

WHAT GOES ON IN THE WORLD

by Norman Blair

THE FAR EAST

The Russian position, as regards the Orient, is about like this: The victories in China have aroused Communist hopes of sweeping on to engulf vast areas, populated by hundreds of millions.

During the Paris conference Vishinsky gave a hint regarding these Communist hopes. He proposed that a Japanese peace treaty be put before a four-power conference of the four big powers, the United States, China, Britain and the Soviet Union.

The purpose of such a line-up is fairly clear. The Russians would look for an alignment between themselves and the Chinese Communists, on one hand, against Britain and the U.S.A., on the other. It is the major aim of the Kremlin to get a treaty which would end the American occupation of Japan.

Since the defeat of the Chinese Nationalists, the policy of the Western powers has been in doubt, and just what lines the new policy will take is by no means certain. It is thought, however, that the United States and other Western powers with Far Eastern interests are inclined to extend limited recognition to Communist China, such as the retention of consulates and so on. But full diplomatic recognition would be certain to set off bitter controversy, especially in the United States, where 21 Senators—including both Republicans and Democrats—have demanded the President's assurance that the Chinese Communist regime will not be recognized, and that support for Chinese Nationalists will not be abandoned.

In his message to Congress President Truman said that the proposed Far Eastern program is designed to help such areas lift themselves out of "grim poverty, and to steer clear of 'false destinies'."

Whatever else this may mean it seems clear that the West is in no mood to relax its vigilance over the Russian bear as yet—while it is probably just as well from our point of view.

GREAT BRITAIN

The Conservatives have announced that Winston Churchill is soon to make a speech outlining his Party's policy. (Possibly it may have been made before this sees print.) As a result of that announcement, both the Conservatives and the Labour Party were feeling somewhat nervous.

Although Mr. Churchill may be in close contact with his party leaders there is little doubt that he is further out of touch with the rank and file of his supporters at any time since the last election. And there is a strong feeling that if he merely blasted the Socialists, he would slow down the quickening pace of the Conservative revival.

"If he would only speak of the Socialists more in sorrow than in anger it would be effective," one Canadian observer puts it, "but the old warrior has always preferred the bludgeon to the poisoned flower."

Following its Whitstable recess, the British House of Commons made its first job an examination of the tourist situation. It is the course of discussion it was disclosed that the tourist industry is one of Britain's chief dollar earners.

Last year 505,000 visitors came to Britain, of whom 140,000 were Americans or Canadians. They earned Britain something like \$50,000,000.

This year, April visitors were 43 per cent above 1948. By 1952 or 1953 Britain expects to earn 65 million pounds from tourism, of which about half should be in dollars. And this is of utmost importance to British and European recovery which is balanced precariously over the "dollar gap."

This importance is thoroughly realized, and the House of Commons debated, towards the end of June, on just how Britain could be made more attractive and welcoming to overseas visitors. From now on big efforts will be put forth to improve services to visiting holiday-makers.

YUGOSLAVIA

It looks very much as though the latest Big Four meeting may have widened one of the cracks in the Russian Orbit—that is, judging from Vishinsky's abandonment, at the Paris conference, of Yugoslav claims to Austrian territory.

Of course, this Austrian agreement is "no principle" only, and the "no" on the treaty is only just starting up. Vishinsky's last-minute

Attempt to attach additional conditions, shows, once again, that one can never know what the Russians are liable to do between one minute and the next.

But as things stand for Tito as of now, he is without support from Moscow in the territorial dispute between Yugoslavia and Austria. This is noteworthy because this dispute is not simply between the two countries. It has been an East-West question. On East-West questions Yugoslav leaders have repeatedly proclaimed themselves loyal to the eastern bloc, even though they admitted having "family quarrels" with Moscow.

Evidently this feeling of solidarity in international affairs is not matched in the Kremlin, nor does the Politburo seem particularly grateful to Tito for sticking to the eastern bloc against the West. So, will Tito feel that he has been in effect released from earlier pledges of loyalty to Moscow as against the West? Or will he read the news from Paris as handwriting on the Iron Curtain spelling out new warnings on the price of back talk?

