WHAT GOES ON IN THE WORLD

by Norman Ridge

AUSTRIA

There is still probably a lot of hard bargaining ahead; but it looks as if the conclusion of a Peace Treaty between the Big Four nations on one side, and Austria on the other, is much nearer realization than it was just a month or so ago.

Here are some of the signs that point to this:

(1) The four deputy foreign ministers have agreed to hear a representative of Yugoslavia if he will come forward and state that country's claims against Austria. It was on the issue of these claims that the talks broke down last May.

(2) The Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Minister, while in London, indicated that he is willing to put forward compromise proposals and that he is in a mood to bargain. He is expected to water down Yugoslavia's previous claim to a slice of Austrian Carinthia, in addition to $150,000 millions worth of reparations.

(3) The Soviet delegate has said that Russia still insists on $150 millions, in convertible currency, as lump-sum price of relinquishing its claim to German assets in Austria. But it is definitely believed that Russia is prepared to bargain on this point — that is, if the Western Allies will make the first offer.

There are other developmnts, too lengthy to mention here, but altogether the atmosphere is much more favorable of a settlement of some kind soon. Russia is believed to be ready to quit Austria, because the longer it stays the more unpopular it becomes there. But the Kremlin boys want to extract as big a sum as possible as the price for leave taking. Hence the Russian claim for $150 millions in lieu of German assets, to be paid by Austria within five years.

It is obvious that the Russians know that Austria cannot scrape up any such sum. But it is just as obvious that the Russians expect that the United States is to pay the bill, if only to get the Stalinites out of Austria.

And the chances seem to be that they are right — although the price will probably be scaled down a bit when the final settlement comes.

HUNGARY

Once he got clear of that country, the United States Minister to Hungary didn't mince words about conditions there. On his way home so report to Washington regarding the Cardinal Mindszenty case, Selden Chapin told newspapermen that it was "a wonderful feeling to breathe the free air of France."

"As far as conditions in Hungary are concerned," he said, "I would like to say this much: That no one today, except the blind and twisted, can fail to see that the Hungarian people are under the complete, total domination of Moscow-trained Communists whose sole allegiance is to the Kremlin.

"I can say this," Chapin added, "that unless a person has actually lived in Hungary or any of the "curtain" countries and learned from personal observation the facts of life, he or she cannot possibly conceive what that life is like."

Somebody asked Chapin what he thought would be the result if free elections could be held in Hungary tomorrow. "I think anti-Communist majority would be overwhelming. The percentage of Communist votes would probably be less than in many Western European countries."

GREAT BRITAIN

Whale oil — and whale meat — have come to play a big part in British economy — the oil, especially, being a very considerable factor in maintaining the United Kingdom's soap and fat rations.

So it was really good news when the Whale Meat Advisory Bureau reported recently that the latest British expedition to the Antarctic had enjoyed the best whaling season, in oil yield, since the war.

In London, Prince Philip recently did a bit of kidding at the expense of the tailoring profession. At a banquet of the Master Tailors' Benevolent Association at Grosvenor House, the Prince heard himself described as "the perfect example of how a Britisher should be dressed on all occasions."

The Prince good-humoredly chided the tailors. "Every man would probably like to start a fashion," he said, "but most men have a tailor, and the greatest enemy of starting a fashion is a man's tailor. Imagine if I were to go in and order a coat of many colors or stripes. Would any of you gentlemen make it for me?"

The Prince, we think, should really pay a visit to Canada, if that's the way he feels. From the looks of many of the more youthful males, as they walk down the streets, it would appear as though tailors on this side of the water would be willing to make a coat or suit out of red, white and blue bunting, or any other material whatsoever.

New Mechanical Hand With Joints—This is an experimental model of a new mechanical hand being tested at the Emergency Limb Center in London. It is seen picking up a ball bearing between finger and thumb. It has also successfully picked up pins, cigarettes and other small objects.

SPORTS — &c

by A Sixbit Critic

Now it might seem, to most folks, that if there is one commodity regarding which there exists no shortage or scarcity, it is these Annual Award things. We have yearly Awards for the best dressed male, the best undressed—we mean the most attractively undressed female, the champion spuds grower, the kid with the greatest crop of reckles, the least ungentlemanly hockey player, and so on, and so on, Award without end, Amen!

