

Disastrous Appeasement

The peace-at-almost-any-price attitude, which from all appearances is the foundation of United States foreign policy at the present time, is based on the fear that any firm stand against the designs or actions of the Soviet Union would result in nuclear war.

In the latter connection Ferenc Nagy, the last Premier of Hungary before the country came under Communist domination, and who has been living in the United States for the past nine years, had this to say: "It is not observation or sympathy that is needed in Hungary, but rather concrete action on the part of the Western world."

Apart from the obvious fact that this nuclear-war phobia on the part of the United States Government, especially when it is publicized by high officials almost daily, is the best cold-war weapon Soviet leaders have had so far—since, of course, it gives carte blanche to their aggressive and murderous plans—is it, in fact, legitimate in its own right? Why should it be assumed that the Russians have no fear of nuclear war or that they would start one rather than accede to a demand from the West backed up by threat of force, especially when the demand does not involve any infringement on their lawful rights? Does the United States Government believe that the Soviet Union is so powerful that the West must continue to cower before its threats until one area after another falls into its hands? The British and French Governments, who probably are as well informed about the military status of the Soviet Union as any government in the world, obviously don't believe it, else they would not have taken unilateral action in the Middle East. Certainly they have more to fear from nuclear warfare than has the United States.

In any event, whatever the hazards may be, it is incredible that the Soviet Union must be permitted to kill and plunder and enslave peoples at will just because a "show of force" by the West might result in war. And is it not preposterous for American leaders to broadcast that impression to the world every time a crisis looms on the political horizon?

A Curious Observation

A little phrase used by Premier Chou En-lai of China in one of his rare speeches of late is worth at least a passing reference. In talking about the bright future of his country he remarked: "What comes after Communism I don't know, but it may be something better." If that was not a mere slip of the tongue, to which all politicians are subject on occasion, it was a curious observation for one who hitherto has taught the doctrine of communistic infallibility. It has been suggested that perhaps the words were intended as a sort of credential for Red China's perennial application for membership in the United Nations. But that is scarcely plausible, since no one in the U.N. is likely to be impressed by a suggestion of what China may do or be say a hundred years from now. Perhaps a better speculation is

that Chou En-lai wants the Russians to understand that Chinese Communism is not the same thing as Soviet Communism and that Peiping is determined to be master of its own destiny.

Not much has been heard of Soviet-Sino relations in recent months, what with weightier matters occupying the world's attention, but there is a rumour going the rounds that Moscow and Peiping do not see eye to eye on a number of issues involving the character and aims of the ideology which they are supposed to share in common. There is even some talk of China's looking more and more to India and other points south for potential political friendship (neutrality) and less and less towards the Soviet Union. There's probably nothing to these speculations; but something is bothering Mr. Chou, or he would never have spoken of "something better" to come—unless, as noted above, it was a mere slip of the tongue.

"National Sovereignty"

On "national sovereignty" in the Middle East, Washington feels strongly and Ottawa feels like Washington. The shoe was on the other foot, however, in every instance where American interests have been directly involved. The New York Times recalls one historical parallel concerning Mexico and Texas. It seems that at late as 1916 a certain amount of resentment lingered among Mexicans who thought national sovereignty should be inviolable. They still didn't like the way the Mexican province of Texas had been made a state of the American Union. It seems, further, that some of the more active of them began to exercise their resentment in raids across the border into the U.S. territory that used to be Mexico. They were known in Washington as Mexican bandits and, when their border raids became too irritating, a United States army invaded Mexico. The U.S. Secretary for War set forth the reason for the invasion in a note to the government of Mexico. The key sentence, as up-to-date and topical as though it had been sent from Israel to Egypt last week, explains that the apparent aggression was not one in fact. Washington "had no recourse other than to employ force to disperse the bands of Mexican outlaws who were with increasing boldness systematically raiding across international boundaries."

EDITORIAL NOTES

A traffic expert recommends "a nap or a restful spell in an easy chair" after meals for persons who plan to go driving. Others, too, will accept the recommendation without too much grumbling.

Democratic Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, has charged the Eisenhower administration with "playing by ear" in foreign affairs. It's an apt phrase.

Canada's wheat surplus is 7% larger than a year ago, despite a 12 million bushel increase in exports during August and September. On Oct. 1, the last date for which records are available, supplies stood at nearly 858 million bushels.

In addition to his new duties as Minister of State Control, V. L. Molotov has taken over control of Soviet "culture." As a good beginning he might consider better diplomatic manners for Nikita Khrushchev, Russia's chief communist. That certainly would be cultural achievement of great value.

Not all British Labourites were opposed to the Government's policy in the Middle East crisis. At least one Labour member of Parliament has resigned his seat in opposition to the official stand of his group. In his letter of resignation he criticized the United States for "perfidy over Suez." There probably are many others who were less than enthusiastic about the party's political manoeuvrings at a time of crisis.



EMERGENCY SESSION

Alberta's Hutterites

Andrew Snodden in the Montreal Gazette Calgary—A few years ago, the Alberta Government thought it had found a solution to the Hutterite problem—a problem keenly felt here than anywhere else in the world, although Manitoba and Saskatchewan have recently become aware of it as well.