SPORTS

by A. SUBIT CRITIC

Our friends among the horsemen never did have a proper appreciation of our ability to pick winners. In fact, we recall, as we have doubtless told you before, one afternoon at Long Branch when, by some miracle, we had bet on a very long shot which managed to stagger home in front, and were uttering over the discomfiture of those around us who had gone, hook, line and sinker, for the favorite "decimates."

But we quickly got our composure from the lips of Tom Bird, dean of Canadian clockers. "Even a blind pig," observed Mr. Bird sourly, is liable to pick up one ace."

So now that we have selected, and predicted, another winner—though not on the race track this time—you will pardon us if we indulge in a spot of toby-toying. Shortly after the running of our great Canadian "classic" we published the following paragraphs, which you can check against what actually happened on June 27th, for accuracy.

Down at Woodbine Park on King's Plate Day, several prominent Progressive Conservatives were very much disgusted when a gentleman who had backed the winner, Epic, and who was feeling very gleeful about it, pointed out in tones that could be heard for half a block that what had just happened was the very finest sort of a bunch for the future.

"There," he said, "is an exact picture of what is going to come off on June 27. The George McCullagh entry gets away from the gate badly, is slow as a going, and although continuing with real courage through the stretch, is never able to seriously threaten the winner, who ran as though considerably 'beet'."

Just in case you do not happen to catch the meaning of the allusion we shall merely inform you that the "George McCullagh entry" in the Dominion Stakes set for June 27 is a gentleman named George Drew—and let it go at that.

Now, on looking it over again, we see that we did something else that was worthy of note. That phrase "considerably the best" is probably one of the greatest pieces of understatement on record.

From far-away British Columbia sound loud wails of distress over the lacrosse situation under the West Coast Province has been one of the few remaining hotbeds of that once-great game; but now, even there, spectator and player interest appear to be slipping badly.

Countless speeches have been made, reams upon reams of stuff have been written and published, outlining various views as to the real reason for the decline of lacrosse—for our money the grandest sport ever played on this continent. (And if this be treason, hockey, baseball and football bugs, make what you like out of it.)

Some will try and tell you that out-and-out professionalism—with the consequent flow of the best talent to the larger centers, where the getting was better—was the chief

cause of its falling-off in popularity. Which seems rather queer, when you consider the fact that the boys take their pay regularly and out in the open. It doesn't seem to harm, for instance, baseball and hockey.

Others place the blame on—well, practically everything in the Alpha-bet, starting with Automobiles and continuing on down.

Personally, we would be inclined to split the blame three ways. First of all, Women. In the palmy days of the sport, a large percentage of lacrosse games ended up in mob scenes, with players and spectators alike taking part.

This was fair enough when the cash customers were largely of the male persuasion. But when the women-folk insisted on coming along—well, they just couldn't seem to appreciate the beauty of fists and sticks, swinging wildly, and mostly going flying freely from faces of faces.

So, when the ladies decided it was too brutal for them, they also came to the conclusion that it was equally insalubrious for the males under their pay. To put it briefly, Maw stayed away, and insisted on Paw staying with her.

Second, The Moving Pictures. Just as every girl conceals in her bosom the thought that, with any kind of a break, she could run Rita Hayworth out of the park, so modern youth has a feeling that, one day or other, he will be tapped for Hollywood to become a new thrill for the boobies sex trade.

Now it is a well-known fact, that no lad, after indulging in a couple of seasons of lacrosse as he once was played, retained sufficient photographic qualities to be anything more alluring than a cinema mermaid. And so the youngsters, instead of getting into the game, took to other pastimes.

Third, and finally, we blame the Sports Writers. When the game was abbreviated, they insisted—and still continue to do so—on abbreviating its name from Lacrosse to Bockla. And this, we honestly believe, did Lacrosse more harm than any other single factor. "Let's go to the Bockla game," may sound like an alluring invitation to you. But to us it presents no more temptation—in fact not nearly as much—as a bid to go out for an evening of Bingo.