* * *

Still, in spite of this plethora—(we hope that means what we think it does)—of Annual Awards, we personally feel that there should be still another. It would be for the "Most Sympathetic Man of the Year" or maybe "The Man Whose Heart Bleeds Most Readily for Down Trodden Humanity" would be choicer phrasing. And if any reader of this column would like to chip in with a few dibs to finance a suitable Trophy—then the readers of this column are nuttier than even we suspect.

* * *

Anyway, we are not only willing to suggest such an award; we are also champing at the bit to put on the ballot the first nominees. And not to make too long a story of it, they would be the six gentlemen who carry the heavy burden of sponsoring the six teams which constitute a benevolent organization, of which you may have heard rumors, entitled The National Hockey League.

* * *

In our innocence, we had long thought that the steady lengthening out of Big League hockey schedules at both ends, to say nothing of a spot or two of padding in the middle, was occasioned by nothing other than desire for a little extra pelf, or as the Indian aborigines used to phrase it, "Meewant hunkmore wampum."

* * *

Which is understandable enough, human nature being what it is—mostly in need of airwicks. (We learn on dubious authority, that even in the choicest black-market circles, back of the Iron Curtain, they have a saying which roughly goes—very roughly— CHARGSKI TRAFFIKOFF ALL WILL BEARSKI).

* * *

But now it seems we had the poor hockey moguls all wrong. Everybody knew that they were flirting with the idea of adding still further games to their schedule. (Everybody, that is, except Dumb Davey, whose last lucid memory is of the 12th of July when Debby Doyle jumped through the bass drum in protest against the Orange Young Britton's Band playing "Kick the Pope" when passing St. Mary's Church—and that's a many long years ago.)

And all thought, as we have hinted, that it was a matter of money. But now we learn that we were all wrong—even more wrong than Jack Dempsey when he thought he could not only flatten Firpo with one punch—(he could, and did!)—but make him stay flattened.

* * *

For just a few evenings ago a spokesman for the National Hockey League arose, tossed a few verbal bouquets around the sports scene in general, and spokesmanned. He is a very gallant character whose physical courage, doggedness, determination and business ability we have admired for—as they used to say down Bermondsey way—donkey's years.

* * *

But when Conn Smyth intimated that the reason the upper brass of the league felt impelled to lengthen still further the schedule was this—their knowledge that so many felt frustrated by not getting into the regular 60 games, because of lack of seating or standing accomodation, our reaction was something like this.

* * *

"Gee, we've heard everything now!"

* * *

They'll add extra games, beyond a doubt. But they'll do it, not for extra gates, but because they love the public. Did we say we needed another Annual Award? Heck, there should be six of them!

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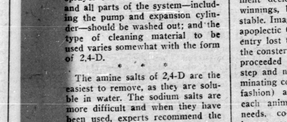

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LITTLE REGGIE

By Margarita

The World Is Her Oyster—At 5 months, Juanita Evans is believed to be the youngest traveler every to fly around the world. Her father, Kenneth Evans, is a ceramics engineer in Calcutta, India. With her parents, Juanita paused halfway in her globe-girling expedition to visit relatives in Cleveland. Clutching her suitcase, she examines her route—Calcutta, Bangkok, Manila, Guam, Wake Island, Midway, Honolulu, Los Angeles and thence to Cleveland. The family will return to India via Europe.

THE FARM FRONT

by John Russell

In starting this piece, somehow or other I am reminded of a favorite story back in the days of World War One. It was about the Cockney who had joined up with a Scottish outfit—a regiment which, during its training period, had been wearing regulation army uniforms.

* * *

Then, one morning, the Colonel made an announcement telling the men that, the next day, their new uniforms would arrive, and that they'd all be outfitted with the traditional kilts. The Scots members of the regiment received the news with glee, but the Cockney sat in barracks, after the Colonel had departed, looking very glum.

* * *

Asked what his trouble was, the Cockney made reply. "It's all blinkin' fine for 'is Nibs to be talkin' about the glory of marching down the street with the bloomin' kilts swingin' free," he said. "But to me it's just another bleedin' fatigue—knees to wash."

