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# *The* AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL

VOL. 25, NO. 8

AUGUST 1948

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Waterfront—Martinique—showing *U.S.S. Timbalier* (left) and private yachts in the harbor.

*Courtesy FSO Frederick D. Hunt.*

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Issued monthly by the American Foreign Service Association, 1809 G Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in Washington, D. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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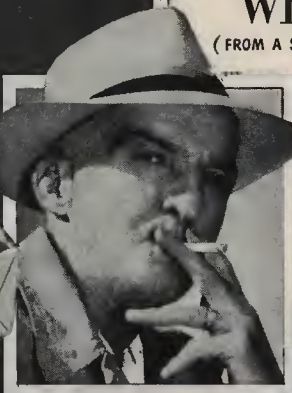
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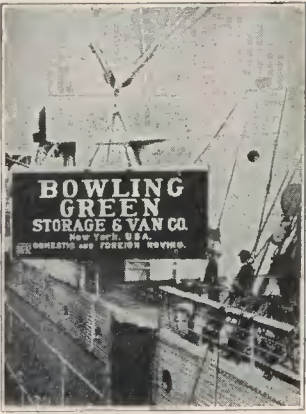
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# THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 25, NO. 8

WASHINGTON, D. C.

AUGUST 1948

## The Foreign Service and the Correspondents

*This article was contributed by a former news agency bureau chief who is now a Foreign Service officer engaged in economic work. His experience includes newspapers, radio stations, Army intelligence and Army public relations.*

Good press relations are the result of a state of mind not a set of techniques — although techniques are important. It is a state of mind which comes easily to politicians, people in show business, producers of consumers' goods, and men with an axe to grind.

Any trade or profession whose activities are of constant interest to the mass of the people, and whose prosperity is dependent in part upon public opinion develops in time a public relations technique suitable to its needs. For most trades, this means primarily a good press technique (which includes radio) since newspapers and radio stations are the major means of reaching the public. The phrase "suitable to its needs" is an important qualifier since what is appropriate to burlesque will not satisfy the requirements of a religious denomination.

Before the last war, when most Americans thought foreign policy meant keeping the United States from getting involved in the troubles of foreigners, few were interested in what the Foreign Service did or how it was done. The Foreign Service officer was satisfied with the lack of public inquisitiveness into the details of his work, although vaguely bemoaning the fact that there was little appreciation of the results he obtained.

Since the end of the war, there has been a revolution in American thinking about foreign policy, a realization that America can never again be a mere on-looker in the world arena. As a result, the public is now vitally interested, not only in the broader aspects of foreign policy, but in the details of how it is made and implemented, and the Foreign Service officer finds himself blinking in an unusual and somewhat uncomfortable limelight.

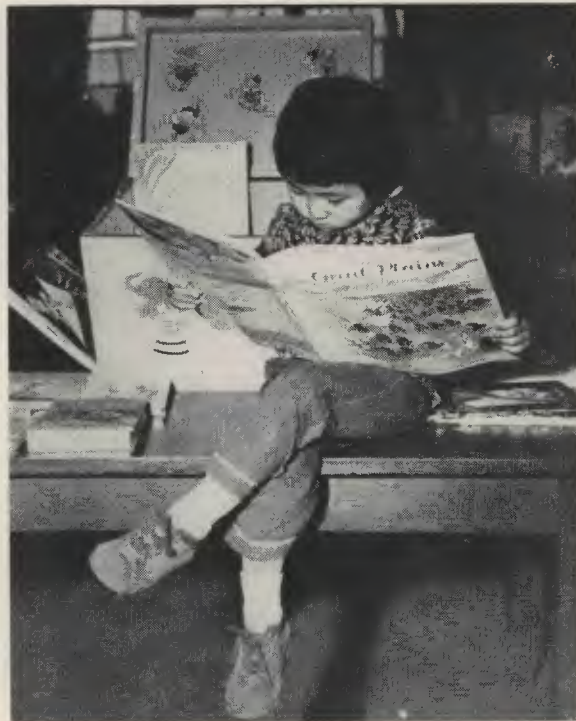
The revolution in the FSO's thinking that will have to ac-

company the revolution in home opinion will take some time to accomplish. He will have to accept this new situation because he knows that the State Department is only one among many makers of foreign policy under the Constitution and customs of the United States. No major step in American foreign policy has ever been made or can be made without the consent of the Congress (while drastic moves may be made and have been made without the consent of the State Department). Since our Congress is far more sensitive to public opinion, with all its vagaries, than the legislature of any other democratic country (except possibly France), this means that no important policy changes can be made without the approval of the American people.

The pressure of events has, in effect, made the Foreign Service officer into something of a politician — not in the party sense, of course, but in the sense that his actions, if not himself, come up for frequent review from the electorate. Like the politician, he finds the press can be a good friend and a dangerous enemy. Therefore, he has to learn to adopt the politician's attitude toward the press, the first principle of which is to trust and to respect its representatives.

Since this idea is contrary to the training and prejudices of some FSO's, the first step must be for them to get to know what newsmen are really like. The average foreign correspondent nowadays is no more the uneducated, hard-drinking, wise-cracking type of reporter portrayed in "The Front Page" than the average FSO is a wealthy cookie-pusher. The trouble is that there are still a few such left who stand out from the rest and serve to confirm previous prejudices — as there are still a few cookie-pushers around.

The average correspondent these days has had as much education as the average FSO. He



Photograph taken in Library of USIS, Shanghai. Chinese youngster, present at opening of Treasure Chest of books for children, seen perusing a picture book.

comes from the same widely-separated parts of the United States, and knows as much about economics, more about politics, and somewhat less about commerce than the FSO.

Among his attributes are likely to be a certain lack of awe in the presence of important Governmental personages, whether in elective, appointive, or civil service office, which may stem from too close a study of the processes of democratic government. This is generally coupled with considerable faith in the good judgment of a well-informed public. This is natural since the theory of the free press is based on the assumption that the ordinary people of the country can and ought to be informed about everything that affects their interests and are capable of understanding what they are told. In a way, the press and radio regard themselves as the tribunes of the people, keeping a vigilant eye out for any tricks which their rulers may be trying to pull on them.

One result of this attitude is that the American newsman will not submit without a struggle to censorship of any sort by governmental authorities. Unlike the newsmen of some other countries, he cannot be told to follow a "line," but must be persuaded that the policy is right. Any sort of pressure, direct or indirect, from government or business calls forth a fierce resistance. The higher the prestige of the medium, the stronger will be this resistance. Even such apparently innocuous requests such as "Let me see that before you send it" may be construed as a threat to freedom of the press. There are sound historical reasons for the press's belief that assaults on its liberties begin in just such a manner.

The hardest test of control on the part of a government official comes after the story is written and it is seen that the newsman was not convinced. The first reaction of some experts to such an event is to conclude that the newsman is either mentally incapable of understanding simple facts, or is deliberately sabotaging his country's interests, probably at the instigation of some foreign power. What has really happened, of course, is that he has chosen not to accept the official's version, which is his privilege as a newsman. The only thing to do in such a case is to swallow your pride and try to make a joke of it, if you can possibly bring yourself to thinking of it as a joking matter.

The American press not only wants to keep free from any sort of government control or censorship; it also is anxious to avoid even the appearance of any such con-

nection with the government. This leads to such actions as the Associated Press refusing to permit its news to be used on Voice of America programs. This may seem extreme to some, but the general policy has paid big dividends.

The American news agencies, which are the only ones in the world not subsidized to some extent by their governments (and thus under the suspicion of being official mouthpieces), are now selling their news all over the world. Foreign newspapers want to buy their services precisely because they know that the American agencies are free of the taint of U.S. Government control. In all parts of the globe, the American press is regarded as free, impartial, and unbiased; and what American news services, newspapers and news magazines say is respected for that very reason.

As exponents of the American way of life, we believe that the truth is on our side, and that it will win in the end. It is a tremendous help to us in our foreign policy that our press has the reputation of telling the truth, and suppressing nothing in the interests of American policy. This is a far greater asset than a press supporting our policy at all times and playing down unfavorable items of news — an asset for which it is certainly worth suffering occasional misinterpretations and disagreements.

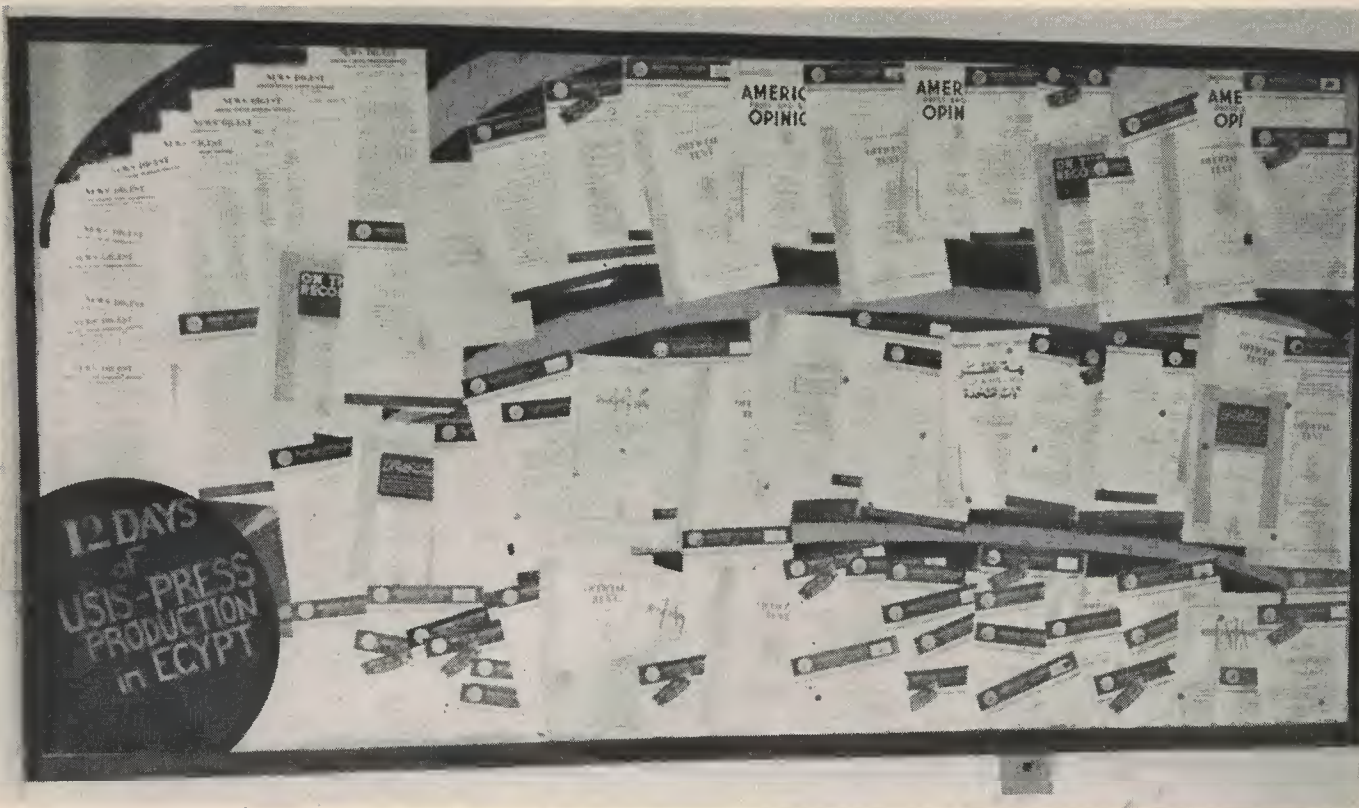
Another attribute of a good newsman is that he respects confidences. All his life he has been getting things "off the record" and not using them. Violators of this rule become *persona non grata* among their fellows even more quickly than they do among those whose confidences they reveal, since sources of information for all the press may thus be ruined. At home, some newspapers even refuse to permit their men to accept "off the record" disclosures from businessmen or local government officials, since their hands are thus tied if the information comes to them in another way.

Complaints to a newsman's superiors about critical or allegedly inaccurate stories are generally foolish, futile and deeply resented; but thoroughly documented cases of abuse of confidence are a different matter, because the reputation of the entire press is at stake.

Another point to remember is that the newsman is an expert, too. News, which is what the people want to read or hear, is a peculiar and elusive commodity which varies in content in different regions and among different income levels. But the newsman knows what it is, how to get it,



Film showing in USIS Library, Bombay, on January 28, 1948 for an invited group of representatives from government, press, business, cultural and film fields. The Acting Public Affairs Officer addressed the group, welcoming it to the new office premises and briefly outlining the USIS films program.



and how to write so that it will be understood — a technique which takes years to learn. It is best not to tell a reporter "That's not news," nor ask him "What in the world will you do with this?"