Marcia Evanson, of the WCCO radio station's publicity department in Minneapolis, unable to sleep one night, reached for a sleeping tablet by the dark, swallowed it, and promptly fell asleep.

Next morning she discovered no sleeping tablet missing. Her bed, however, swallowed a rhinestone ear-ring.

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THE FARM FRONT

by John Russell

"Don't Poison Your Livestock" is the heading of a warning sent out by a prominent University veterinary expert; and although we've probably heard all this before, we are you took yesterday isn't going to save the stock you may, inadvertently, poison today. So here goes.

This expert's name is Dr. R. P. Link, by the way—lists eleven articles, in common use around farms, as being especially dangerous.

Cattle are sometimes poisoned when they lick lead paint from old painted barns or stables.

Nitrate fertilizers are deadly to cattle, so don't leave empty fertilizer sacks where the cattle can get at them.

"Treated" grain is a livestock poison. Hogs and salt brine make another deadly combination, so if you have a salt trough for pigs, keep it covered against rain.

Medicines such as carbon disulphide, sodium fluoride and nicotine sulphate can kill, when given in the wrong amounts. Rat and groundhog poisons, insect sprays and grasshopper bait are other deadly mixtures.

Best place for such livestock poisons, Dr. Link suggests, is where livestock can't possibly get at them. A lot of farmers keep such things in the garage which might be such a bad idea.

And it might be a bad idea, either, to remind you that driving tractors too close to ditches takes the lives of several farmers, each summer.

One man, who got stuck in a ditch, but whose tractor fortunately didn't happen to fall over on him, said, "From now on I'm going to allow two extra men to look after tractor wheels and the ditch bank for safety. Tractors under load just seem to be sucked right into ditches."

The speaker of a Canadian—J. H. Evans, Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Manitoba—is described as one of the highlights of the meeting of the National Polled Cattle Promotion Club, held recently in Waterloo, Iowa.

Mr. Evans told the audience about how the Prairie Provinces—Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta—collect a penalty of one dollar per head on all horned cattle sold at public markets; and how the fund, so collected, is used to promote the production and marketing of hornless cattle.

Speaking of Canada's market for farm products Evans said, "It's just as necessary to grade the farm products as it is to grade the man."

On a farm about 70 miles from New York City, Bonnie Brown found fame and fortune in spinning yarn on an old-fashioned Colonial spinning wheel.

It all started seven years ago when Bonnie's husband brought home a couple of Easter bunnies. Their two little girls soon tired of feeding and caring for the little white Angoras, so Bonnie took over.

She read up on rabbits, attended shows, and learned to clip and pluck them. Then a friend taught her to spin. Bonnie bought a spinning wheel and started turning the Angora wool into yarn.

A dollar and ten cents will buy 25 yards of it. Or Bonnie will knit a lady's sweater for \$45 to \$65. A baby set—sweater, hat, booties and mitts—sells for \$29.50. But Bonnie's profits don't stop there. She'll teach you to spin, and sell you a spinning wheel from her collection.

With orders coming in from all over the country, Bonnie's Bunnies has become a full-time occupation for Bonnie and takes up every minute her two daughters, now 14 and 16, can spare from their school work.

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Knew The Answer

In the southern U.S. the whites are strongly against Negroes voting. However, strong liberal opposition has caused the anti-black to retreat somewhat. There are still those who would bar the colored people from their democratic right and yet not let the Northerners think that they were doing so. These people have devised what are loosely called educational tests which the Negro must pass in order to be eligible to vote.

One time a Negro who had a Ph.D. in romance and classical languages sought to vote in Alabama. The clerk gave him a number of foreign-language newspapers to read. "If you can read these, I'll know you're literate," said the clerk, "and you'll be permitted to vote." The Negro read the French, German and Russian papers without hesitation. The clerk grew flustered. He handed him a Polish and Italian newspaper and again the colored man read them fluently. "Read this," challenged the clerk, tossing a Chinese newspaper on the table. The Negro looked up with a sad smile. "It says that Negroes can't vote in Alabama."

Land in "good" communities, as you probably know, brings a premium as compared with the same type of farm in a "poor"