* * *

Which is my way of leading up to the news—which may not be news to you, at that—that while 2,4-D has done a heap of good in the way of weed control, it also entails, for best results, extra work in the way of keeping spraying equipment clean.

* * *

This is because contaminated sprayers can cause farmers real losses in crops, both garden and orchard, and it really pays to know how to clean out those 2,4-D residues from your equipment.

* * *

Expert plant pathologists report that in many cases last year desirable plants were injured or destroyed when insecticides and fungicides were applied with a sprayer that had been previously used for 2,4-D. For this weed killer is potent, even in very dilute form, for some sensitive plants such as tomatoes, legumes, soybeans, field peas and tobacco.

* * *

In cleaning, the pressure of the sprayer should be reduced to zero, and all parts of the system—including the pump and expansion cylinder—should be washed out; and the type of cleaning material to be used varies somewhat with the form of 2,4-D.

* * *

The amine salts of 2,4-D are the easiest to remove, as they are soluble in water. The sodium salts are more difficult and when they have been used, experts recommend the use of household ammonia in the washing solution because htese parts are very difficult to clean.

* * *

The ester form of 2,4-D, a writer in Country Gentlemen points out, is the most difficult of all to remove, as it is oily; and it's recommended that sprayers which have been used with this type should first be flushed with coal oil. Then the coal oil flush should be followed with hot, soapy water, and this in turn by the ammonia solution. Another suggestion is that a detergent, such as those used for household washing purposes, be added to the rinse water to cut the coal oil.

Sprayers with wooden tanks are a special problem, as the wood absorbs the 2, 4-D. When once used for 2, 4-D they should not be used for any other sort of spraying.

* * *

After cleaning, the equipment should be tested before using. Young tomato plants offer the best check, being extra sensitive. Fill the sprayer with clear water, let stand a few hours, then spray a few plants. If injury occurs within two or three days, the sprayer isn't safe yet, and cleaning should be repeated.

* * *

Pretty early to be talking about spraying, do I hear you say? Well, the way the days and months roll around, I am reminded of the lady up Bruce County way who had a vast reputation as a terrific worker, and who brought up her daughters to follow in her footsteps. Very early one fine morning she was heard, as she stood at the foot of the stairs, calling—"Girls—girls—you lazy things get up at once. Here it is Monday, and tomorrow's Tuesday and the next day's Wednesday — and THERE'S HALF THE WEEK GONE AND THE WASHING NOT EVEN STARTED YET."

The King's 'Orses

There was a time when "the king's 'orses" was a phrase which conjured up a picture of a troop of Household Cavalry—fine, black horses bearing stalwart men clad in scarlet and steel. Or perhaps the sporting element might think of His Majesty's entry in the Derby, a royal concession to a national pastime. But the Labor Government has put the King's 'orses on a different footing—more prosaic, perhaps, when viewed from the standpoint of the Royal Enclosure at Ascot, but almost raffish when considered in the light of the intensely serious and ascetic men who make up the Labor Cabinet. For stud horses in the possession of the Ministry of Agriculture—which is to say, of the Crown—have brought the Government the tidy profit of $64,000 in the last year, $3952 of that sum won at the races.

It is explained that the Ministry leases horses to private owners, who may then enter them in races, paying back one-third of each horse's winnings. The system suggests some fascinating possibilities. Suppose, for example, the Government decided to try for all the winnings, by organizing its own stable. Imagine the feelings of some apoplectic Conservative peer, whose entry lost to a Labor nag. Imagine the consternation if the Government took another logical step and nationalize all horses, eliminating competition (in true Labor fashion) and awarding purses to each animal on the basis of its needs, co-operative attitude and importance to the national welfare. Imagine the throng at Epsom Downs, studying parliamentary blue books instead of tip sheets. Imagine all these things in the hand of the Derby—but don't breathe a word of them to an Englishman. He probably has enough troubles already.

Once Over

It happened not far from Piccadilly Circus, in one of those men's barber shops which have the accent on glamour.

The customer was the West-end playboy type, and his manicurist was extremely pretty. Followed the usual badinage . . . and then the young man said: "Will you have supper with me tonight—and then maybe a night club?"