Speed and accuracy are the two vital qualities that give news its value. Minutes mean money in the news business and a half-hour's delay may mean many editions and news broadcasts lost. If you're going to help a newsman at all, do so quickly. If you can't answer, say so frankly; don't stall or try to evade the question. If it is a policy matter that must be answered in Washington, refer him to the Department. But make your decision as soon as possible.

However, on matters concerning which it is appropriate to give background information, remember that representatives of other countries are generally willing, and often eager to give out their interpretation. If a newsman knows that something is going on, and can't get a lead from his own people, he'll get it elsewhere and it may be that the interpretation of some other Foreign Office is the one which first reaches the American public. Often all that is needed is the advice "I wouldn't put much stock in that" when questioned about a particular rumor. While newsmen appreciate the confidential nature of most foreign service work, they do feel they ought to be able to rely on the Foreign Service for protection against being taken in by false interpretations put out by foreign powers.

Correspondents may be classified into four main categories, according to whether they work for full-service news agencies, radio networks, individual newspapers and newsmagazines, or miscellaneous organizations such as feature agencies, magazines and the like.

The amateur in the public relations field is inclined to underestimate the importance of the news agencies and radio chains. Of all the various media the agencies or "wire services" are by far the most important, since one or more of them serves every single daily newspaper in the country and every radio station that attempts any news program at all. The broadcasting networks take all three wire services, and the newsmagazines use them as well.

Whenever there's an absolute limit on the number of correspondents who can be accommodated, the other newsmen will give first place to the representatives of the AP, UP and INS. The agencies keep fairly large (and hard-working) staffs abroad who cover all the news that's printable. Media with their own correspondents abroad can rely on the wire service file for adequate coverage, and use their own correspondents for "interpretative" work and other special assignments.

The biggest, most powerful papers all have their own correspondents, or subscribe to the service of another large paper. But a large majority of U.S. dailies rely solely on one or more of the wire services for their foreign coverage.

The news agencies are also important because all three of them are now world-wide services, purveying news to newspapers and radio stations in many different languages and in almost all civilized countries. Any story given to the three wire services will get complete world-wide coverage.

Next in importance (and this is still heresy to some old-time newspapermen) are the radio chains, because again, their audience is so large. Estimating the size of radio audiences is considerably more difficult than stating the circulation of a newspaper; but network news round-ups from abroad generally assess by the standard techniques at between two and fifteen million listeners. (Winchell reaches 28,000,000). It is difficult to project facts over the radio; but it is correspondingly much simpler to influence emotions. A correspondent describing the bombing of a defenseless city can rouse his listeners to the same feeling of horror that he experiences, and do it far more effectively than any printed eye-witness account. Radio accounts of the Battle of Britain had a lot to do with preparing the American people emotionally to accept full aid to the British; and radio descriptions of current developments with strong emotional overtones have the same effect.

The international publications, like *Time*, *Newsweek*, and the *N.Y. Herald Tribune*, occupy a special position because

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# Puerto Rico of Today

By A. FERNOS-ISERN, Resident Commissioner

Puerto Rico is an American Commonwealth in the Caribbean. In population, we compare with the Dominican Republic and Uruguay, both of which have little more than 2,000,000 inhabitants. Puerto Rico has 2,200,000. But the Island's area is one seventh that of the Dominican Republic, one fiftieth that of Uruguay.

To maintain an exclusive agricultural economy in Puerto Rico is to maintain a perpetual low level of existence. If there is any hope for Puerto Rico to raise its standard of living, it must lie within a program of industrialization. Puerto Rico is a part of the United States tariff system. Therefore, it must develop as an industrial area within the boundaries of the United States economic system. Logically, we should try first to industrialize such raw products as are currently produced in the island. The most important agricultural product of Puerto Rico is sugar cane. We do industrialize sugar cane — up to a certain point. From that point we may not proceed. I shall explain why. Sugar production in the United States and therefore in Puerto Rico is regulated by the Sugar Act of 1948. The Sugar Act of 1948 establishes a system of marketing quotas for each of the various areas within the United States boundaries. The sugar producing states have a marketing quota for their beet sugar. The cane sugar produced in the states also has a marketing quota. Hawaii has its quota. So does Puerto Rico. Of this limitation on our marketing quotas, we do not complain; it is necessary for the maintenance of a reasonable price which may sustain the industry. It is a general rule for the whole United States economic area. But Puerto Rico has an additional limitation. This limitation is applicable to Hawaii and Puerto Rico only, as far as the domestic area is concerned. It is not applicable to the mainland areas. Puerto Rico may market 126 tons of raw sugar in a refined state. The rest of

effective for five years. It is to be hoped that this barrier to our industrial development may disappear in 1952 never again to be reestablished to stunt the growth of Puerto Rican economy.

Another agricultural product in which Puerto Rico excels is tobacco. Up to now Puerto Rico has been shipping leaf tobacco to the mainland. With abundant manpower in the Island there is no reason why we should not ship to the mainland cigars instead of leaf tobacco. This is one of the present endeavors of the Insular Government through the Agricultural Development Company. The government is taking the initiative in the industrialization of tobacco. It is to be hoped that private capital may soon realize that this is a profitable enterprise and that it may come into the Island and take up this industry.

A third main agricultural product of Puerto Rico is coffee. Coffee was the main export of Puerto Rico during the Spanish regime. At the time that Puerto Rico became a member of the United States tariff system, its trade relationships were profoundly altered. The free access of coffee to the Spanish market, where it was highly priced, disappeared as tariffs were erected in Puerto Rico against Spanish products. On the other hand, Puerto Rican coffee did not find a protected market within the United States, where coffee is on the free list. Similar brands of mild coffee, as produced by Colombia and other South American countries, may compete with Puerto Rican coffee, within our duly accessible market. Cost of production in Puerto Rico, with a higher cost of living than the South American countries, makes for pronounced disadvantages in this competition.

There is only one way open to us to maintain the position of Puerto Rico's coffee in a free market. That is through more efficient methods of production. The coffee producing area in Puerto Rico is about one eighth of the total Island's area. It is the western central hilly section of the Island. Erosion and lack of fertilizer have brought about a very low yield per acre. With low yields, low wages become necessary. Low wages, with a high cost of living, are not alluring. In spite of the increasing population in the island as a whole, these areas are becoming depopulated. Lack of manpower makes for lower yield. In desperation, many former coffee planters have abandoned their coffee haciendas; others have torn down the coffee trees and planted the land with tobacco or sugar cane. Both things add to the erosive process. Sugar cane yield after two or three years of planting in these hilly lands comes down to uneconomical levels. The land is finally abandoned to waste. Our water



The Honorable A. Fernos-Isern

resources are thereby depleted, and the Island needs water for its industrialization. The hope of Puerto Rico lies now in the Federal Government extending a helping hand. A five year program during which terracing of all this area might be carried out, and replanting might be accomplished, with proper application of fertilizer and modern agricultural techniques, under the guidance of the Extension Service, seems to be the only way out.

A coffee tree takes an average of no less than five years to bear fruit. In five years the new plantations might start towards the road of becoming one of the main assets in Puerto Rican economy. The standard of living would rise in those areas. Migration towards the coast lands, towards towns and cities, would be stopped. Slum areas would not develop as rapidly around the cities and towns of the coast. In addition, food production in the Island would increase. The orchard type of coffee cultivation allows for food production as a side line. Finally our water resources would be thus protected.

Fruits and vegetables are being cultivated more and more with more modern techniques. Food and vegetable canning is fast developing, but Puerto Rico continues to buy in the mainland not less than fifty per cent of its food. Rice, beans and codfish are the staple food of the working class, which is eighty per cent of the population of Puerto Rico. In order to pay for those they must earn wages working on the fields or working in factories. What wages they now earn barely allow them to pay for their rice, beans, and codfish at high domestic prices.

Unemployment is chronic. Under-employment is ever present. Agricultural work in Puerto Rico is seasonal. Again industrialization is the only answer.

Aside from the processing of sugar cane, tobacco, coffee and fruits, other industries are developing in the Island. Two cement factories are now in operation; also a bottle factory, a ceramics factory, a rug factory, paper board factory, a shoe factory. A textile concern is establishing its factories in Puerto Rico.

In order to attract industries into the Island the Insular Government has declared a tax holiday. Most new industries will be exempt from taxes for a period of twelve years. Tourism is looked at as a promising field; a new hotel is being built in San Juan, the Hilton Caribbean, in order to add to present available accommodations.

The ever agreeable and mild climate, the beautiful beaches, the mountain scenes and the old historical for-

resses, the quaintness of churches and palaces over 400 years old should all prove to be strong attractions for mainland tourists. Puerto Rico is only four and a half hours from Miami by direct flight; eight hours from New York by direct flight; three and a half days from New York by steamer.



Courtesy of Puerto Rico Office of Information

Farm Worker in a Pineapple Field.

Puerto Rico has a fine highway system. There isn't a single hamlet in the Island which may not be reached over a hard surface road. The Island lives on wheels propelled by gasoline. In an hour's time a traveler may climb over wide flamboyant-festooned roads, ever surrounded by gorgeous scenery, from sea level to altitudes of three thousand feet, always cool, pleasant and peaceful.

Great strides have been made in the development of the public education system. But the resources of the Island government do not allow for complete coverage. There are facilities only for about one half the school age population.

It should be remembered that Puerto Rican schools have a double task. Elementary knowledge is taught, as in any other educational system in any other country, but a new language must also be taught to the attending children who emerge from Spanish speaking homes, who speak Spanish at Church, on the streets, at home, in the playground and who never heard any word of English until they came to school. In spite of the difficulties encountered, about thirty percent of the population of Puerto Rico now has a command of English. In fifty years no other Spanish or French speaking community within the United States

ever made comparable progress in the acquisition of English, in spite of the fact that they are surrounded by English speaking communities and their children intermingle with English speaking classmates at church, on the streets and in the playgrounds.

There exists a tremendous housing problem in Puerto Rico. Low incomes, rapidly increasing population and high-priced land squeeze the under-privileged between the farm that will not hold any more and throws them upon the city, and the city where available land is already occupied or sells at prices beyond the possibilities of the newcomer from the hills. This explains

Puerto Rican slums. Great efforts are being made by the Insular Government to cope with this problem. Housing projects are developing as far as local resources permit, but again a federally sponsored program could be the only answer.



Courtesy of Puerto Rico Office of Information

San Juan, Puerto Rico. View of a portion of the city from the Bankers Club.

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# On the Art of Coming Home

By JEAN BOLEY\*

Illustrated by John D. Irwin.

It is certainly appropriate that we as a nation are represented by a matron in New York harbour. It should surprise no one that in America, Liberty is immortalized in bronze by a dignified figure on fire with the cause. She is, in fact, the ideal clubwoman, the supreme example of the national genius, carrying that fervour which begins humbly in any small town where the ladies, considering Reciprocal Trade Treaties, bog down slowly in a morass of angel food cake—carrying that fervour to its logical conclusion, a salute to the world.

Now the Statue of Liberty ought to restore confidence and a sense of security in any American returning after years abroad. To look at her is to remember suddenly the details of liberty, as well as ice cream, warm houses, and that sorely missed lust of the flesh, the hearty breakfast. But the art of coming home is, alas, not just a matter of the old stimuli reviving the old response. Living abroad for many years there creeps over the simple American the most indecent complexities. Once straightforward, he now feels devious. Once open, he is now obscure. A decade ago he sailed away in a polo coat and a buoyant red necktie. "Today he returns in a chesterfield with a mysterious foulard cravat" upon which one of the more obscure one-celled organisms has been rendered by the hundreds in diluted shades of mustard and rust. A decade ago he shrieked "Kill the ump!" and passed out afterwards in the Astor Bar. Today he plays a spot of tennis at Hurlingham and remembers to pour the milk first in his cup of tea. And now, passing the Statue in New York harbour, while the eyes of all sound persons are filled with tears he finds himself facing that tireless female with the same trembling bravado he always hopes will be effective in a fight with his wife.

When a husband returns to his old wife, after a long stay abroad free of restraint he is apt to develop new resolutions about independence. There is to be no more dishwashing in ruffled aprons, and the guest bedroom is not to be inhabited by Aunt Lou and her false teeth resting like some grotesque marine life at the bottom of a glass of water. . . . And so he attacks, too desperately, as befits one who is doomed before he starts by the enemy's mere tonnage and poundage.

To the astonishment of the American, coming home is just such a problem in conjugal adjustment. He finds he has built up an elaborate defense against the ancient domination—a defense he has not admitted to himself.

