

# The Rhinelander Daily News

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## Editorials:

### Political Missionaries

Americans are going to have to do "some pretty fancy missionary work," thinks Dr. Frederick Osborn, if they intend to sell the world on their way of life or even hang onto it themselves.

Doctor Osborn, a social scientist, says that only 600,000,000 of the world's people share a tradition of self-government and freedom. The rest, who number them by an even billion, are of "alien cultures in which life is held very cheap and in which the individual and his right to the pursuit of happiness are negligible."

While the first group is barely holding its own, the second group is growing. Doctor Osborn believes it will increase by 400,000,000 in the next 25 years. Thus, he concludes that the "American way" is in danger of being swamped.

This is a variation on a familiar theme. Well-meaning and ill-meaning people have warned of the threat to democracy or, in the Nazis' case, to "European culture" by the barbarians. But Doctor Osborn's warning doesn't seem either evil or academic. His conclusions may be as broad as his figures are round, but they're worth thinking about.

Perhaps Doctor Osborn would be easier to understand if he spoke in terms of governments rather than of persons, since many millions are unconscious or indiffer-

ent to the choice between the two cultures. And he might also include the need of some missionary work in the economic as well as the political field.

The world trend seems away from individual freedom in business. In some countries men have exercised their political independence to limit their private economic rights. But in others, like Russia and the neighboring nations she controls, private economic, civil, and political rights have been taken away without benefit of free election.

Some countries which still have a political tradition of freedom and self-government seem in imminent danger of turning to an "alien" economy to avoid collapse. Our "pretty fancy missionary work" might well start with them, if we intend trying it.

A logical first step would be to see that none of the present 600,000,000 converts become backsliders. It would be fine to see the new governments of India, Indonesia, and China on the side of the democratic angels, once they are founded or reorganized. But it's probably more important to keep Greece and Italy and France on the democratic side right now.

Such a job will take a new type of American thinking. It will also take strength, wisdom, and dollars—especially dollars.

### Step Forward

It is too early yet for over-optimism. There still is a chance for hobbles to be slipped onto a promising horse. But it is distinctly encouraging that the United Nations Economic and Social Council has set up a special commission to handle European reconstruction on a unified, continent-wide basis.

There are at least three very pleasing things about this action, taken only nine months after the proposal first was made in London. First, because unified, continent-wide planning and execution are the only ways that the highly integrated continent can be put back on its feet and helped to repair the war's devastation.

Second, because this is really the first time that the vicious and ever-widening chasm between Soviet eastern Europe and the non-Soviet western nations has appeared likely to be bridged by any specific co-operative activity.

Third, because Russia, after opposing the plan in its original form, has accepted a version that was merely weakened and not completely perverted.

From the viewpoint of cold logic, undoubtedly it would be more efficient if the power systems of the continent could be unified, if restrictive economic barriers could be removed, if labor surpluses from one section—or even from one country—could be moved wherever labor shortages existed.

But on second thought there are practical objections, human nature being what it is.

There almost certainly would be outraged objections if a United Nations Commission were to attempt, willy-nilly, to unify our power system and tie it up with those of Canada and Mexico and the rest of this hemisphere.

And the heavens would be blasted by our revolt if a British-Russian-Chinese-Czech-Dutch-Chilean commission were to start ordering New York's unemployed clothing workers to South Carolina cotton mills.

Over here on our side of the Big Pond we sometimes forget the centuries of bitter wars that have devastated almost every important country in Europe. We have seldom had other nations try to boss us around, so we have little conception of the intense nationalism that such conflict breeds.

Maybe it is not enough, but surely it is something that the often disagreeing Soviet Union and the Anglo-American "bloc" have agreed to get together even on a limited plane in this job of reconstruction. Maybe an entering wedge has been forged, which, if it works, could open the door to further co-operation.

The birth struggles of United Nations co-operation have sometimes been torturing to watch. But here, in many ways, is the most promising thing that has yet come out of that fledgling and often cantankerous body.

### Sun Shines

There's a rainbow round our shoulder. The future's full of hope. Stop the presses. Good news from Washington.

American business, bedeviled by strikes, shortages, red ink, taxes and what not, is going to get a break this year. It will have only about 4000 forms to prepare for Uncle Sam.

