridiculous composites of stereotyped traits whose effect is to emphasize differences and the impossibility of understanding. The attempt to think of other countries merely as "nations" is a training in illusion and distrust. Is there an alternative way of thinking about them?

We might begin by looking for the things nations have in common, instead of for the differences between them. The first thing—most obvious, yet so often obscured—is the fact that nations are people, made up of human beings like ourselves in their basic needs and purposes. A mother's love—a father's hope and pride—are very much alike in every nation. And no less universal among all nations is the people's stake in the prevention of war.

Thinking of nations as people suggests the possibility of understanding. Where so much of interest is common to the peoples of all nations, surely the solutions of their problems can be achieved harmoniously. Yet, though much time and study be devoted to informing ourselves about other nations as people, the opportunity for actual contribution to international understanding is still not apparent. Better informed, we may be less inclined to anger, fear and suspicion. But for active, personal influence on relations between nations, we are still frustrated.

Apparently, a further step in our thinking is necessary. Beyond the fact that nations are people lies the further realization that "people" can also be described as "persons." Thinking of nations as assemblies of individuals may help to bring the problems of international understanding down to manageable proportions, for individual persons can get to know and influence each other.

That nations are persons is the approach of Rotary to its object of advancing international understanding, good will and peace. Just as in the local club men of different trades and professions find in personal acquaintance the inspiration to service, so among Rotarians of different countries personal acquaintance suggests ways in which agreement and cooperative action can be achieved.

TRACTORS FOR TURKEY

Late in January, an operator pushed the start button on a farm tractor in a factory in Ankara, Turkey, and the machine rolled off the assembly line.

What makes this newsworthy is that the tractor in question was the first to be produced in that country. The factory making it was established by an American farm equipment manufacturer, in partnership with Turkish banks, private investors, and Turkish government agencies. Prior to this time, all modern farm equipment used in the country was imported. About 1,000 tractors will be made the first year, and schedules call for increases up to 5,000 annually, along with many other implements.

This is a real step forward for Turkey. It gives the nation a new manufacturing industry—and, incidentally, all the workmen are to be Turks. And it gives her a domestic source of something that is 100 per cent essential if any country is to properly feed its people and conserve its irreplaceable land resources—modern farm equipment, of the kind our American companies produce in abundance.

We have come to take mechanized farming for

granted. In that we are fortunate indeed. Recent news stories have told of Soviet Russia's food problem. She simply can't produce enough to keep her population going save on a subsistence basis, and apparently the spectre of famine is always present. One reason is her lack of sufficient tractors and other farm machinery.

A steadily declining number of people has produced a steadily increasing supply of food and fiber for this country. The machine has helped make that possible.

Minneapolis-Moline Co.

STILL A LIFELINE

In this atomic age, our national defense is based, in large part, on the concept of massive retaliation. The fear of that retaliation, it is hoped, will deter potential war-makers. And, if a major war comes, massive retaliation with all the resources at our command will be employed to bring about victory.

This, unfortunately, has led many people to believe that all, or practically all, we need for security is a big supply of nuclear weapons and sufficient long-range aircraft to carry them to their targets. But no responsible military man shares that belief.

Major General John M. Franklin, president of the United States Lines Company, who was Assistant Chief of Transportation during World War II, recently wrote: "The H-bomb, the A-bomb, guided missiles, atomic cannon, jet power and a host of other implements of war that have become reality, have led a good portion of public opinion to believe that our dependence upon the 'staple commodities' of warfare, such as transportation, has been reduced. The hard, cold facts are that improved railroad facilities, super-highways, airport and airplane development, and more modern ships are all needed right now in the interests of national security.

"Ocean transportation becomes increasingly vital as Communist pressure on the free world continues to mount and our treaties with freedom-loving countries expand the 'defense perimeter' within which we are pledged to counteract aggression."

Ships always have been a lifeline between the fighting front and the production line. Nothing has happened to change that historical fact.

ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Monopolies and cartels—which dominate basic industry in a long list of foreign countries—generally have certain things in common. They restrict production. They force prices up. They are opposed to improving products—for the customer is in the position he must take whatever they want to offer or do without.