There are approximately 10,000 Hutterites in the world, and more than half of them live in "colonies" in Alberta. Their way of life is truly communal. Owning nothing as individuals, they pool their labors. In this, they claim to be following Christ's own injunction to His followers, that they should "have all things in common."

Some 75 years ago the Hutterites left Russia (they then numbered some 400) and moved to the Dakota country in the United States. Being pacifists, they refused to bear arms when the U.S. entered the First World War. This aroused resentment which caused them, after that war, to start moving into Western Canada.

A SCOTSMAN'S AMERICAN LOG

Great American Railroad

By Wilfred Taylor of The Edinburgh Scotsman CHICAGO—Looking back on the way we have come to recall that it was cool and drizzling when we stepped on the Twentieth Century, Chicago-bound, at Harmon, New York. We introduced ourselves to the assistant stationmaster, a tall scholarly man. "Why, Mr. Taylor," he said, "I'm glad to know you. There must have been some confusion. We held up the Commodore a couple of minutes for you." We were impressed to learn that a crack train had been held up on our account, through no fault of ours.

The big diesel locomotive took the train over, and we climbed up the steep ladder into the cab and met engineer Cavanagh and his fireman. The cab was surprisingly roomy and we stood in the middle. "If I'd known you were coming," explained the engineer, "I'd have fixed up a spare seat." Slowly we picked up speed, and the 17-car train was soon racing along the Hudson valley in the darkness. It was fairly quiet in the cab and the riding was not noticeably rough. The headlight was switched on and we settled down to a steady 70 miles an hour. Brightly lit stations flashed past, and it was rather exciting as we moved into curves or passed another train.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Rudessen, M.D. GOOD SICK - ROOM VISITOR OBSERVES EIGHT RULES Few things can be more irritating to someone who is ill than an inconsiderate visitor. Even for someone who is recovering, and happily looking forward to getting on his feet soon, a visit by a thoughtless friend can quickly bring gloom and despair.

- 1. Don't just barge in. Learn from a relative or friend when it is convenient to call. Don't call a doctor or nurse to ask about visiting the patient. 2. Be adaptable to the patient's mood and remember to be slightly on the cheerful side. 3. Don't sit down unless asked to do so. And if you do sit, don't sit in the patient's light or in a position where he will have to strain to see you. 4. Shake hands only if the sick person offers his hand first. Speak in a natural tone.

THE POET'S CORNER

RABBIT SEASON The silver trees by rain are turned to darkened silver, to the tarnish of lovely pewter where the burn and golden blaze of leaves have vanished. The deer have eaten all the fallen russet apples; drenched, they search for wilder windfalls up the mountain. Under the white and leafless birch a rabbit puts his paws together, hearing the autumn guns again. On his final day of silver weather he drinks the tender sound of rain.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (November 26, 1931) Mr. B. W. Robinson left on Tuesday morning for Halifax, where he will represent the Summerside Board of Trade at the annual meeting of the Maritime Board. Mr. Robinson, who has been active in Board of trade work for many years, anticipates a successful meeting at which time the problems of transportation within the Maritimes and to Upper Canada will receive discussion.

A sea food, thought extinct for 15 years, was served at a supper tendered the Canadian Association of Tourist and Publicity Bureaus at Toronto last night. Malpeque oysters from Prince Edward Island provided the supper. Hon. G. Shelton Sharp, P.E.I. Minister of Agriculture, secured a license to cultivate what few oysters remained 15 years ago. This year he picked 20 barrels of oysters.

TEN YEARS AGO (November 26, 1946) Construction of the new building for the accommodation of the nurses of the Prince Edward Island Hospital is progressing steadily with the ground floor practically completed. The building will be approximately 43 feet by 135. Class rooms, lecture rooms and demonstration rooms will be located on the ground floor, while living quarters for 70 nurses will be provided on the upper floors.

The Provincial Government has ordered a survey of the Charlottetown-Royal area for two planning purposes. The order-in-council granting authority for the survey was made last Friday. The Provincial Planning Board under whose auspices the survey will be made, comprises Messrs L. W. Shaw, R.G. White, W. R. Shaw, and Lieut. Col. F. S. Fielding.

The Age Old Story

Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. HEAVY RAINS Average annual rainfall in the wettest parts of Malaysia reaches 165 inches. SEATTLE TRANSIT STRIKE SEATTLE (AP) - Fifteen hundred Seattle transit system employees, backing demands for an 18-cent hourly pay increase, walked off their jobs Friday morning and left the 60,000 people who ride the city's buses without means of municipal transportation. The strike left downtown Seattle a massive traffic jam.

MAXIMS

No sadder proof can be given by a man of his own silliness than disbelieve in great men.

NOTES BY THE WAY

These days when a young man asks the girl's father it's usually for the car keys.—Wall Street Journal. According to reports from Copenhagen, the musk oxen in Greenland, which has the largest concentration of these animals, are dwindling in numbers and may become extinct. Unless mankind learns to settle its quarrels peaceably, it may go the same way.—Ottawa Citizen. A widespread suspicion among doctors has now been scientifically confirmed. An analysis of 33,000 births in five hospitals in three different localities has shown that more babies actually are born in the gruesomely early hours of the morning than at any other time. By and large doctors have done a remarkably good job of persuading patients to arrange to have their illnesses and fractures during office hours. But their efforts to get the stork to carry a watch have been a flop to date.—Winnipeg Tribune.

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