John Q. Public, who can't sleep nights for worrying about one thing—his income tax return—may shudder at thought of 4000 of them, some in triplicate, quadruplicate,

### Peter Edson:

## Allies Have Definite Ideas

This is the last of three columns telling the American in the street what is coming up at the Big Four Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Moscow.

WASHINGTON, (NEA)—While Secretary of State George C. Marshall will sit down at the Council of Foreign Ministers' conference in Moscow March 10 with definite ideas on what should be done about the future of Austria and Germany, he will have plenty of opposition. Foreign Ministers Bevin of Britain, Bidault of France, and Molotov of Russia have equally strong convictions their ideas should prevail. Effecting a compromise satisfactory to all is the big job of the conference.

American and British positions are perhaps closest together. When Secretary of State James F. Byrnes tried unsuccessfully at Paris to get the four powers to agree on economic unification of Germany, he announced that the United States was ready to merge its zone with any one or more of the others.

The British accepted the American proposition last July. On Jan. 1 the two zones were merged. The result is freer flow of trade, greater stabilization of prices, and lower costs of occupation for both American and British zones. Within three years, the two countries hope to get out of the red on their costs of occupation by making their zones self-sustaining.

Neither French nor Russian governments have shown any willingness to join this combination. Both say they think Germany should be unified. They don't say when. Soviet Marshal Sokolovsky in Berlin has declared that fusion of American and British zones has the effect of retarding unification. It's hard for Americans to understand this in view of Byrnes' earlier offers to unite with one or all.

### French Fears Become Opposition.

The British agree with the Americans on return of the Saar to France. On separating the Ruhr and Rhineland from the rest of Germany and setting them up under international control to serve all of Europe, the British are inclined to go along with the French. The American position has been to oppose this separation. The reason as stated by Secretary Byrnes is that Germany cannot be made self-sufficient without coal and industrial production from these rich areas.

What the French fear is that if the Germans have this industrial production they can again rearm and attack France. What France apparently wants is to make the Rhineland into another buffer state like the present Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

For the same reason, the French oppose the creation of any strong German central economic ministries

to control transport and trade for all four zones on a national basis. If these co-ordinating agencies could remain under Allied control, the French might approve.

Russians in the Allied Control Council in Berlin have expressed opposition to separation or internationalization of the Ruhr and the Rhineland. But that is only one phase of Russian opposition to proposals on Germany's future by the other three powers.

Russian Foreign Minister Molotov at Paris said Russia agreed that Germany should not be dismembered, should not be reduced to mere farm land with all her industry destroyed. He favored the treatment of Germany as a self-sustaining economic unit.

### Reparations Difficult Question.

But Molotov's apparent purpose here was to create a Germany that would be strong enough to pay Russia's claim for \$10 billion reparations. This reparations question may be the most difficult subject brought up at Moscow. If the Russians had stuck to the reparations formula laid down at Potsdam and had exchanged food from their zone for surplus machinery from the western zones, all reparations payments might have been completed in the two years agreed on, or by the end of 1947. But now the Russians apparently want to remain in occupation of Germany until they collect their \$10 billion.

From the American point of view this means that Russia wants to stay in Germany until she can consolidate her position in eastern Germany and perhaps Sovietize all Germany under Russian influence.

As to the form of government which Russia wants set up in Germany, no specific details have been laid on the table. In general it is understood the Russians want a highly centralized, top control government. But a centralized government is just what Germany had under Bismarck, the Kaiser, the Weimar Republic, and Hitler. That is what the U. S. wants broken up. The British agree with the American demand for a decentralized government, with most powers left in the "Laender," or states, and only a few powers left for central government.

The American theory on a decentralized German government was written into the Potsdam agreement. Today, each "Land" or state government in the American zone elects a minister-president. Under the American plan, the minister-presidents of "Laender" would form a governing council for all of Germany. It would also make a start towards writing a constitution for the new Germany and sign the peace treaty when it is finally drafted. Neither French nor Russians have accepted the American plan, though the British have.

That's how far apart the Big Four are as they meet in Moscow.

## Side Glances



"She's coming home, Ma—says she could make good in the movies all right, but it's impossible to find a place to live in Hollywood!"