Enterprise which operates under the free competitive system in the U. S. also has certain things in common—very different things. Goods are produced in abundance. Prices are held to the lowest level that will pay the costs of carrying on the business plus a moderate profit. Products aren't static—they are forever in the process of being improved.

The American oil industry is a first-class example of how well the interests of the consumer is served under free competition. The most widespread of the thousands of products that come from crude oil is gasoline. As everyone knows, it is universally available—were rarely more than a few miles from a service station. In terms of the labor required for us to earn the money to buy it, it has become steadily cheaper. In 1925 it took 24 minutes of working time to buy a gallon; in 1935 it took 21 minutes, and now it takes only 10 minutes. These figures include gasoline taxes, which are up more than 250 per cent since 1925, and over which the industry has no control. Finally, today's gasoline is at least 50 per cent better in quality than the 1925 product—which means that two gallons do the work three used to do.

The history of free industrial competition in America is a history of more products, better products and lower-priced products in terms of the labor needed to buy them.

GRASS ROOTS OPINION

RTD HOOK, N. Y., ADVERTISER: "A Reinebeck woman has been arrested on a charge of refusing to yield a telephone party line in a fire emergency. . . . It is good to know that there is a law protecting the status of the telephone as an emergency weapon."

PINE BLUFF, ARK., COMMERCIAL: "It is a spiritually broadening and soul-strengthening habit to go occasionally to the church of another faith than yours. Were this practiced more widely a greater understanding of our fellow men would be engendered."

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINN., DAILY JOURNAL: "The pay-your-own-way spirit which dominates a sizeable portion of our agricultural population was dramatically demonstrated . . . when Minnesota's dairy farmers repaid an 18-year-old debt of \$20,000 to the state treasury . . . thereby demonstrating a respect for public funds that is all too rare in our times."

THAT'S A FACT

GOLDEN TIME
TO PROVE HE WAS THE MOST POWERFUL MONARCH OF HISTORY, ROMAN EMPEROR VITELLIUS HAD HIS CHIEF PROTEST OF GALL, WHO DETERMINED THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE SEASONS, TO EXTEND THE SPIN OF THE YEAR BY ONE MINUTE! HIS LITTLE STUNT COST VITELLIUS A QUARTER OF A BILLION DOLLARS.

SIMPLE ARITHMETIC
BURN UP IN THE PREVIOUS MONTHS PLAN WHERE YOU WANT TO INVEST YOUR MONEY IN THE NEXT YEAR YOU WILL USE CASH VALUES.

FINE TIME
BURNING WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM A DOCTOR IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN IN THE REVOLUTIONARY SYSTEM.

AGAINST SAVING MONEY AND IF YOU WANT YOUR MONEY BY INVESTING IN BETTER THAN BANKS, BOND DIVIDENDS, STOCKS, BONDS, MUTUAL FUNDS AND YOUR COUNTRY A GREAT SERVICE / YOU'RE BUYING SECURITY FOR YOUR FAMILY AND FOR YOUR OWN FUTURE!

BEHIND THE SCENES IN AMERICAN BUSINESS

—BY RENOLDS KNIGHT—

New York, Feb. 28—Analysts of the steel industry here have begun to breathe easier about last-half of 1955 demand. They are hopeful for reasons which reach far beyond Wall Street or Detroit and Pittsburgh into the concerns of business large and small everywhere.

First—As of now, large warehouses who stock steel in forms other than the sheet and strip type used by the auto makers are staying out of the market. Even though their inventories are low, they don't want to have to bid against the auto makers; but when the auto needs begins to taper off these outlets will be ordering steel to replenish their inventories.

Second—Farm machinery orders are holding up well. The machinery makers say figures showing farm income declining are deceptive to a certain extent, in that although total income is decreasing it is shared by a farm population that is falling faster. This means bigger farms, requiring and able to buy more machines.

Third—Although railroad equipment buying is still low, carloadings and earnings figures are beginning to make better comparisons with a year ago, and railroads are back in the market.

Fourth—No matter what becomes of President Eisenhower's programs for schools and highways, thousands of local programs have reached the contracting stage. That means steel when building opens up in earnest, around May.

Put together, these projects also mean a host of local jobs.