But this morning he is disenchanted. In the billowings of that mountainous old wife he will not, by George, lose his small identity. For this precious identity has cost too much and is his pearl formed by the million irritations of life abroad: the cold breakfast roll, sub-titles in the movies, and the thousand nights on damp and mended sheets. He fancies himself, this returning traveler, he has been lucky, he has had the chance to suffer from a more heterogeneous collection of itches than less fortunate persons in more homogeneous surroundings. Out of this character-moulding martyrdom has emerged—himself, the fine fellow, the cosmopolite, the citizen of the world. Now there should be no catch to this. Ordinarily it should be a starting point to enjoyment, a sort of jumping off place to the Higher Life, the threshold to all cultural inner sanctums. But what do

we find instead? . . . that this citizen of the world is concentrating his educated energies not upon Bach or the peacetime uses of atomic energy, but upon the mere continuance of himself as a citizen of the world. Instead of living he is trying not to die.

When we study him we find him to be suffering from four main troubles. In the first place, sitting over there in redolent old Europe where every cobblestone, he was pleased to note, kept reminding him of somebody esoteric like Pascal or Lope de Vega, wallowing in all that he got rather intellectually highfalutin. Where he would normally read golf fiction in the Post, he took to reading Phillip Wylie, or I. A. Richards, or Salvador Madariaga on what was the matter with the United States. But instead of digesting it all, he would just scream, "Yes!" or "Oh, wonderful!" or "If that isn't Cousin Billy to a T!"—underline it with a red pencil and base a whole philosophy of life on it. He became, in other words, a labeler, which has always been a good port for anybody foundering in an intellectual storm. Being a labeler didn't matter in Europe where he admired everything anyway, but when he came home to the U. S. it was very limiting. When he saw any woman over twenty-five he automatically fled her maternal claws. When anyone mentioned the Middle West he said 'isolationism,' and looked pained. And before the ubiquitous cocktail he was ashamed and stood empty-handed knowing it was useless to call for sherry.

Now one sad part of such a perspicuous attitude is that it requires a tireless vigilance lest one miss a cue—and upon being faced with such typical Americana as Forest Lawn Cemetery in Los Angeles, or a rodeo in Ox Butte, Wyoming, have no idea what should be said and thus be brought to the point of having to think for one's self. And thinking for one's self is a justified terror of mankind, and the absolute anathema of the highfalutin, for in it lies the unspeakable disaster of approving what this year is being disapproved of. One wouldn't wish on one's worst enemy the intellectual oblivion that descends on a fellow who, for instance, actually enjoys Longfellow in his ignorance of what more furious and exalted minds have said of Hiawatha. But to avoid such pitfalls is not easy, and particularly worrisome for the traveler returning to the United States. It's a big country full of a number of things. How difficult to be remembering all day long what the Right people have said about everything from radio commercials to the salt box architecture of New England! At best, it's a shorthand philosophy, a question of adjectives, whereby salads are 'insane,' New York is 'neurotic,' lahor is 'spoiled,' and anything west of the Alleghanies is 'adolescent.'

Another trouble that hesets this world citizen is that he has met celebrities while living abroad. He has been to parties at his Embassy and shaken the hand of several foreign secretaries, Lily Pons, and at least one Viceroy. No decent celebrity can have any idea of the damage he has inflicted upon the soul of, say, one Mortimer Small, Willow Grove, Idaho, by shouting at him through the cigarette smoke, "I say, you there, would you mind awfully passing that plate of shrimps?" Nothing could seem more casual, and yet in time it produces a periodic craving which we can call shrimpism, or a desire for a brush with famous people at fashionable festivities. Shrimpism derives its name from the most successful ruse of its sufferers to obtain satisfaction:

\*The author has made her home in Buenos Aires for many years. She is the author of the popular novels "The Restless" and "The Baby Lamb," and has contributed to *Harper's Magazine* and *The New Yorker*.

the serving of hors d'oeuvres. If one must chat with an Ambassador the least offensive approach is via the curly shrimp and the deviled egg. Shrimpism is enduring in Europe where there are always notables, but in the United States it keeps him circling between the East Fifties in New York and those corners of Connecticut out of reach of the vulgar commuter. Here, with luck, he may find a few famous names, but the circling takes most of his time and all of his money and does not allow him even one sneaked trip to Willow Grove, Idaho. And so he is deprived of the true joy of coming home, which is to shed one's pretensions like tight shoes, have coffee and doughnuts at the kitchen table, and boast of wonderful adventures to the familiar tune of Grandpappy champing his gums in the mahogany rocker.

Now the third difficulty of this prodigal son is that he is a speaker of foreign languages. In the field of foreign tongues there are strange extremes. Consider the neophyte. No one is so meek as the American who has had three lessons at Berlitz and can manage, with idiot brightness, "Comio VD? Si, comi una banana." It is the nether point in humility, but be it ever so humble it is home for the spirit, a place of infantile gregariousness, where cuteness has its hour and grown men are suddenly beloved for the little noises they can make in their throats. Now consider the initiated. No one is so proud, no one so silent upon a peak as the American who can not only speak but even think in Spanish. What is he to do in the United States? There are so few to whom he can talk, for of course, as in Norman times, English is a vulgar idiom useful for those nasty passages with bus drivers but certainly inadequate for the pleasures of conversation. He is lonely and in his spare moments comes to haunt that Spanish-speaking section north of Central Park where he can understand what is being said. The golden sound pours forth and he stands on the corner of 7th Ave. and 118th St., his eyes closed in a kind of Iberian seizure, and hears once again that immortal dialogue of the fruit peddler and the housewife: "Ladron! Yo no voy a pagar . . . Thief! Go to the devil with your prices." "But lady these bananas are cheap . . ."

But all these are side issues compared with his central problem—how to graft the bloom of Europe upon the stem of the United States and produce that rare flower, the good life, his own hybrid. This is the gist of his independence, and quite a decent sort of aim, if only he could concentrate on the product instead of the process. But his belligerence about effecting the graft so exhausts him that he would be too tired to enjoy the double chrysanthemum if it did burst forth.

Consistently negative—although this is the only consistent thing about him—he begins by listing what he will not accept in the United States. When we examine this list of what he has outlawed we find everything on it to fall under the heading of Unjustified Indulgences. This world-citizen takes his pleasures hard, they must be purposeful and are decidedly to be endured for Culture rather than enjoyed for escape. Heading his list are American movies. He will not go to them, except, of course, Shakespeare who being over his head is thereby worthwhile. He is very firm about the movies, wholly persuaded once again by Mr. I. A. Richards' fascinating theory that the movies being false art with their clumsily contrived solutions are subconsciously frustrating and lead away from that sense of order and rightness which true art gives. He is very firm in spite of impertinent memories of certain evenings, long ago, when he slouched in the last row of the Willow Grove Palace, ate peanuts, kissed his girl, and applauded when another redskin bit the dust. What he felt then, he reminds himself sternly, could not have been pleasure—even though it seemed so at the



"A decade ago he sailed away in a polo coat and a buoyant red necktie. Today he returns in a chesterfield with a mysterious foulard cravat . . ."

time—but was only a nasty disintegration of the nervous system through his sensitivity to the artistically worthless celluloid experiences of William S. Hart.

He is also very firm about not reading the cheaper American periodicals, even in barber shops. "Their slanted prose, adjusted at the feeble-minded level, is very persuasive in the long run and conducive to the gradual loss of good taste." Maintaining his taste by a conscious effort is the world citizen's original idea. Or at least he doesn't remember where he got it. At any rate it's in the sound Puritan tradition of avoiding what you can't resist. And the heroics of Puritanism have always been wonderfully satisfying to the ego. So he stands before the news-stands in railroad stations, during those winter waits for trains, studies the covers on the magazines, clucks, and says, "shocking!"—referring not to morals but to taste. At train time he buys the Christian Science Monitor which he doesn't have to read, being so happily engaged in gloating over his strength in not buying pulps and his breadth in objecting to them not on moral but on aesthetic grounds. "Oh Culture, Oh Perfection," he whispers in a little ecstasy.

He is not quite so firm about the question of central heating. On the whole he is against it because it is so comfortable. And here we touch upon one of the returning American's most significant convictions—he considers comfort to be synonymous with rot. That is, certain comforts. The oil burner is effete but the open fire is virile. Packaged foods obscure life's meaning while the tired vegetables in European markets show forth the Lord's purpose. The private car degenerates but the bus invigorates the soul. . . . And on it goes encompassing all manner of unrelated elements in a determined philosophy by which he prefers rain to sun, gravel to concrete, cold baths to hot, and, in short, sums up the good life as one lived under conditions of reasonable adversity at a mere step from the Louvre. Translated into American terms this would mean a pre-Revolutionary farm in Connecticut where winters, he hopes, will be severe, and if his luck is really good there will be a complete breakdown in deliveries of food and fuel.

But all these eccentricities, these refusals and rebellions, are after all merely the outward sign of the inner dream. From abroad he has brought an ideal, an idea of a way of life—the positive for which all these negatives have only been a defense. From Spain and France and England he has brought the basis of his new independence: the essence of Europe. For he is sure he understands what Europe is, and all he does or does not do is to the end of preserving that essence. Or so he will explain it to you, with gulps and spasmodic soarings of talk and the shyness a man feels when he tells you about what to him is poetry. What is Europe? Why the essence of Europe is complexity, and complexity is more truly related to human life than simplicity. The American, mourns the cosmopolite, his finite—his character, his house, his method is knowable at a glance. This is how the American wants it. This is the great American dream that life is simple and honest and understandable and determinedly cheerful. So he papers his bedroom wall with full-blown roses and never senses that their unchanging gayety, so insistent, so doggedly proclaiming like the soap operas that life can be beautiful, sets up the most aching frustrations.—But the European is more realistic, cries the world citizen. There is something obscure in the European character, he feels, something in the end infinite and inexplicable. American tourists—and here he sighs—call it a lack of straightforwardness, slyness, circumlocution, inefficiency. They say that Europe is not functional.

Functional? Take a chair. A chair has two uses: for sitting and symbolizing. It should support the body but, more gloriously, it should exalt the soul by suggesting the history of chairs, centuries of chairs. It should remind us of human dignity, of pageantry. Before our eyes should pass a parade of the glorious chairs: the chair of Zeus with winged sphinxes and the feet of beasts, St. Peter's chair with the ivory carvings of Hercules, the English coronation chair with its "stone of Scone." Why even the foolish revolving office chair might lift the Monday spirit if one remembered that he was sitting upon an aristocrat with a family tree of 400 years.—Complexity, the intricate suggestion of tradition, the hint of infinite causes behind a result, this is Europe and this is truly functional for the life of the spirit.



Shut off from the common people in a world all his own.

America comforts the muscles, but Europe—Ah Europe comforts the mind! It matches a man. It is multiple-valued like life. It is obscure, like the mind. . . .

Now if one can prevent the soaring citizen from disappearing in the upper regions of metaphor and pull him down to the despised facts, it all becomes a matter of interior decoration. The European spirit can be expressed in the Connecticut living room, we find, by means of the Cultured Clutter. For of course the returning American is far beyond the stage of period rooms and authentic reproductions, which he considers the commercially fixed levels of bourgeois uncertainty. Now the 'period room' is a false whole because there is no truth in any of its parts. But the Cultured Clutter is a true whole because there is truth in each of its parts. The period room is a lifeless generality, but the Cultured Clutter is a group of lively particulars. The period room is a demonstration of furniture, but the Cultured Clutter is a demonstration of man. The period room can be bought by the ignorant from a catalogue, but the Cultured Clutter must be gathered piecemeal by the educated.

To make the Clutter: take a shiftless sofa and chairs, which, mercifully, do not snap to attention every time you climb out of them. (These are best bought in England.) Add books which overflow the shelves. (The overflowing is the important part of the books, as there is paucity in the period room but plethora in the Cultured Clutter.) Some of the books can be in English but a percentage must be in foreign tongues. Now mix an old Portuguese pulpit with a Dutch table, Biedermayer cupboard and the white rocker from Willow Grove. Sift over the whole with odd *objets d'art*—ivory knives from Spain, silver from Peru, porcelain from Germany, besides those homely bits which give such a flavour of spontaneity: opened letters, stubs of pencils, crumpled papers, and a half-eaten candy bar. On the floor put too many Persian rugs which lap over, on the wall hang great art, and then garnish the jumble with an old sweater, a battered hat, the offspring's fire-engine, and several crystal decanters labeled cognac and sherry. Here the world citizen inserts a note of caution to the American housewife—the genuine effect cannot be achieved by the sacking of department stores, nor, indeed, by any direct method whatsoever. In the words of Lao Tse, he would casually add, "will is not the way at all," but in the words of Shakespeare "by indirection find directions out." The clutter, like happiness, is soonest found in looking for something else.