"I don't think I should," said the girl. "I'm married, you see."

But the playboy was the self-confident, high-humoured, marriage-mustn't-mean-slackiles type.

—"Nonsense! Ask your husband I'm sure he won't mind."

"Ask him yourself," said the girl. "He's shaving you."

New — And All Of Them Useful

MAGNETIZED CAN OPENER. This new can opener uses a magnet to keep the severed lid from falling into the can after it is opened. Magnet is on the arm of the opener and can be set for any size container, and is folded back when not in use.

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MODERN FURNITURE. Gadget-laden chair that has eight separate reclining adjustments. It has a radio in one of the arms, book shelves and concealed fluorescent light. There are three concealed outlets for attaching a razor, electric blanket or fan. A matching ottoman opens up into a linen chest.

AIR VALVE. Hot water air valve for attachment to radiators, and is said to offer a cure for old problem of venting air from hot water heating systems. Valve is fully automatic, requiring none of the preliminary soaking needed with earlier types. Only a coin or screwdriver is needed for positive setting in three positions.

4-WHEEL DRIVE TRACTOR. Small farm tractor features four-wheel drive by which it's possible to use smaller, lighter engine, thus cutting fuel costs. Tractor is steered by levers that control self-energizing brakes on each side of differential. Machine can turn in 5½ foot radius.

WASHABLE SHELF PAPER. Grease resistant, washable shelf paper, available in number of colors and designs. Paper is coated with polyethylene resins and comes in 14 in. by 36 in. rolls.

PLASTIC BEDSPREAD. Bedspreads and drapes which can be cleaned with a detergent and need never be ironed. Appearance is much like satin, according to makers.

PORTABLE COMPRESSOR. For use about the home by handyman-homeowner is this portable air compressor that runs from light socket or wall plug. Compressor runs on a one-third H.P. motor and has a copper filter to trap dust and dirt. Air pressure and volume can be regulated by operator.

MECHANIZED BARROW. Mechanically dumping barrow can be handled by one man, and is claimed to move the same amount of materials that four men do with wheelbarrow. Barrow turns in own length, dumps mechanicaly, can be used on grades and requires no specially trained operator.

HOW TO FIX IT

By Tom Gregory

THE CORKSCREW, FORMERLY A FAITHFUL APPURTENANCE IN MANY HOUSEHOLDS, IS FAST VANISHING FROM THE AMERICAN SCENE. YET, THE NEED FOR A CORKSCREW STILL ARISES FREQUENTLY IN MOST HOMES. IF YOU LACK THE REAL ARTICLE, A CLOTHES HOOK MAKES A GOOD SUBSTITUTE. THE HOOKS HAVE DEEP THREADS WHICH WILL BITE INTO THE CORK SOLIDLY.

GLOW BULB. A fluorescent light bulb that needs no electric current. The bulb contains liquid mercury, phosphorus particles and neon or argon gas. It lights as long as it's shaken. The swishing about of the mercury produces high voltage which makes gas glow so that it can be seen half a mile at night.

CANADA PRODUCES SOME OF THE WORLD'S FINEST LUMBER

Canada has almost unlimited timber. From British Columbia fir to Maritime spruce her lumber is in demand throughout the world.

Why Seagram's sells Canada first

This is an adaptation of one of a series of advertisements designed by The House of Seagram to promote the prestige of Canada and help sell Canadian products to the markets of the world.

The campaign is appearing in magazines and newspapers published in various languages and circulated throughout the world. The peoples of many lands are told about the quality of Canadian products and see Canadian scenes illustrating these products.

The advertisements are in keeping with the belief of The House of Seagram that the future of each business enterprise in Canada is inextricably bound up in the future of Canada itself; and that it is in the interest of every Canadian manufacturer to help the sale of *all* Canadian products in foreign markets.

A campaign such as this not only helps Canadian industries but also puts money in the pocket of every Canadian citizen. One dollar of every three we earn comes to us as a result of foreign trade. The more we can sell abroad the more prosperous we will be at home. It is with this objective that these advertisements are being produced and published throughout the world.

The House of Seagram

JITTER

By Arthur Pointer