

QUAKERS IN MOSCOW Widespread interest in the Friends Mission to Moscow reported in PNL last month appears to warrant space for a report based chiefly on articles by Gerald Bailey, a member of the Mission, that have appeared in Friends' papers and other American journals. Readers who want a more complete account of the visit will find an article, "Quakers Meet Russian Christians," in The Christian Century 8-29-51; political aspects of the visit are well treated in an article in The Nation 8-25-51.

They report attending "an ordinary" mid-week Baptist prayer meeting in Moscow with an attendance of 1800. They had a three-and-a-half-hour interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Malik. Among general impressions of the fortnight were these: "the immense stake which for domestic reasons the Soviet Union has in the avoidance of war"; opportunity to speak with complete frankness and to be received with great good-will; indications of a "changing wind in the Soviet Union, bringing the possibility of more peaceful relations with the West"; the Russian people want peace at least as much as the ordinary citizen of Britain and the United States; the tenacity and vitality of the fundamentally religious spirit of the Russian people.

Seven Points for Reciprocal Action

1. restraint upon hostile propaganda;
2. a measured opening up of intercourse and visits on a non-political basis between professional groups and individuals;
3. reciprocal pledges of non-intervention, in action or in spirit, directly or indirectly, in internal affairs of non-Communist countries;
4. a new approach to disarmament;
5. cooperation in a world plan for mutual economic aid to be used to promote not to prevent desirable social change;
6. early admission of waiting applicants to U.N. and study of means to make UN more effective as means of peaceful cooperation.
7. renewed declaration of willingness to enter into great power conversations at the highest level.

Mr. Malik's reply was, in part, a re-statement of policy; at several points evasive. "But it is perhaps significant that in Moscow itself we were able to call on the Soviet government to initiate peaceful actions and that government thought fit to treat our suggestions with considerable seriousness. Western observers in Moscow, who are hardly over-sanguine people, were much impressed by this treatment..."

In conclusion, Gerald Bailey makes two important points: We in the West should guard against self-righteousness...and should above all take care not to fall into the precise errors we attribute to the Russians. "It is the devil's work to attribute a Machiavellian purpose to every good thing that comes out of the Soviet Union....

PEACEMAKING IS A TWO WAY ENTERPRISE."

HOW TO INFLUENCE PEOPLE AND WIN "How the U.S. Government Conditions Public to Ideas It Wants to Put Over" as reported in U.S. News and World Report 6-15-51.

1. Policy makers, meeting, decide...on desired policy.
2. Orders go out to all affected officials and public relations officers instructing them on the "line" to be taken in talks.
3. A story is "planted" with a columnist, radio commentator or news writer.
4. The story prompts questions at Cabinet officers' press conference. He develops the "line" and gets headlines.
5. Speeches on the "line" are made by Cabinet officer and other government officials in various parts of country.
6. These lead to questions at a White House press conference. The President backs the "line", gets big headlines.
7. Handouts, more speeches, policy statements are prepared and delivered.
8. Friendly Senators take up the "line", make speeches.
9. All down through Government departments, local officials in the various states, in hundreds of localities, spread the "line"...
10. The public, with a viewpoint hammered in, accepts the change, opponents are driven to cover, (our underlining)

...a generous dose of the salt of scepticism

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ANTIDOTE to prevent poisonous effects: a generous dose of the salt of scepticism applied liberally to the affected parts after each exposure.

IRON CURTAINS MADE IN AMERICA Early this summer the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the constitutionality of some sections of the Smith Act by a 6-2 vote (in the case of the 11 Communist leaders). Justices Douglas and Black dissented.

"The right to differ from the majority view is a cherished privilege of our democracy. Without it we would have no democracy."

So say five distinguished American citizens: Roger Baldwin, Stringfellow Barr, Zechariah Chaffee, Alexander Meiklejohn, and Clarence Pickett in a public advertisement, quoting the dissenting opinions with which they agree.

In California the School Board of the city of Whittier refused to allow the 17th Annual Institute of International Relations, sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, to use its school auditorium. The institute was held, however, with an unusually large attendance. The director reports that it was one of the best ever held in Whittier.

CONTRIBUTOR'S
COLUMN

Peace Organizations

Most peace discussions become, sooner or later, a desperate attempt to escape from the problem. Peace leaders have worked out an adequate battery of techniques for dodging the issue. The following list of dodges, based on "How To Run Away from an Educational Problem" by Prof. P.B. Diederich of the University of Chicago, is, of course, tentative, partial, incomplete, a mere beginning, etc., but it will offer group leaders a command of alternative modes of retreat, enabling them to withdraw their forces gradually and to leave the problem baffled and helpless.

1. Find a scapegoat and ride him. Americans can always blame the Russians, and the Russians the Americans. Both can blame the general apathy of the people, or the atom bomb, and everyone can blame the social order.
2. Profess not to have The answer. That lets you out of having any.
3. Say that we must not move too rapidly. This avoids the necessity of getting started.
4. For every proposal set up an opposite and conclude that the middle ground (no motion whatever) represents the wisest course of action.
5. Say that the problem cannot be separated from other problems. Therefore it can't be solved until all other problems have been solved.
6. Ask what is meant by the question. By the time it is clarified, it will be time to go home.
7. Discover that there are all kinds of dangers in any specific formulation of conclusions: danger of seeming too pro-Russian, too anti-Semitic, of having your statement in the hands of the wrong people or of committing the organization too deeply.
8. **APPOINT A COMMITTEE.**
9. Wait until an expert can be consulted.
10. State in conclusion that you have all clarified your thinking. This obscures the fact that nothing has been done.
11. Point out how the deepest minds have struggled with the same problem. This implies that it gives you credit to have even thought of it.
12. In closing thank the problem. It has stimulated the discussion, contributed to our growth, opened up new vistas, shown us the way, challenged our inventiveness. We may have wasted two perfectly good hours, to be sure, but the problem should get a medal.

DEPARTMENT OF ANALOGY PNL readers must all be familiar with the argument that military action is police force and the supposedly unanswerable question, "What would you do if you were being held up at the point of a gun?" In a recent full page ad the Insurance Company of North America answers this one. Under the caption "How to Behave While Being Robbed" are three cartoons depicting a burglar in the bedroom, a holdup on the street and a pickpocket in a crowd. Counsel of the insurance company is: "Even though you hate to give in to a crook, don't reach for a gun. Don't accuse the person next to you unless you are sure. Don't resist! The one thing you can't afford to lose is your life."

ROAST PIG But the head of our government points with pride to weapons of truly fantastic power which he assures us can wipe out civilization, and which he is quite prepared to use "if necessary." Necessary? To save what? Where or what will be the American Way in a world in which civilization is "wiped out"? Sounds like burning down the house to roast the pig!

WHY NOT? In the midst of all the furore in Washington over UMT and MacArthur, one congressman complained to a friendly visitor, "Why don't the churches mobilize for peace? All we hear is talk of mobilizing for war."

DEBUT The New York State Peace Council made its first bow to a statewide audience at the State Fair this month. A booth in the Mills Building displayed toys from Japan and Vienna, child paintings from South Africa, a "Mitten Tree", hand farm tools, and a variety of posters, all designed to stimulate the imagination, point up the world's need and suggest ways of life in other countries. There was a small

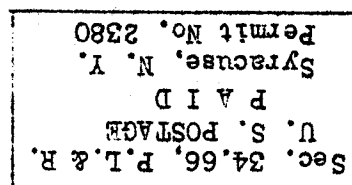
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RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
 Syracuse Peace Council
 841 University Building
 Syracuse 2, N. Y.