Which brings us right back to the art of coming home. If the earnest world citizen could only apply his potpourri of epigrams about life to himself, he might see that, like the clutter, his identity is best asserted by indirection. If he didn't make such an issue of it the old wife might never notice the essence of Europe. And in fact none of his daft habits would bother anybody if he didn't keep reminding people of them. The best way to maintain the essence of Europe in America is to practice it as a secret vice. But the world citizen has no secrets. He confronts, he asserts, he denounces. Which only goes to prove that the world citizen is not a world citizen at all, but the same American who once long ago passed out in the Astor Bar. For such a belligerent honesty is only bred on this side of the Atlantic. Such relentless straightforwardness exists only in the sons of Mom. The very finiteness inherent in his epigrams is but another expression of that finiteness he so hates in other Americans. So that, if he but knew it, he needn't fear that female in New York harbour, since under his chestfield and foulard cravat there lives still, unshaken after a decade, not the essence of Europe but the essence of Willow Grove.



# This Is Palermo

By LEONARD E. THOMPSON, *Vice Consul*

City of huge apartments, block after block.  
City of noise; Fiats, motorcycles, put-puts.  
City of promeneurs, men in pairs, arm in arm.  
City of the sun and blue Italian skies.  
City of grand opera and puppet shows.  
City of magnificent churches  
City of eerie, repulsive catacombs.  
City of friendliness and hospitality.

The folk of the mainland accuse Palermo of being provincial. Once Sicily was shunned as being a land of brigands, but upon further exploration and with a closer acquaintance of the people, this fallacy was disproved.

Despite the severity of the bombing during the recent invasion, and with superb courage and hope for the future, this city has struggled and wrought a miracle of re-birth. Many scars of the war still remain; some will never be effaced but will always be visible reminders of the error of taking to war unnecessarily.

Some members of the consular staff now live in splendid villas, homes of well-to-do and not so well-to-do Sicilians. These are great places of from fifteen to forty rooms, and they contain valuable paintings, china, porcelain, crystal, books and objets d'art—and with most of them goes a staff of well-trained servants; a British official has an apartment in a villa near Palermo, and is served by 80-year-old Antonio who has been the "maggiordomo" of the house since 1838!

Eating in a local restaurant is a trial to those of us who are unaccustomed to European ways, for they charge for bread, the napkins, the hutter and the service, and all these are itemized on the bill as presented. Speed is certainly not a Sicilian virtue and one can acquire a degree of patience here that might not be amiss later on.

Monocles and hand kissing are quite the vogue. A monocled Palermote tears madly along Via Liberta on a bicycle! Perhaps the ladies should be ungloved for the osculation of their hands, but only Emily Post would know that.

Due to the lack of traffic police and traffic signals, vehicles race at top speed, tooting at length and loudly on their piercing horns, and the pedestrian is constrained to take extreme precautions in his meanderings or else . . .

Monte Pellegrino looms majestically over the city, a sun-burned rock, with a huge red stone hotel, now abandoned, keeping lonely vigil over the site of bloody battles between Romans and Carthaginians which raged on the mountain around 210 B.C. There is also the grotto of Santa Rosalia, patron of Palermo, and a carved figure of her clad in a robe of pure gold.

Everyone goes to Mondello in the summer. It is seven miles from Palermo and has a good beach, and the Tyrrhenian waters change hues with every mood of the sun and sky.

Via Liberta is very wide. There are narrow sidewalks, three traffic lanes separated by tree-lined walks, all paved with red bricks, polished to a gloss by the unending stream of traffic. Twelve blocks of this, to the Piazza Castelnovo, where it becomes Via Ruggero Settimo for some eight blocks, and then it changes its name again, this time to Via Magueda.

Donkeys with feathery pompoms on their backs, pull little two-wheeled carts about, and the sides of the carts bear vari-colored paintings depicting Sicilian history. To

make the animals move along the driver cries "ah-h-h-h" in a mournful tone—and it works!

Palermo is a city of operaphiles; everybody goes, from the elite, who boxes each season, to your coachman—and all are familiar with the works of the composers. The opera is first-class and famous stars appear here each season; there are two seasons, one from December to March and another during April and May.

Cinemas are numerous, and American films are popular. All are in the Italian language; try to imagine William Powell in, say, "Life With Father," speaking Italian!

When two people meet anywhere, the greeting is "Ciao," which is the equivalent to our "Hi," but being pronounced "chow," it sounds quite funny to the neophyte in Italian.

The eating of spaghetti and macaroni is no joke as far as Italians are concerned, for they eat both in huge quantities, and seriously too. Known simply as "pasta," one learns quickly to like it.

So this is Palermo: big, noisy, sunny and friendly.

## FORM OF DAILY SERVICE FOR USE IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

*Although the following was published in the January 1946 issue of the Journal, the Editorial Board is republishing it with the thought that the conditions so facetiously complained of might not be confined to Whitehall.*

*Let Us Pray:*

O Lord grant that this day we come to no decisions,  
Neither run into any kind of responsibility,  
But that all our doings may be ordered to establish  
New and quite unwarranted departments.

*Hymn:*

O Thou, who seest all things below,  
Grant that thy servants may go slow,  
That they may study to comply  
With regulations till they die.

Teach us Lord to reverence  
Committees more than common sense,  
Impress our mind to make no plan  
But pass the baby when we can.

And when the Tempter seems to give  
Us feelings of initiative,  
Or when alone we go too far  
Chastise us with a circular.

Mid war, and tumult, fire and storms,  
Strengthen us we pray with forms,  
Thus will thy servants ever be  
A flock of perfect sheep for thee.

*Benediction:*

The peace of Whitehall, which passeth all understanding,  
Preserve your mind in lethargy, Your body  
in inertia, and your soul in coma,  
Now and for evermore.  
Amen.

# The Big Shot

Dignified Mr. Waton-Braxton of the State Department said stiffly, "The matter has not reached my desk." His friends would have been shocked to see him when it did.

Reprinted by permission of *This Week* magazine, from the *Evening Star*, Washington, D. C., April 11, 1948

By EDWARD ACHESON\*

Illustrated by Glen Fleischmann

IT was spring, and it was spring in Washington. The locale was important because of the ephemeral and almost momentary quality of that season along the lower reaches of the Potomac. From the Appalachians to the Rockies nature awakes by a series of spaced yawns and interspersed stretches. In the Capital, winter reigns until the streets simmer. Between slush and perspiration the Lord has provided spring. And Washingtonians take advantage of all twenty-four hours.

George James Waton-Braxton was enjoying it to the full extent of his capabilities. Furthermore it was Tuesday and Tuesday was his day to lunch at the Mayflower, at the Men's Bar to the left of the Connecticut Avenue entrance. From his office he took the elevator down to the main floor of The Department. In Washington The Department was and is, of course, the State Department. There's the Department of Commerce, of Labor, the Army and Navy Departments. And The Department. George took the elevator to the main floor on Tuesdays because of the long flight of stone steps down to Pennsylvania Avenue. Some divisions of The Department had been moved with the Secretary to the "New War" Building on Virginia. But not the James Waton-Braxton's division. There was a certain sweep to those steps.

Half way down he adjusted his homburg and tucked his stick under his left arm, frowning slightly. He was thinking about the gloves he carried. He carried them because of the incipient hole in the left one, but a pair of late rising tourists who noted the frown and the striped trousers felt a renewed confidence in their country's ability to deal with the Russians. George waited for the light at the corner of 17th and the Avenue, but when he stepped off the curb he collided with an individual who had, indecorously, tried to beat the traffic on Pennsylvania.

"Beg your pardon, Mr. Secretary. Beautiful morning, sir," George said, restraining a desire to touch his hat in salute. He compromised on a smiling bow. The recipient was obviously confused. And for several reasons. The chancery coat had startled him. He was wondering whether George was some *eharge d'affaires* involved in his own present harassment. For this particular Assistant Secretary of State had forgotten to sign an important letter on Saudi Arabian oil. Now the British, blush them, would pick it up for a song.

"Yes, beautiful song," he said, and rushed illegally across the street.

George would have sworn he'd said "Beautiful song," and on second thought considered it quite likely. Assistant Secretaries were unpredictable and eccentric — for the most part transitory; a couple of years, four, at most. Like the British war commissions that conferred the title "temporary gentlemen." Not at all the career service type. George wondered momentarily what job this particular jay-walking assistant secretary might be performing. Cultural affairs? Economics?

Perhaps. After all The Department was immense and intricate, which, together with the nature of its function, conferred on its members an impenetrable and dignified

anonymity. George smiled to himself trying to picture the social maelstrom which would engulf the neophyte who dared ask a Foreign Service Officer what actually he did. The amused and tolerant smile, the facile absurdity of the explanation—and then ostracism. Yes, the Department has its own peculiar brand of "evasive action."

Because it was spring and Tuesday the Mayflower seemed surprisingly close. The blocks flowed past like vignettes in a travelogue. Seventeenth Street melted into Farragut Square and Connecticut Avenue took over on the other side with no conscious transition. And there were the three revolving doors all locked open against the season. George walked the length of the lobby down to the main dining room and back again as though looking for someone and then, carefully noting the electrically lighted sign "STEP," he stepped and entered the Men's Bar.

"George, m'boy!"

"Well, Brax. Greetings."

"Hiya, 'Ambassador.' How're all your little Ruskis?"

George smiled generally at the group arranged along the wall at the little tables for two and disposed of his hat, gloves and stick. "Gentlemen," he said, and sat down. Most of the men he knew. Fellow named Cole or Dole who had something to do with non-ferrous metals for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, a couple of British naval officers, an Australian with the International Bank, a King's Messenger and an American aviator who wore eagles and looked like a sophomore half-back. The one with the carefully pressed suit and the glasses he didn't remember. Dole or Cole made the introductions.

"Brax, want you to meet Mr. Southard. Jaek Southard. He's down from New York on some sort of an oil swindle, far as I can make see. This is Mr. Waton-Braxton of The State Department, Jaek." The two men shook hands gravely.

"Oil?" George asked.

"Lubricants generally," Mr. Southard said. "You've probably heard of American Lubricants Incorporated. Matter of fact, we have a little matter up with you fellows right now. Matter of fact, that's what I'm down here on right now, little matter of an Iranian concession."

"Iran?" George inquired, vaguely looking over the cocktail list. He always had a dry Martini, but he always looked over the list first.

"Yeah, Iran," Mr. Southard said.

George leaned back and called the waiter, "Whitey . . . oh, Whitey. Make mine a dry Martini, and really dry this time. Tell Callahan. He'll know."

Under cover of the ordering, the RFC man said to Southard, "Lay off the Iranian business. You'll never get anywhere that way. He'll clam up on you." Mr. Southard looked a little wild-eyed.

George turned back politely. "Forgive me. You were saying?"

One of the British officers helped out. "Read the Prime Minister's speech, Brax? If you ask me it's the usual . . . what do you ehaps call it?"

"Eye-wash," the RFC man suggested.

"Hog-wash."

"Malaehi."

"Quite," said the British officer. "Usual form."

"One might say, pre-season form," George put in. "Not

\*THE AUTHOR, Dr. Edward Acheson, teaches at George Washington University when he isn't off on special missions and writes in what spare time he has.

worth a double blue in my book." The Englishman and George beamed at their little joke, leaving the Americans to their cocktails.

George finished his Martini and ordered a hot chicken sandwich. The conversation shifted to Mr. Gromyko and then to supersonic speeds. The Australian began talking about the balance of power in the Pacific. George listened, nodded at appropriate moments and enjoyed his hot chicken sandwich.

Suddenly Mr. Southard threw discretion out the window. "You handle these oil matters, Mr. Blackstone?"

"Braxton," George said smiling, "Waton-Braxton, with a hyphen for some unintelligible reason."

"Sorry," Mr. Southard said. "But do you? The oil, I mean."

George glanced at the King's Messenger. "We handle what the Secretary in his infinite wisdom throws our way, I suppose you'd say. Oil? Well now, I'd scarcely call myself an expert."

"Brax never heard of oil," the RFC man supplied. "Brax and Rockefeller. They just know what they read in the papers."

"Do you handle it?" Mr. Southard wasn't used to being given a runaround. He liked facts that stayed put.

"It is not, shall we say, my specialty," George told him kindly.

"Well, dammit, whose specialty is it, anyway? I've been batting my head . . ."