ROLLING 'EM UP—Ever give a thought to the collapsible metal tubes which are so much a part of your life? Chances are you haven't. These unique metal containers have been around so long—more than a hundred years—that they have become taken-for-granted items. Into them go dozens of things: dentifrices, medicines and pharmaceuticals, household and industrial products such as adhesives, greases and wood pastes, cosmetics, shaving creams and even foods.

In 1954 nearly a billion—959,902,704, to be exact—of these lightweight, sanitary, nonrefillable roll-up containers were turned out. A figure just slightly under the 1953 peak, the first such tube was patented in 1841 by an American, John Rand, for paints and other fluids. Molded of lead, it is

General Mark Clark, national chairman of the 1955 Heart Fund, on a recent visit to Fayetteville, helps fill a plastic heart held by seven-year-old Jan Hicks, as Colonel J. J. Hockstien, Cumberland County Heart chairman, looks on. Jan's grandmother is one of 10 million heart sufferers in the nation.

Gen. Clark Receives Heart Fund Report

General Mark Clark, president of The Citadel, Charleston, S. C., and national chairman of the 1955 Heart Fund, on a recent visit to Fort Bragg, received a report on the progress of the Heart Fund in this state from William W. Wood, executive director of the North Carolina Heart Association.

Wood told General Clark that a preliminary check of receipts in the Heart Sunday collection in 24 communities on February 20, together with additional contributions received through the mails, shows that the statewide campaign has already passed the \$100,000 mark.

General Clark emphasized in an interview that 75 percent of all funds collected in North Carolina will remain in the state to support the Heart Association's program of research, lay and professional education, and community service. Of the 25 percent which is sent to the American Heart Association, General Clark stated, half is pledged to research and a large proportion of North Carolina's payment is returned to this state in the form of research grants and fellowships.

"To expand our vital research activities in the interests of the 10,000,000 Americans who now have some sort of heart or blood vessel disease, and in the interests of the millions who may contract these diseases in future years," General Clark concluded, "we hope to exceed by far the \$11,330,195 contributed nationally to the Heart Fund in 1954. I should like to make a special request that all North Carolinians who were not contacted personally on Heart Sunday, send their contributions to their local committees or to 'Heart,' care of their local post office."

WASHINGTON REPORT

BY BILL WHITLEY

now in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington. The company which was the first to use Rand's tubes is still in business and using them for the very purpose for which they were first designed.

THINGS TO COME—Now the retail store owner can have do-it-yourself reflecting signs. A kit contains sheeting and alphabets of letters to be traced and cut out. . . . A duplicating stamp for making tags and labels produces 100 1-x-3-inch imprints from each master copy. . . . A three-wheeled plastic automobile, shown at the Auto Sports show here last week, costs \$1,000 and runs 4.5 miles on a gallon of gasoline. . . . Prefabricated fireplaces can now be purchased for \$350 apiece, if one would improve your home.

PATIENCE REWARDED—How many weeks or months of planning lie behind the introduction of a new product on the American merchandising scene? Much depends on the item itself, of course, but the U. S. is currently watching the debut of a product that has been "in the works" for over 10 years!

Some years ago Schenley decided that its Canadian whisky, a favorite in such selective foreign markets as Paris, Tokyo, Rome and Nassau, should be made available in this country.

To accomplish this a three-point expansion program was undertaken: first, the purchase of one of Canada's finest distilleries (in Valleyfield, Quebec); second, the investment of more than \$12,000,000 to make this distillery the most modern and one of the largest in the Dominion; third, the establishment there of the same network of controls which safeguards the quality of all of the company's U. S. brands.

In December of 1954 the years of patient planning, building and waiting paid off. Canadian Schenley O.F.C. premiered in the United States and in a few short months has taken its place among the favored few brands imported from our good neighbor to the north.

HOUSING CHECKUP—Albert M. Cole, Federal Housing administrator, is keeping an eye on the continuing housing boom. Latest report: Perfectly healthy.

Cole made a study of the unusual amount of building activity which took place in the normally slack winter months. He reported to the other government economic units concerned that he found no saturation of the market, apart from a few scattered apartment vacancies. Credit was not excessive.

The other groups making their independent surveys are the Council of Economic Advisers, the Department of Commerce, the Treasury Department, and the Federal Reserve Board. The permanent federal units think the boom is a healthy one; the Economic Advisers feel some restrictions on lending might be in order about May.

