

PEACE - NEWS - LETTER

Published by and for the New York State Peace Council, No. 56-58

SPC No. 204

50 cents per year

April 3, 1956

(Feb. 17, 1956)

CARTOON OF THE MONTH

by JOSS in London PN Two "statesmen" standing outside a Foreign Office. One carries a new proposal for Palestine. Says the other, "Aren't we promising the Promised Land to too many, and too often?"

HOUSE CLEANING?

A request has been received for 200,000 lbs. of clothing to the Japanese National Council of Social Welfare from AFSC, because "Quaker relief clothing has won a reputation for quality which gives dignity as well as warmth to recipients."

GIVE DIGNITY!

Our Clothing Depot is still at 722 N. Salina and open during all business hours.

REPORTS FROM MANY FRONTS

FROM THE ARMY

"The Army has acted to increase contact with youth. The American Legion, the Chamber of Commerce and the Boy Scouts of America are among our new contact assistants. To expand youth contacts, Army commanders have been provided with a list of all educational events through July 1956 and have been requested to send speakers to the various conventions or to provide informational material to the teachers and school officials attending.... A brochure and a Teachers' Handbook, 'Your Life Plans and the Armed Forces,' published by the American Council on Education, and with which all the military services assisted, has been distributed to all high schools and colleges by the Department of Defense."

How are you increasing your contacts with youth?

FROM GERMANY

Reporting on a recent visit to Germany, Dr. Robert Van Deusen, Washington correspondent of The Lutheran writes of public reaction to rearmament: "The German dilemma is agonizing."

March 14, '56, p. 10

"Taxi drivers provided a barometer. Their attitude was almost always the same. 'It's no good. We've had enough. We don't want to think about war.'"

"It is easy to see why this feeling is common. Twice the German war machine has led the people down the road to complete ruin. Deep emotional scars remain. In Cologne a hole in the ground is a reminder of a school filled with children when demolished by a direct hit. In Hamburg a common grave holds the charred remains of 55,000 women and children burned to death by incendiary bombs."

"Little wonder that when a movie newsreel showed German soldiers marching, there was complete silence. The military mind no longer dominates the German people. They have a passion for peace."

"This is reflected in the subjects which student groups discuss. Reunification of East and West Germany heads the list of political topics. Rearmament runs a close second. One phase of this which is discussed at length, especially by Christian students, is that of conscientious objection to participation in military training..."

FROM CANADA

Norman Smith a Canadian journalist accompanied the Canadian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on a recent visit to Russia. He reports in The Reporter:

Mr. Pearson's speeches, however, provide the best summary of our collective impressions and conclusions. "I have come back," he said, "very worried that we may be failing to adapt our foreign policies to the changing conditions..."

"Where there is a clearly defined western policy it is too often concerned with the necessary, if limited and often inadequate, goal of containing Communism by merely military means...."

"We will lose ground unless we readapt our tactics...."

"Time is perhaps no longer on our side, for the first time since the cold war started."

Mr. Pearson made clear he had been in Russia only a short time and hadn't seen the whole country, but he said his eight days shook him. "Shook" is his word, and he is known as a man who doesn't shake easily.

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Friends Journal 3-10-56

John Swomley "New Textbook of Peace in Schools" Military Program

The Reporter March 8, 1956 p. 3

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John Swander
"New Textbook Pushes
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Mr. Pearson made clear he had been in Russia only a short time and hadn't seen the whole country, but he said his eight days shook him. "Shook" is his word, and he is known as a man who doesn't shake easily.

"My abiding impression," said Mr. Pearson, "was one of great power on the part of the state, of massive power, massive strength, indeed of great collective wealth and of inflexible purpose.... One certainly does not get the impression after visiting Russia that they are a beaten, servile, lifeless people. One does not even get the impression that they miss their freedom as we would miss it...."

FROM SOUTH AFRICA Cecil Northcott, the Christian Century's correspondent in London, concludes a recent report from Johannesburg with these words:

C.C. 2/19/56
p. 201

"The bell is tolling in South Africa. When...is finished, both groups--Afrikaners and English--will find themselves enveloped by a might host of Bantu... who may then produce their own apartheid performance in might and perhaps bloodshed. For the Bantu are heeding the tolling of the bell; they know it is tolling for the white man in South Africa and not for the black."

FROM THE
MARIANAS

There is a terrible paragraph in the prologue to Mr. Andrew Boyle's Biography of Group-Captain Cheshire that we do well to keep in mind when military strategists and "defence scientists" are discussing the possibilities of the things they are creating:

"Since Hiroshima's destruction three days earlier, the tension on the secret atomic base of Tinian, the small coral island in the Marianas which had been transformed into the greatest bomber airfield on earth, had been strung to an unbearable pitch.

"The success of the first operation had been so overwhelming that it was feared a second would be unnecessary.

"The longing for peace was strong in the minds of all the airmen and scientists living and working in the heavily guarded compound of tents and air-conditioned huts where the cores of the weapons were stored ready for assembly; but the obsession to see what the second bomb would do was far stronger."

--A Review in London Peace News. 2/17/56
p. 2

FROM AN
OBSERVER

Out of his long experience as national director of CARE, Paul Comly French writes: (*Yardly, Pa.*)

"During the past nine years I have had an opportunity to visit more than 70 countries many times, and I have become increasingly concerned about the direction and effect of our foreign policy. It seems to me that it is based on two major fallacies, first, that we can buy friendship with a checkbook, and second, that we can solve all of the problems of the world with an A-bomb. It would appear that the best way to judge a program is by the results, and we see increasing anti-American feeling and the rise of neutralism.

"I have long believed that the amount of assistance given is of much less importance than the way in which it is given, and I think we should learn whether we are giving out of a real desire to help people to help themselves or whether we simply are trying to buy military allies. If we hope to gain firm allies, we are foredoomed to failure because too many peoples are more concerned about a better life than they are about military power. We should also remember that many Asians are more concerned with colonialism, which they know, than they are with communism, which they do not know firsthand. Rightly or wrongly, they find us very often supporting the colonial powers.

"If we would be true to our historic heritage and forget power politics, we would have more friends, and our moral influence in the world would be much greater than it is now.

"Time is short in this explosive age, and we should all urge our concern for an ending of power politics on our responsible officials."

FROM
ROCHESTER

Not long ago the distinguished conductor, Erich Leinsdorf, invited one of the three or four greatest living violinists to appear as guest soloist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. The State Department

declared Rochester out of bounds and denied the artist permission to visit Rochester. Why? In order to "retaliate" against Russia for limitations on American tourists. David Oistrakh is a Soviet citizen. Is this the dignified diplomacy of a great power or an adolescent game of "tit-for-tat"? We certainly did not hurt Russia but we certainly did deny the free citizens of music-loving Rochester a cultural gain and lowered ourselves to the level of action of a system we claim to abhor. Is this "imitation of error" the road to greatness?

MODUS

The Committee on Ethics of the Catholic Association for International Peace sees Russia's government as inciting Europe and the rest of the

world to revolution and communism. The growth of communism through aggression and subversion are traced. However, under the threat of a global atomic war, the Committee declares that "some modus vivendi must be found, because the modus moriendi is all too evident."

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March 3, '56
p. 187

Sat. Review of Lit.
2/11/56 p. 20

World Alliance
News Letter
3/56

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