"If you're referring to oil imports, I'd suggest Averill . . . I should think the Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Harriman, might be the right channel," George told him.

"I'm not. I'm talking about Iranian oil. The whole thing is a hell of a mess and no one seems to be responsible for it. If you fellows don't take any interest . . ."

George laid down his knife and fork. "I didn't catch your name, Mr. —?"

"Southard, James F. Southard, American Lubricants Incorporated. And all I've got to say is . . ."

"Mr. Southard," George held him in mid-sentence. "The Iranian matter has not as yet reached my desk. I am wholly uninformed."

The King's Messenger called for Whitey, said he had to be off, "frightfully official business and all that, you know," told a quick story about flying the Atlantic with a cigarette lighter some Ambassador had forgotten, and the gathering relaxed to some extent. Mr. Southard said he really had to be going and went. The remaining members beamed at each other.

"Really frightfully sorry, old boy." The Australian seemed somehow to feel responsible. "Chap was sitting here when I came in. Hardly do to ask him to leave, really."

"Snothing," George dismissed the incident.

"Lad really had it in for you fellows," the RFC man said.

George smiled. "Our sins are many at The Department. Perhaps we can bear up under one more." He rose, gathered up his hat, gloves and stick. "Good afternoon, gentlemen. I trust we shall foregather shortly with perhaps less — er — vocal lubricants." In a chorus of rejoinders, good-bys were said, which included Whitey's thanks for the twenty-cent tip which brought the whole check to one sixty-five. But no matter, it was budgeted for.

Spring still waited outside the Mayflower. The gray pigeon still retained his position on the exact front of Admiral Farragut's hat. Out-of-town drivers, turning left, continued to make 17th and the Avenue a gauntlet even for the agile. It was a shame that work had to be done on such a day.

At the Department George greeted the guard, who was surprised into saluting, and took the elevator to the fifth floor. His measured tread carried him down the east side of



He carried the gloves because of the incipient hole in the left one.

the building to a large room with a heavily rococo carved ceiling. In rows, old fashioned wooden lockers were separated by benches. George took off his coat and vest, placed these with his stick, gloves and hat carefully in a locker marked with his name.

He removed from the locker and donned an alpaca office coat and began the task of fitting cardboard around his cuffs, fastening it with elastic bands. Then he rose silently and proceeded down the corridor to a door marked "Foreign Service Personnel . . . Accounts Division . . . Adjustments Section . . . J. J. Oliver, Chief . . . Use other door." George didn't. He used that door, and was greeted by a swarm of clicks and whirrings. None of his colleagues looked up. He circled the room to his desk, the fourth in the third row. An eight-inch pile of papers awaited him. He didn't glance through them. He took the top one and began punching figures into his comptometer. The heading caught his eye and he stopped to read. "Expenses . . . Iranian Mission . . . Jan-Feb . . . Vouchers Attached."

He got to work immediately. The Iranian matter had finally reached his desk.

**THE  
AMERICAN  
FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL**

Vol. 25      AUGUST, 1948      No. 8

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY  
THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOCIATION  
1809 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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The American Foreign Service Journal is open to subscription in the United States and abroad at the rate of \$3.00 a year, or 30 cents a copy. This publication is not official and material appearing herein represents only personal opinions.

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**SOME PUBLIC RELATIONS SUGGESTIONS**

Elsewhere in this issue we are presenting a thoughtful article on the relations between our posts abroad and the American foreign correspondents. We concur wholeheartedly in the author's emphasis on the desirability of close cooperation with the gentlemen of the press, who have an important job to do and should have all the assistance the Foreign Service can give them. But not only do the correspondents need our help; we also need theirs. They are the communications link between our activities abroad and the American newspaper and radio public. The more completely these able gentlemen are taken into our confidence and our friendship, the greater the opportunity for the American people to be accurately informed as to the quality and the needs of their Foreign Service.

Some years ago, a former Under Secretary of State, when asked by an aspirant to the Foreign Service for advice as to how most profitably to pass the period between the written and oral examinations, recommended that the young man try to obtain a job as a cub reporter. It was the belief of this Under Secretary that the Department's relations with the press at that time were poor, that something should be done to improve them, and that a young Foreign Service officer could do nothing better to prepare himself for the Service than by getting actual newspaper experience and a working acquaintanceship with the gentlemen of the Fourth Estate. This, in the opinion of the JOURNAL, was sound advice.

American press representatives abroad are one of the best contacts the average Foreign Service officer can have with American public opinion. We are often criticized for not being in close enough touch with the thoughts and feelings of our own people and therefore not being truly representative of America. Through our friendship with American

newspaper and magazine correspondents we can be brought face to face with American public opinion in a vigorous, personal form. No Foreign Service officer in London who knew Ned Russell and Don Cook of the *Herald-Tribune*, Matthews and Mike Hoffman of the *New York Times*, John Osborne of *Time-Life*, and their colleagues could not help but know what and how America was thinking and how that thinking affected American foreign policy. The same is true in Paris, Rome, Rio de Janeiro and other world capitals. The Foreign Service officers who had these friends were better officers. We hope these newspaper men profited equally by their acquaintance with the Embassy personnel.

Recently the Department has had the good fortune to obtain the services of Lloyd Lehrbas, formerly of World Report and the AP, Frederick Oechsner, formerly European correspondent of the UP, and Edward Beatty, formerly of the UP. In this and other ways the Department and the Foreign Service have recently given evidence of a desire for a closer understanding and relationship with the press. The JOURNAL finds encouragement in this trend and feels confident that in the coming years, if pursued, it will prove of real benefit to our foreign relations.

**NORMAN ARMOUR**

On July 1, 1947, Norman Armour, at the request of the Secretary of State, relinquished his hard earned retirement and assumed the arduous duties of Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs. At the time of his return to the Department, Mr. Armour indicated his desire to return to private life after a year's duty. On July 1, 1948 he completed that year and on July 15 left for his property at Gladstone, New Jersey.

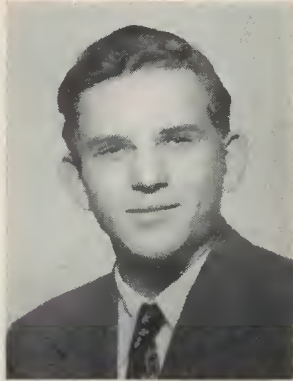
The creation of the office of Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs was an innovation. Mr. Armour's tenure of that office has proved the task to be a gruelling one, but the four political directors would undoubtedly be the first to agree as to the usefulness of the office. Moreover, they would, we feel certain, be unanimous in their gratitude for the assistance which they collectively and individually received from Mr. Armour during his year in Washington. For during his all too short stay with us, Mr. Armour has drawn copiously from his deep well of kindness, understanding of human character, and political acumen. In addition to his work in the Department, during the last year Mr. Armour contributed considerably to the success of the Conferences at Rio de Janeiro and Bogotá.

From the Secretary to the messengers, everyone in the Department is sad to see Mr. Armour leave. However, no one begrudges him the advantages of relaxation and a less strenuous life after his thirty-three years of devoted and effective service; time to read, time to write, time to devote to his duties as Trustee of Princeton University, time to spend on the numerous things we all plan to do when our day of retirement comes.

In leaving us, we hope that Norman Armour realizes that he who has given so much to the Service is leaving behind him a legion of friends who have long admired his skill as a diplomat, his intelligent grasp of public questions, his unswerving fealty to high principles of government and his unfailing courtesy in dealing with his colleagues. Wherever there is a Foreign Service officer, there you will find an admirer of Norman Armour.

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

### JOURNAL SCHOLARSHIP



Mr. Kenneth B. Larson, son of Carrel B. Larson, Minerals Attaché at La Paz, is the recipient of the Foreign Service Journal Scholarship for the year 1948-49. Mr. Larson will enter his sophomore year at the Colorado School of Mines.

### ASSOCIATION AND CHARLES B. HOSMER SCHOLARSHIP

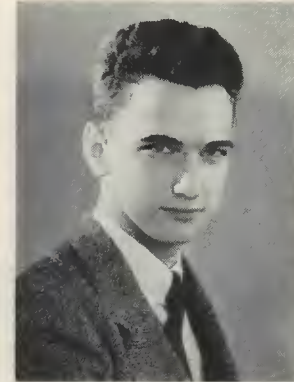


The Charles B. Hosmer and American Foreign Service Association Scholarship was awarded to Miss Juliette Foster, daughter of the late Julian Barrington Foster, Foreign Service Officer. Miss Foster will attend the University of Alabama.

### WILLIAM BENTON SCHOLARSHIP

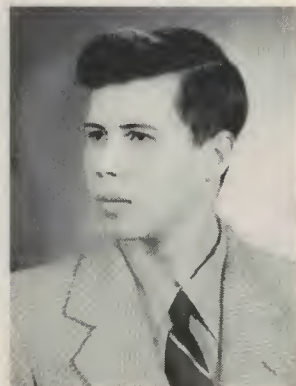


Miss Lydia A. Stoopenkoff, daughter of Alexis A. Stoopenkoff, an employee of the American Embassy, Guatemala, was awarded one-half of the William Benton Scholarship. Miss Stoopenkoff will enter the University of Denver this September.



Mr. William R. Smyser, son of FSO William R. Smyser, was awarded one-half of the William Benton Scholarship for the scholastic year 1948-49. Mr. Smyser will attend The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

### OLIVER BISHOP HARRIMAN SCHOLARSHIP



Mr. Owen H. Faust, son of John B. Faust, First Secretary at Beirut, was awarded one-half of the Oliver Bishop Harriman Scholarship. Mr. Faust will enter his sophomore year at Yale.



Miss Carolyn Marie Klath was awarded one-half of the Oliver Bishop Harriman Scholarship for the school year 1948-49. Miss Klath is the daughter of the late Thornd Osear Klath, Foreign Service Officer. She will enter her sophomore year at Bob Jones University.

# News from the Department

By BARBARA P. CHALMERS

## Personals

Officers who attended the National War College during the past year have now begun to disperse to their respective posts. WARE ADAMS, MAX W. BISHOP and WILLIAM P. SNOW have been assigned to the Department. Assignments of the other eight members of the group are WALTON C. FERRIS, Helsinki; CHARLES F. KNOX, JR., Tel Aviv; WALTER P. MCCONAUGHY, Beirut; ALFRED T. NESTER, Lisbon; JOHN C. POOL, Budapest; GEORGE F. SCHERER, Mexico City; CLARE H. TIMBERLAKE, Bombay, and ERIC C. WENDELIN, Berlin. EDWARD PAGE, JR., who attended only the first half of the course, returned to his post at Rome last winter.

VICE CONSUL SOFIA KEARNEY sailed on July 3, 1948, on the SS *Saturnia*, American Export Lines, to return to Genoa after a leave spent in Puerto Rico and Washington.

The appointment has been announced of DR. WILBERT M. CHAPMAN as Special Assistant to the Under Secretary. Previous to this appointment he served as Director of the School of Fisheries of the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

Bill and George, the sons of FSO and MRS. FRANKLIN C. GOWEN, have been admitted to Harvard and to Princeton Universities respectively and are hoping to enter the Foreign Service in due course.

ULYSSES GRANT-SMITH, retired FSO, qualified for a private pilot's license at the age of 77. He is one of the oldest private pilots in the country.

FSO JOHN J. MACDONALD is serving as American representative on the truce Commission for Palestine, replacing the late Consul General Thomas C. Wasson.

On the retirement of RICHARD W. FLOURNOY, Assistant

Legal Adviser, after 44 years and 11 months in the Department, Under Secretary Robert A. Lovett presented him with a letter of commendation from Secretary George C. Marshall. Mr. Flournoy is an authority on Nationality, Immigration and Naturalization.

FSO ARTHUR RINGWALT has relinquished his duties as Chief of the Division of Chinese Affairs and is now stationed at Newport where he will attend the Naval War College. FSO PHILIP SPROUSE succeeded to the vacancy created by Mr. Ringwalt's transfer.

THE HONORABLE S. PINKNEY TUCK, former Ambassador to Egypt, who retired from the Foreign Service as of May 31st, has been named a member of the Board of Directors of the Suez Canal Company. He will be the first American member to serve on the Board. Mr. and Mrs. Tuck will live in Switzerland and Mr. Tuck will attend the regular meetings of the Suez Canal Company in Paris. They will reside at Chateau de Bellerive, Collonge, Bellerive, near Geneva.

Two groups of officers are taking full-time language courses this summer at the Foreign Service Institute. In addition to the Arabic class, which began in March and will continue until September, five officers are now plugging away at Russian. They are RALPH S. COLLINS, JOHN E. HORNER, M. GORDON KNOX, JAMES W. PRATT and RAY L. THURSTON. The class is under the direction of Prof. George Trager of the University of Oklahoma, who has now joined the Institute's staff.