### Jane Eads:

## East Meets West at Buffet

WASHINGTON—East rubbed elbows with West and nudged for a place at the buffet table as more than 800 persons gathered to welcome slight, silver-haired Asaf Ali, India's first ambassador to the United States.

Pretty, dark-eyed women in colorful floating saris, and turbaned, bearded gentlemen mingled with business-suited official Washington and their ladies in feathered and flower-laden spring hats in the great ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel.

The party was given by the Indian National Committee for India's Freedom. The receiving line was almost as long as the buffet table, which stretched from here to there. A fountain at one end of the room bubbled a golden fruit punch, and in a far corner was a bar where manhattans, martinis and daquiris were served.

The ambassador wore his native "chakan" costume—a knee-length, fitted black tunic over tight white trousers—bowed to each guest with great distinction and conversed in beautiful English.

In the receiving line, besides Dr. Anup Singh, secretary of the committee, were two Indian women representatives to the UN. One, in an exquisite dull blue sari with gold threaded-bodder, was Mrs. Hansa Mehta, delegate to the Human Rights Social and Economic Council of the UN. The other, in a

sari of pale ivory and gold, was Mrs. Hamid Ali, delegate on the status of Indian women.

No less picturequely garbed was Mrs. Ali's husband, in woolen robes of the same color as his wife's richly embroidered in gray, and a tall black headdress.

Youngest guest at the party was doll-like, two-year-old Ajit Grewal, nonchalantly surveying the throng from his perch on his father's left arm. Mr. A. S. Grewal is deputy educational liaison officer at the embassy.

There were a number of Sikhs in the throng. They all wore different colored turbans and boasted fine black beards. One beard was upweped and tightly tucked in like an upside-down page-boy hairdo.

Ambassador Asaf Ali was born in Delhi in 1888. He was educated in Delhi and at Lincoln's Inn, London, where lawyers are trained. In 1935 and in 1945 he was elected by joint votes of both Hindus and Moslems to the central legislative assembly in Delhi.

Like Gandhi and Nehru, he has spent considerable time in prison as a civil resister. He is a student of Urdu, the literary language of India and one of the higher forms of Hindustani.

Asked when his wife, who is equally famed as an Indian leader, would join him, Asaf Ali smiled obliquely and said:

"That's the '\$84' question."

### Basic Americanism

## Children Find New Future

By ART RICKERBY  
NEA Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, (NEA)—In his room upstairs, 13-year-old Imre Singer of Budapest reads the American comics. Ignatz Weinberger of Czechoslovakia sits under a picture of George Washington and tries to absorb American history out of an elementary textbook; in back of him Zyman Harat and his two brothers from Poland scribble rudimentary English on a blackboard under the watchful eyes of a young teacher.

The setting is a large white brick house on a hill in the Bronx. To hundreds of European war orphans, it is their first American home. A constant stream of youngsters walk through its doors, brought from war-disrupted lives in the American occupation zones of Germany and Austria and other stricken countries by the U. S. Committee for the Care of European Children.

These children get their introduction to America in the ex-murderer home that is the committee's reception center. Its goal: to "Americanize" youngsters whose lives have been displaced by war.

"As prospective American citizens, children still in their formative years hold forth the greatest promise," said Miss M. Ingeborg Olsen, acting director of the committee. "Such children, brought to America and brought up the American way, quickly and enthusiastically adopt the American ideal."

"Who can tell? Perhaps among them may be another Padarewski, another Madame Curie, another Einstein, another Marconi. To us it seems that their zeal to become real and useful Americans constitutes them as citizen material of exceptional possibilities."

Within the period of two weeks to a month—the average length of stay—the parentless groups are newly clothed and medically examined. Case histories are brought up to date and special talents and ambitions discussed. Children are instructed in American customs and interviewed by representatives of the cooperating agencies which eventually place them in foster homes throughout the country.

Youth spawned against the background of concentration camps, hatred and oppression are made to feel welcome.

In the house itself, Austrian, Czech, French, Estonian, German, Greek, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Rumanian and Ukrainian tongues mix in conver-

## He Means You, Sam



Tomorrow: As the Twig Is Bent.