BITS O' BUSINESS—Steel scrap prices advanced, generally a dollar a ton. . . . Tourists in Western Europe will spend \$500 million this year, says a report to the United Nations. . . . Three soybean processing plants shut down in a day because bean prices were too high. . . . Crude rubber, which rose on Ike's Formosa statement, has lost all that gain and a cent a pound besides.

SURPLUS. Senator W. Kerr Scott joined a movement this week to channel millions of dollars worth of surplus government property to schools and hospitals in North Carolina.

A squabble has turned up in Washington about how the government should handle a large part of its surplus property, equipment and supplies.

WAR. In the immediate years after World War II, billions of dollars worth of surplus war materials and supplies were disposed of by the old War Assets Administration. The bulk of it went to firms and individuals who bought it for a song and sold it at fabulous profits.

In 1949 Congress passed a law that required government agencies to give educational and public health institutions first crack at property and equipment that had been declared surplus. Upon request, the Federal government would make outright gifts to fill approved needs. The schools, health offices and hospitals would have to pay only the charges for handling and shipping, which amounted to a mere fraction of the market value.

NORTH CAROLINA. Under the program, North Carolina schools and hospitals have received real estate, equipment and supplies valued at over 39 million dollars. They received typewriters, paper, desks, chairs, tables, filing cabinets, all sorts of laboratory equipment and many other items that were declared surplus by the Federal government.

BOOST. Added together, it was a big shot in the arm for schools and hospitals that were in bad need of equipment at a time when they were watching budgets.

However, under a directive issued about a year ago, the Department of Defense drastically cut the flow of surplus equipment going to schools and hospitals. It started selling surpluses on a bid basis, cutting the legs from under needy institutions.

Under a recent bill introduced in the Senate, the Defense Department would be required to offer all surplus material to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for distribution to schools and hospitals before open sales are held. In short, it would mean that the former surplus program would be put back into operation.

SCOTT. Senator Scott, in announcing his support of the measure, said it was of vital concern to every health and educational institution in North Carolina.

"There is a tremendous need for the surplus equipment the schools and hospitals have been getting in the past," he said. "In July and August alone last year, North Carolina schools and hospitals requested equipment and supplies totaling almost \$700,000. There is no reason at all why schools and hospitals shouldn't get the first opportunity to obtain equipment once it has been de-

clared surplus and of no further value to the Federal government."

Scott said he had received "quite a number of letters" from school and health officials in the State supporting the surplus disposal program.

Senator McClellan, Chairman of the Government Operations Committee, introduced the bill. This committee, of which Senator Erwin is a member, will hold hearings on the bill.

Motor Manners Can Save A Life

Raleigh—Your motor manners can save a life.

That statement was made this week by Major W. B. Lentz of the State Highway Patrol to spark the Motor Vehicles Department's year around program for traffic courtesy.

"A traffic accident," Major Lentz said, "is pretty generally a result of negative action—of not heeding the law, of not driving defensively, of not adhering to simple good manners. There is no way of estimating how many lives might be saved every year by the exercise of a little consideration, tolerance and patience, but the number probably would be staggering."

Major Lentz said that many of the state's annual traffic accidents involving pedestrians are perfect examples of how lack of motor manners can be deadly.

"In 1953—the last year for which we have complete figures—224 pedestrians were killed in traffic in North Carolina. About half of these unfortunate people were using the street or highway unsafely. They were, in other words, being discourteous or disregarding others' rights in the use of the roadway. Add to this figure the number of discourteous drivers also on the highway at the same time and there is nothing surprising in the death toll."

The patrol executive cited National Safety Council figures showing that in practically all traffic accidents either the driver, the pedestrian—or both—was violating a traffic law or a safe practice. The same statistics hold true for the Tar Heel State. And in either case, he said, bad motor manners are involved.

"Motor courtesy is easily acquired," Major Lentz said, "but it can be put into practice only with the exercise of constant attention. The courteous driver is the one who says, 'I'm going to save a life today, by watching my manners behind the wheel.'"

North Carolina turkey growers indicate they will decrease their turkey production by about 25 per cent in 1955, according to the North Carolina Farm Report.

Methyl bromide gas for soil fumigation on vegetable plant beds should be applied when temperature is 50 degrees or above, used.

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