A regional conference was held in Bangkok from June 21 to June 26 under the chairmanship of THE HONORABLE EDWIN F. STANTON, U. S. Ambassador to Siam. Attending were officers assigned to the U. S. diplomatic and consular posts in southeast Asia as well as to missions in countries adjacent. The three representatives from the Department were FSO JOHN DAVIES, JR., FSO DONALD W. SMITH and FSO WOODRUFF WALLNER.

MISS RUTH E. BACON of the Office of Far Eastern Affairs and MR. EMIL SADY of the Division of Dependent Area Affairs, served as Advisers to the U. S. Delegation to the South Pacific Commission, in Sydney. En route back to the Department Miss Bacon visited Batavia, Bangkok, Saigon and Manila.

DR. WILLIAM C. JOHNSTONE, JR., dean of the School of Government and professor of political science at George Washington University, has been appointed Director of the Office of Educational Exchange. Dr. Johnstone succeeds KENNETH HOLLAND, who will return to Paris immediately to resume his duties as the United States adviser on UNESCO affairs.

## Officers Detailed to National War College

FSO ELERIDGE DURBROW, Counselor of Embassy at Moscow, has been designated Deputy for Foreign Affairs at the National War College, succeeding MAYNARD B. BARNES, for the coming year. The following Foreign Service officers have been designated to attend the College; JOHN H. BRUINS, ALLAN DAWSON, C. BURKE ELBRICK, WILLARD GALBRAITH, EDMUND A. GULLION, NORRIS S. HASELTON, MORRIS N.



On May 7, 1947 an announcement was made of the establishment, in the office of the Under Secretary of State, effective May 5, 1947, of the Policy Planning Staff for the purpose of assuring the development of long range policy. Career Minister George F. Kennan, then serving as Deputy for Foreign Affairs at the National War College, was designated Director of this Staff, and Mr. Carlton Savage, formerly Assistant to the Secretary of State, was named Executive Secretary. Above is a photograph of the planning staff as constituted on July 1, 1948. Reading from left to right: FSO Bernard A. Guffler, Hon. George H. Butler, Director George F. Kennan, Carlton Savage, FSO Henry S. Villard, and FSO Ware Adams.



Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer attending a luncheon given by FSO's of the In-Service Training Course at the Department of Commerce. Facing left to right: FSO Thomas K. Wright, Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer, FSO Robert M. Winfree, and George Bell, Associate Director of Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce.

Others invited were Christian M. Ravndal, Director General of the Foreign Service; Assistant Secretary of Commerce Thomas C. Blaisdell; E. E. Schnellbacher, Department of Commerce; Charles Hersum, Department of Commerce; FSS Morton Pomeranz, FSO Byron White, FSO William L. Smyser, FSS Robert E. Dowland, FSS Robert Brown, FSO George C. Fuller, FSS Carvel Painter, FSS Kenneth Beede, FSS J. Daniel Hanley, FSO William J. Ford.

HUGHES, E. ALLAN LIGHTNER, JR., JAMES P. PILCHER, ARTHUR L. RICHARDS and FRANCIS B. STEVENS. Six Departmental officers will take the course. They are WILSON T. M. BEALE, JR., FREDERICK T. MERRILL, BERNHARD G. BECHHOEFER, LEO G. CYR, MURRAY M. WISE and the sixth officer is yet to be named.

#### *New Member of Editorial Board*

The JOURNAL is pleased to announce the appointment of FSO JOHN M. ALLISON, Chief of the Division of Northeast Asian Affairs, as a member of the Editorial Board. Mr. Allison fills a vacancy on the Board created by the departure of FSO HENRY S. VILLARD who is proceeding to Oslo as Counselor of Embassy. Mr. Allison served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Foreign Service Association in 1946-47.

#### *Foreign Service Officers Detailed to Universities*

A number of Foreign Service officers who are to be detailed to universities this fall for advanced studies in economics have reported in from the field in recent weeks. Among them are ROBERT E. WHEDBEE, Madrid, H. GARDNER AINSWORTH, Rome, who are scheduled to attend Harvard; LEE E. METCALF, Bucharest, who will go to Yale; JULE L. GOETZMANN, San Jose, who will attend Northwestern, and PHILIP M. DAVENPORT, Habana, who will specialize in agricultural economics at Cornell. All study programs are being arranged by the Foreign Service Institute.

Six officers are in New Haven, taking a double intensive language course at Yale. FSOs DAVID P. COFFIN, WILLIAM H. BRUNS, JOHN L. STEGMAIER and JAMES V. MARTIN, JR., are working on Japanese, and ROBERT W. AYLWARD and STEPHEN A. J. COMISKEY are engaged in Chinese studies.

Two staff officers will be among the group of officers who will be detailed to universities this fall as a part of the advanced training program. CARVEL PAINTER, Stuttgart, will attend Columbia for advanced work on economics, and FRANCIS J. GALBRAITH, Hamburg, will go to Yale for a year of Southeast Asian language-and-area studies.

#### *Myron Taylor Lectures on Foreign Affairs*

Establishment of the Myron Taylor Lectures on Foreign Affairs has been announced at Cornell University by President Edmund E. Day. The lectures, which will be given during 1948-49, are made possible by a substantial gift from Mr. Taylor, Cornell alumnus and personal representative of President Truman to His Holiness, the Pope, with the rank of Ambassador. Dr. Day said the sum is the largest ever provided for a single lecture series at the University.

The series will bring outstanding figures in international

affairs, representing the United States and other countries, to the Cornell campus for 12 lectures through the year.

#### *Expansion for State Department Office Space*

A proposal for a \$43,150,000 expansion of State Department office facilities in Washington was sent to Congress recently. The plan calls for remodeling and expanding the New State Building to give the State Department a million square feet of space in addition to the 270,000 it now has in the building. The whole Department would be centered in the one enlarged building.

#### *Security Indoctrination Program*

As a part of its continuing efforts to create and maintain an awareness of the need for constant vigilance and the use of sound security practices, the Department of State conducted a security indoctrination program during the week of June 14-18. The program consisted of an informal talk on security practice and the dangers which make such practice necessary, followed by a film demonstrating the points brought out in the talk.

Arranged by the Foreign Service Institute, the program was given two times a day for five days and was attended by some 5,000 people. The program was planned and the talk on security given by Robert B. Freeman, Assistant

*(Continued on page 46)*



FSO John M. Allison  
New Member of Editorial Board

# News From The Field

## FIELD CORRESPONDENTS

*Australia (Canberra)*—Donald Lamm  
*Austria*—Martin F. Herz  
*Belgium*—A. Guy Hope  
*Bolivia*—Park F. Wollam  
*British Guiana*—George W. Skora  
*Canada (Eastern)*—Terry B. Sanders, Jr.  
*Ceylon*—Perry N. Jester  
*Chile*—Dixon Donnelley  
*Colombia*—John M. Vebber  
*Costa Rica*—Albert E. Carter  
*Dakar*—William R. Gennert  
*Dutch West Indies*—Lynn W. Franklin  
*France (Northern)*—Alfred H. Lovell, Jr.  
*France (Southern)*—William H. Christensen  
*French Indo-China*—Dallas M. Coors  
*Greece*—William Witman, 2d  
*Hongkong*—Betty Ann Middleton

*Hungary*—Jane Wilson Pool  
*Iceland*—William S. Krason  
*London*—W. Stratton Anderson, Jr.  
*New Zealand*—John S. Service  
*Panama*—Oscar H. Guerra  
*Paraguay*—Henry Hoyt  
*Peru*—Maurice J. Broderick  
*Poland*—Findley Burns, Jr.  
*Portugal*—William Barnes  
*Rumania*—Donald Dunham  
*Shanghai*—Emory C. Swank  
*Singapore*—John Hamlin  
*Southampton*—William H. Beck  
*Switzerland*—Ruth Madsen  
*Trinidad*—Benjamin L. Sowell  
*Union of South Africa*—John C. Fuess  
*Uruguay*—Sidney Lafoon  
*U.S.S.R.*—Foy D. Kohler

## BERN

June 8, 1948.

Charles H. Owsley, Second Secretary of the Legation, and Mrs. Elizabeth Jones Whitaker of Alexandria, Va., were married May 14 in a quiet afternoon ceremony at the small country church in Muri, near Bern. Twenty guests attended the wedding, which was performed in French.

Following the nuptials the guests gathered at the home of Second Secretary and Mrs. James M. Byrne for toasts in honor of the newly-weds, after which the couple departed for a short wedding trip to Villa d'Este on the Lake of Como.

A reception for Mr. and Mrs. Owsley was given May 23 at the residence of Minister John Carter Vincent. Extending their congratulations and best wishes were more than 150 guests, including intimate friends and colleagues as well as members of the diplomatic corps.

RUTH MADSEN.

## LIMA

June 21, 1948.

For the second time within the short space of a year (the first, Walter J. Donnelly was named an Ambassador) the Counselor of Embassy at Lima was named Ambassador. Ralph H. Ackerman, Counselor of Embassy, here since mid-1947, is now on his way to an ambassadorial post in the Dominican Republic.

Officers of Embassy Staff organized on the spur of the moment a midday "champañada" on the terrace of the Embassy office building, on the morning that his nomination was announced. As spokesman for the Embassy Staff, your Lima correspondent keynoted this am-

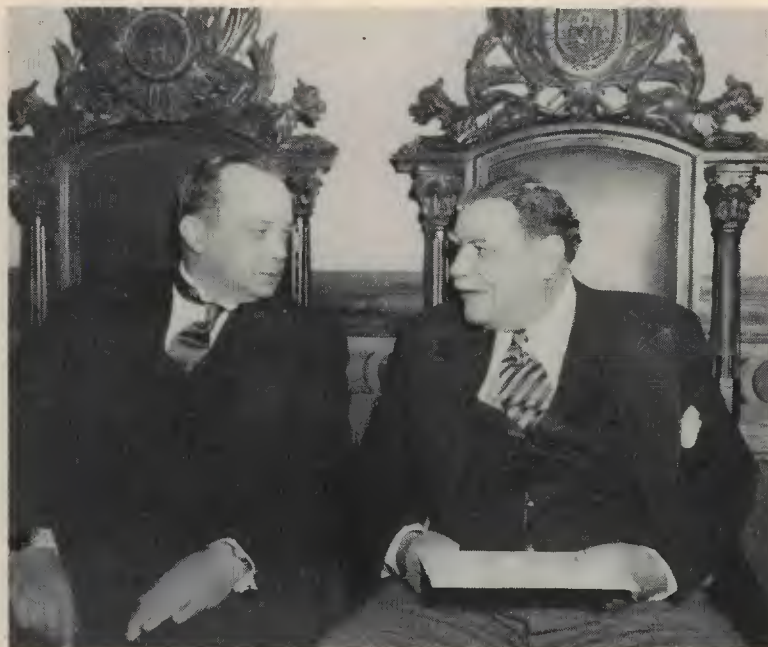
bassadorial launching by saying such appointments gave a new incentive to the officers of the Foreign Service in rewarding an outstanding careerist in this way. He closed by remarking that all present now felt that they numbered among their close friends an Ambassador.

DR. HUMBERTO CAMILLONI, Attorney at Law and cornerstone of the Embassy Economic Section, was congratulated on May 2 by the Ambassador and members of the Embassy Staff upon the 25th anniversary of his entering the service of the Embassy.

The Ambassador made a short speech of congratulation and presented Dr. Camilloni with an engraved silver tray and a scroll containing the names of all Staff members contributing.

Dr. Camilloni was born in Lima on October 9, 1902, and was educated in the University of San Marcos and the Catholic University of Peru, where he received doctorates in both Law and Political Science and Economics. His present position is Special Assistant to the Commercial Attache, and he received many recommendations from both Departments of State and Commerce for his thorough and exhaustive economic reports of Peruvian market conditions for U. S. merchandise. Dr. Camilloni has held the position of Accountant with the importing company of R. T. Sparks. He entered on duty with the American Embassy in Lima in the office of the Commercial Attache on May 2, 1923.

Dr. Camilloni, in a brief speech of acknowledgment, stated that he was honored and touched at this anniversary.



The Honorable Herbert S. Bursley and President Carias of Honduras conferring after the presentation of credentials by Ambassador Bursley.





**RALPH H. ACKERMAN FETED BY EMBASSY STAFF**

Present at this midday celebration were, among others, the following: Assistant Economic Attaché L. B. Askew; Third Secretary & Vice Consul R. W. Zimmerman; Consul R. B. Gordon; R. K. Calcote, Disbursing Officer; Assistant Commercial Attaché C. E. Larsen; First Secretary R. L. de Lambert; Second Secretary and Consul J. C. Lobenstine, Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Elvira Lawyer; Assistant Naval Attaché, Lt. Kenneth D. Smith; Special Economic Assistant, H. Camilloni; Military Air Attaché, Lt. Col. Charles M. Walton; Counselor of Embassy, R. H. Ackerman; Military Attaché, Lt. Col. J. H. O'Malley; Civil Attaché H. Spalding; Assistant Commercial Attaché Charles Bridgett; Dr. A. A. Giesecke, Civil Attaché; Assistant Military Attaché, Capt L. W. Raber; Second Secretary & Vice Consul M. J. Broderick; Vice Consul W. P. Allard; Second Secretary & Cultural Attaché, Dr. E. Delgado-Arias; Assistant Administrative Officer R. S. Johnson; Press Attaché F. J. Barcroft.

sary celebration, and moreover, that he was now regarded by most his Peruvian friends as an American citizen, since, when asked how long he had been with the Embassy, he now always replies "I was born there."

MAURICE J. BRODERICK.

## BUCHAREST

June 5, 1948.

On May 11, the American colony braved the rigors of the Iron Curtain and the pitfalls of amateur dramatics and put on "Junior Miss." Thanks to the single-handed efforts of Mary Jeanette Kohler, Foreign Service Clerk, a cast was selected and whipped into shape, a theatre finally obtained and the play performed with exceptional finish. What started out to be an effort by Miss Kohler to give the half dozen American children a continuing interest for two months, resulted in a hilarious morale lifter for both the American and British colonies and the Diplomatic Corps.

The "Junior Miss" was Nancy Leverich, daughter of the Counselor, who, in her thirteenth year, played the role so naturally that it was difficult to tell when her own life stopped and the play began. She startled even her own family with her virtuosity. Her side-kick, both on and off stage, the irrepressible Fuffy, was another Nancy, the daughter of the Military Attache, John R. Lovell. Bob Ross, son of Public Affairs Officer Donald Dunham, sang a Western Union telegram in his 14 year old voice to the joy of all. Mac Lovell, the Military Attache's college age son, appeared rather convincingly as one of the numerous suitors of the Junior Miss' older sister, the "charming" Lois who was played by Maggie Pratt of the Military Attaches' Office. Mike Hudson, as another suitor, the 13-year-old son of the First Secretary, brought down the house with his perfectly natural mis-manipulation of a cigarette. Another "man in Lois' life" was Sergeant McDonald of the Military Attaches' Office who was just as brash as the part called for.

Jim Garvey and Bob Mautner, Third Secretaries, were rejuvenated to look like apprehensive suitors for Judy, the Junior Miss. The father of July and Lois was performed for all his biliousness and sterling character by Second Secretary C. V. Ferguson and the ever-understanding

mother by Joan Olmsted of the Military Attaches' Office.

Father's boss — with his tycoon, steam-rolling methods — was put across by Bob Creel, Second Secretary, and the latter's mousy daughter, Ann Osbourn, ended by marrying her own husband, Jim Osbourn, Vice Consul, who appeared as Judy's black sheep Uncle Willis. The martyred maid was given all its attractive Irishness by Peggy Maggard, Foreign Service Clerk. Meg Galbraith, also Foreign Service Clerk, designed a delightful program and acted as assistant to Mary Jeanette Kohler.

In the latter's words:

"Arrangements had been made to have the final performance and several rehearsals in a local theatre. We reckoned, however, without the Iron Curtain. Two weeks before the play was to be given, the theatres were suddenly taken over by the State, and the rental of a theatre for one performance became the subject of a note to the Rumanian Foreign Office, which assured us that all would be well. The cast blithely continued rehearsals until the week before the performance when it was not at all sure that we could have the theatre. We decided to give the play if we had to go on the Legation lawn, but were extremely unhappy. After great anxiety, and numerous phone calls, it was finally decided, the day of the dress-rehearsal, three days before the performance, that a foreign group could rent a theatre. So, invitations went out in a big hurry to the Diplomatic Corps. In spite of the short notice, the two months word-of-mouth propaganda about the play provided an almost full house. All went well on the evening of the performance, except that the curtain-puller, a Rumanian, having been instructed that there would be five curtain-calls, pulled the curtain open and shut five times — one minute before the play was over and caused a mild panic by the cast who were determined to speak every last word.

"Rudolf E. Schoenfeld, American Minister, gave a pleasant, very informal reception for the cast after the play, to which were invited a number of members of the Diplomatic Corps."

DONALD DUNHAM.

(Continued on page 52)

# The Bookshelf

FRANCIS C. DE WOLF, *Review Editor*

**Toward World Peace.** By Henry A. Wallace. *Reynal & Hitchcock, (Harcourt, Brace & Co.), New York, 1948. 121 pages. \$1.75.*

**The Truth About Communism.** By Dorothy Thompson. *Public Affairs Press, Washington, D. C. 17 pages. \$0.25.*

My grandmother used the expression "fine talk" to describe the high-principled, impractical, philosophical conversations in which her menfolks indulged after dinner on Sunday afternoon. Amid the fumes from rich cigars, the affairs of the world were settled, and everybody went home feeling uplifted and full of noble resolves. Of course, on Monday, reality intervened, and practical problems met practical solutions. But I am sure an echo of the ideals remained and perhaps the Monday business dealings were a little better for the Sunday fine talks.

All this is a preliminary to saying that Mr. Wallace indulges in fine talk, too, and that it has its place in our national picture. A country without ideals is a waning power. It is the intangibles that hold a state together. Rome did not collapse until its leaders became venal. However, Wallace as the standard bearer for advanced idealism and Wallace as the President of the United States are two different things. This judgment is based on a reading of Mr. Wallace's book "Toward World Peace."

In his introduction Mr. Wallace says, "The purpose of this book is to give the underlying facts which are the basis for my faith that there can be peace without appeasement. The attitude of almost the entire American people has been warped by a partial presentation of facts. That is why in this book I have tended to give special emphasis to the facts which most of the press has tended to neglect." He then goes on to discuss his basic beliefs, which are summarized in the concluding chapter, where he lists the nine points for which the New Party, of which he is the leader, pledges itself to fight. Briefly, they are: 1. Freedom of expression; 2. Peace and understanding with Russia; 3. Elimination of the Wall Street control of civil government; 4. Lower prices; 5. Repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act; 6. Control of monopoly; 7. One hundred dollars a month old-age insurance, one dollar an hour minimum wage, and socialized medicine; 8. Federal aid to public schools; 9. Government planning through the President's Council of Economic Advisers to eliminate "boom and bust" and unemployment.

This is not a startling program and the book itself is simply written, but there are too many statements compounded of exaggeration, naïveté, and an unreal and child-like faith in one's fellow men to inspire confidence in Wallace as a hard-headed, realistic leader. For example, on Page 1 he says, "Fear—hysterical fear—stalks our land. It haunts the towers of New York and sweeps through the fields of Kansas."

Throughout the book he maintains that the press and the radio in this country are subsidized by reactionary capitalism and that the average American does not understand the real Russia because of the distorted picture that is presented day after day in our press. He refers to the people "whom the press deluded" and to the "rays of truth" which are "inadvertently" allowed to come through to the American public. His picture of the American people as a deluded and gullible citizenry, being fed distorted facts through a Wall Street-dominated press and radio, is far from flattering. This assumption of his that the press and radio are biased against the Russians is also his answer to any argu-

ment that the Soviet Union is behaving in an unpleasant manner: It isn't true. It's just the slanted picture you get from our newspapers!

His attitude toward the Soviet Union and Communism is baffling and irritating. He states that he does not accept the support of the Communist or any other faction in the United States, nor of any person or group advocating the violent overthrow of the Government of the United States. He admits that the Russians have faults. Yet, on the other hand, he finds excuses for practically all these faults. He goes back into history for some; in many cases it appears that this country has driven the Russians into their hostile responses. "The responsibility for deliberately whipping up that [the red] panic . . . rests on the American press, on the leaders of the two old parties, on British Tories both within and without the Labour party, on the mouthpieces for the military, on astigmatic elements of big business, and on certain segments of the clergy. . . . To the unrelenting, year-in-year-out torrent of this poison the Soviet Union has responded. It, too, has given way to bitterness and recrimination. It, too, has brandished the sword and called names."

He believes that peace and understanding with the Russians is the cornerstone for future world peace. A friendly relationship with Russia would eliminate the need for heavy armaments, — this would reduce income taxes. This and the elimination of reactionary capitalism, with its suppression of full production, would result in more goods, higher wages and lower prices.

His arguments are based too much on what the United States *should* do and what Russia *should* do, and not what they *will* do. According to his plans the reactionary capitalists "who control the United States" must tell their friends that they "must play ball with the Russians." At the same time "Russia must make it clear to her communist friends in other countries that reactionary capitalism still has some years of useful service to humanity in the western democracies before it passes into the discard." These are wonderful thoughts, but who is going to make the Russians follow this plan? As the President of the United States, Mr. Wallace might be able to institute his reforms here, but that is no guarantee that the Russians would follow suit. He adds, "Once an attitude of this sort is adopted on both sides all the rest will be easy." That is a statement with which no one will argue, but I still wonder how one gets such an attitude adopted.

Mr. Wallace declares that our foreign policy is failing all over the world. With regard to the Foreign Service he says, "The sons and friends of the men dominating the key industries oftentimes go into foreign service or military careers. The members of the foreign service, military, justice, or commercial divisions of government who do not come from the higher ranks of the 'best families' are in considerable measure drawn from schools whose teaching is in strict conformity with the orthodox views of reactionary capitalism." His statement that "The Russian diplomatic tactics at times have been characterized by continuous irritating and unnecessary delay" may strike State Department negotiators as at least a mild understatement.

One feels that basically Wallace is genuinely concerned for the little people all over the world and that if only he had it in his power he would remove all injustice and poverty from their lives. It is a pity that he has not developed the practical qualities which, combined with his broad vision, made Mr. Roosevelt a great leader. This country could use such a man.

It is recommended that, after reading Wallace's book, you read the pamphlet by Dorothy Thompson, for which you will have to write to the Public Affairs Press at 2153 Florida Avenue, Washington, D. C. Miss Thompson's book is worth reading because it represents the extreme opposite end of the thinking about Communism from Mr. Wallace's gentle and hopeful viewpoint. While there is no preface in the pamphlet to explain its purpose, it appears obvious that it was written at least partly in rebuttal of Wallace's views. Miss Thompson damns the Communists completely, mostly through quotations from their own official papers. Her attitude toward Wallace is shown in this one brief quote: "In a statement made in Milwaukee, Henry Wallace said: 'Like the Quakers and Methodists, Communists want peace.' Seldom has a remark of more ineffable idiocy been uttered." Apart from the Wallace angle Miss Thompson's book is useful as a thumbnail sketch of the purposes and methods of Communism. Her final conclusion that the Communist Party of the United States should be outlawed and all connections with it penalized, gives an idea of how far apart she and Mr. Wallace are.

HELEN G. KELLY

**Russia in Flux.** By Sir John Maynard. *The Macmillan Company, New York, 1948. 564 pages. \$6.50.*

A reviewer attempting to be objective can find few kind things to say about this book, other than to state that it contains a wealth of material and that consequently it might merit a place in a large and comprehensive library devoted to works on Russia. In any event, it should be read near the end of the collection. This advice is directly opposed to that of Sir Bernard Pares when he says, "Every serious student of Russia of the Revolution should read and digest this book before he tackles any other."

One may readily admit that Sir John's knowledge of his subject was indeed encyclopedical, but this fact in no way detracts from the very definite impression that he was an active defender and promoter of the Russian Communist System. His defense and his promotion are very cleverly presented—each favorable judgment is qualified by a caveat, but the proportion between the two is that existing in the familiar adulterated rabbit pie—"one horse-one rabbit." He obviously intends to convey the impression of objective analysis and conclusion but one does not have to read very far before one can card index his technique of psychological infiltration.

Sir John says in his Preface: "I have sought to banish from these pages wolves, angels, and predatory fat gentlemen with a gift for arithmetic."

He appears also to have banished the individual and humanity. It may well be that the author, who was an old man when he wrote this book, forgot to include these elements because of his career in the Orient as a civil servant, where suffering and the masses are living realities and where the individual and humanity are, with a few exceptions, merely figures of speech devoid of any substantial content.

Unless one is building up a Russian library, the \$6.50 which is the price of the book might be spent elsewhere with far more profit to the serious student of Russian affairs.

JOHN P. GARDINER

**Thomas Jefferson, American Humanist.** By Karl Lehmann. *The Macmillan Company, New York, 1947. 273 pages. \$4.50.*

The term "humanist" appears to refer to one whose political attitude is influenced by a feeling for human needs, and who in this regard seeks guidance in the classical writings

of the ancient Greeks and Romans. It reflects the view that "the proper study of mankind is man."

In his introduction to this study of "the gigantic figure of Thomas Jefferson," Dr. Lehmann says: "The appraisal of man as the measure of things was first brought into the world by the Greeks. The cultured Romans deserve the name of humanist because they chose to make this Greek sense of civilized personality their own. The Humanism of the Renaissance was the soil in which Thomas Jefferson grew. However much we may today appreciate subconscious tradition from the Middle Ages which pervaded the Renaissance, the concept of the human individual as an independent, free and self-reliant genius was a continuation of the line of antique Humanism."

This book shows the amazing scope of Jefferson's learning and the extraordinary diversity of his interests, which covered, not only law and politics, but history, architecture, literature, education and medicine. He was deeply interested in the writings of the great historians of ancient times, especially Tacitus, Thucydides and Polybius, and was familiar with the works of the poets, from Homer, Virgil and Horace to Dante, Corneille, Shakespeare, and Milton (pp. 139 ff). Probably most of us who were required at college to read the works of Greek and Latin writers, put them aside upon leaving, and seldom, if ever, opened them thereafter, but to Jefferson such works were a continuing source of interest and instruction, and he always preferred reading them in the original texts.

As Dr. Lehmann shows, Jefferson was distinctly a pragmatist and his approach to all problems was empirical. While having a deep and abiding interest in the views of historians and philosophers, he never failed when confronted with a particular task to get down to brass tacks. An illustration of this is found in the Declaration of Independence itself, in which Jefferson, after pronouncing broad principles concerning the rights of men to maintain their liberty and to revolt against oppression, proceeded to set forth in detail the ways in which the British Sovereign had subjected the American colonists to oppression, escape from which could be found only in complete separation and independence.

As the author observes, Jefferson, although he kept a "Literary Bible" and a "Commonplace Book," containing excerpts from Greek and Roman writers, wrote only one book, his "Notes on Virginia." However, during his time there was to be found in Virginia an extraordinary group of men of culture and political acumen, including not only such outstanding figures as George Washington, James Madison, James Monroe, Richard Henry Lee and John Marshall, but others less well known, such as George Mason, Henry St. George Tucker, Edward Carrington and Jefferson's legal mentor, George Wythe, and his letters to those men and to John Adams, whom he greatly respected, contain interesting observations on the then existing political problems. These letters have been printed in various collections, including *Basic Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, edited by Dr. Philip S. Foner, Willey Book Company, New York, 1944. See also *The Life and Writings of Thomas Jefferson* by Adrian Koeh and William Peden, The Modern Library, 1944, and *Jefferson*, by Saul K. Padover, Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1942. It is worth while to read these books, in order to get an adequate view of this great American, undoubtedly one of the most versatile characters in the history of our own or any other country. With regard to the part taken by Jefferson in the conduct of our foreign affairs and the purchase of the Louisiana Territory, Mr. Padover's book is especially enlightening.

(Continued on page 48)

# Letters to the Editors

Marion Letcher

July 8, 1948

TO THE EDITORS,  
THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sirs:

The news of the passing of an old friend and colleague, Consul General Marion Letcher, has just reached me.

This news, while not entirely unexpected (since Mr. Letcher had been in failing health in recent years) is nonetheless distressing, for I had known him and his delightful family, consisting of the wife and three daughters, in their own home. And I had also known him officially when, as a comparatively young officer, he served in the State Department on the staff of the Foreign Trade Advisor, and later, when he successfully administered the large and important Consulate General at Copenhagen, Denmark.

Mr. Letcher was a man of scholarly attainments, with a reputation for thorough and careful investigation of any problem placed before him. Furthermore, his rigid but fair interpretation and enforcement of regulations and law, upon which he was unusually well posted, contributed greatly toward the confidence which his Superiors were said to place in his decisions.

It was a keen disappointment to Mr. Letcher when his failing health compelled him to retire some years before his allotted time from the Service to which he had contributed his best for some 25 years or more. He was a gentle man, always. Officers of his education, intelligence, character and general standing are never too plentiful in any Service.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing him, and the family who contributed so much toward his successful career, feel deeply grieved at his passing.

CHARLES E. EBERHARDT.

## ON PROMOTIONS

Tulsa, Okla.,  
June 5, 1948.

TO THE EDITORS,  
THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:  
Dear Sirs,

During travel which brought me in contact with several young officers of the Foreign service and finding them to be intelligent, fine Christian gentlemen, I became interested in their progress.

I read with amazement some of these young men, who, I am told, had had long service in the lowest grade, and who had done excellent work, were not advanced while promotions were awarded to fledglings not yet quite dry behind the ears.

One is unable to understand how and why such a thing should happen. Unquestionably there is something wrong with the system of selection. Perhaps, as your editorial states, in some cases there was little or no information on officers. Certainly if the young man had served say, for eighteen months or two years, absence of information on him was not his fault and one would have thought that in such cases advancement would not have been denied until the merits of the young officer could have been obtained either from someone in the Department or from those under whom he served.

In case any of these young officers unjustly denied promotion wish to leave the service — and in my opinion they

should do so if justice is not done at once — there are some very fine openings in the oil business here into which they would be accepted with alacrity.

Very truly,

J. W. DENT

The Journal has received the following unsigned communication from Saint John, N.B., Canada, June 14, 1948:

That Vice Consul Frederick C. Johnson, now temporarily detailed to the Plymouth Consulate, is believed to hold the record of the longest continuous occupancy of a post in the field. The Vice Consul established the office in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, on October 8, 1921, and administered this office until it was officially closed on January 24, 1948, covering a period of 26 years, 3 months and 16 days, actually, although his appointment to this post is dated September 19, 1921.

The Vice Consul is awaiting his appointment to a permanent post; in the interim, he is attached to the Plymouth office.

Mr. Johnson's father, the late Colonel Edmund Johnson, was American Consul in Mexico, Canada and Germany. He retired from the Service because of ill health caused by a bullet wound received in the Civil War.

His brother, Felix Johnson, besides long service, was for seventeen years Consul at Kingston, Ontario, Canada. His sister's husband, Consul Henry T. Wilcox, died in the Service at Vigo, Spain, in 1925. Mrs. Wilcox has held a post as chief clerk at the Sarnia Consulate since the death of her husband in 1925.

## MARRIAGES

BRANDIN-LOCKTON. Miss Barbara Marie Lockton and FSO Robert M. Brandin were married on June 13, 1948, in New York City. Mr. Brandin is Second Secretary and Consul at Helsinki.

LONGYEAR-HOPFIELD. Miss Helen Elizabeth Hopfield and Mr. Robert R. Longyear were married on June 18, 1948, in Washington, D. C. Mr. Longyear is the son of former FSO Robert D. Longyear.

DYE-SCOTT. Miss Margaret Scott and Dr. Alexander Vincent Dye, retired Foreign Service officer, were married on July 15, in Tryon, North Carolina.

POOL-WILSON. Miss Jane Wilson and FSO John C. Pool were married on July 20, 1948, at St. John's Church in Washington, D. C. Miss Wilson was formerly Managing Editor of the JOURNAL. Mr. Pool is assigned to the American Legation, Budapest, as First Secretary.

## BIRTHS

KREBS. A daughter, Marlyn Vaice, was born on March 26, 1948, to FSO and Mrs. Max V. Krebs in Montevideo, where Mr. Krebs is Third Secretary and Vice Consul.

STORA. A daughter, Robin, was born on May 4, 1948, to FSO and Mrs. DeWitt L. Stora in Montevideo, where Mr. Stora is Third Secretary and Vice Consul.

SISCOE. A son, John Pinkerton, was born on May 27, 1948, to FSO and Mrs. Frank G. Siscoe in Prague where Mr. Siscoe is the Second Secretary and Consul.

BARNES. A son, Charles Glover, was born on June 3, 1948, to FSO and Mrs. William Barnes in Lisbon, where Mr. Barnes is Second Secretary and Consul.

# Service Glimpses



PHOTO OF FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL ABOARD THE SS PRESIDENT WILSON, AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES, VOYAGE NO. 1 LOS ANGELES TO THE FAR EAST

Front row, l. to r.—Miss Grace Moffett (to Tokyo), Mrs. Dorothy Walker (to Manila), Miss Phyllis Ryan (to Nanking), Miss Jane Lambrecht (to Hongkong), Miss Marilyn Rothfus (to Tientsin), Miss Wilma Cipciak (to Nanking), Mrs. Wm. Farrer-Bynnes (to Shanghai), Miss Lucia Millet (daughter, Consul Charles Millet, to Shanghai).

Second row, l. to r.—Nicholas Millet (son of Consul, to Shanghai), Consul Charles Millet (to Shanghai), Miss Lucy Baggett (to Tokyo), Miss Millicent Funk (to Tokyo), Wm. Farrer-Bynnes (to Shanghai), Mrs. Frank Kierman (to Nanking), Mr. Frank Kierman (Attaché, to Nanking), Miss Lucille Gould (to Nanking).

Absent from the group photographed but also aboard was Miss Elizabeth Stubbs, assigned to Manila.



Vice Consul Thomas J. Daffield, Jr. was married in Rotterdam on May 5, 1948 to Miss Josephine Yvonne van Geelen. The photo shows the consular wedding party, reading from l. to r.: American Clerk Beulah Southern, Bridesmaid; the bride; the groom; and Vice Consul John A. Bovey, Jr., best man.



Arrival of Ambassador and Mrs. Henry F. Grady for the Independence Celebrations of Ceylon. Ambassador Grady came to Ceylon as the Personal Representative of the President of the United States. Left to right—Ambassador Grady, Mrs. Grady, Colonel John W. Middleton, Military Attaché, New Delhi, and Consul General Perry N. Jester.



AMATEUR DRAMATICS IN BUCHAREST

Extreme left: Maggie Pratt—Lois

Center: Joan Olmsted and James Osbourn—Mother & Uncle Willis

On sofa, left: Nancy Leverich—Judy; To her left: Nancy Lovell—Fuffy

Behind sofa: C. V. Ferguson—Father.

(See News from the Field, page 23.)

# Abdication of King Michael of Rumania

By MARGARET HUDSON

It was late afternoon of December 30, 1947, in Bucharest. I stood at the sitting room window of our suite in the Athenee Palace Hotel, idly watching the people in the square below. How extraordinary it is, I thought, that humans can depict so vividly by their gait and posture, their thoughts and their feelings. It was growing dusk and I could distinguish no faces, but weariness and discouragement were written on every trudging figure. I glanced across at the Royal Palace. The King's standard was flying and the guards, in their shabby uniforms, were marching back and forth between the main gates, despite the fact that the King himself was in his mountain house at Sinaia. It was snowing, but the flakes melted as they fell, leaving only a grey slush which seemed to add to the inexpressible dreariness of the scene beneath.

Suddenly the radio blared forth, completely without warning, "The King has abdicated"—and added nothing to that bare announcement. At first I couldn't believe it. Of course it had been common talk for months that the Communists were making life just as difficult as possible for King Michael, frustrating him at every turn, but also everyone knew how deep was his devotion to his country, how strong his love for his oppressed people. I had met him only once, at luncheon in Sinaia, and had found him serious and sincere, but those who knew him much better than I were convinced of his real determination to remain beside his people as long as he could be of any service to them, or lighten their burden by sharing it. Still hoping that somehow it was a mistake, I looked again at the Palace. The royal flag had gone but it was always drawn down at sunset anyway. So I tried to convince myself but I knew in my heart that it was only too tragically true. I scanned the crowd again expecting, just why I don't know, to see amongst them some sign, some indication of sorrow or loss. But no, they plodded on in the gathering darkness, doubtless unaware that they had been deprived of their last symbol of independence and a very great friend.

The last day of the year dawned on a scene of complete quiet. It was still half snowing, half sleet. Everyone knew the details now, how the royal resignation had been forced, how the King was leaving immediately, unable to say even a word of farewell to the people he had tried so hard to befriend. During the morning I went into town, where both in shops and on the streets men and women alike tried to wish me (because I was obviously a foreigner) a "Happy New Year" with tears streaming down their cheeks. Never have I seen so many grown people crying openly—not the light tears of a passing emotion but the hard, grim tears of despair.

The girl who always shampooed my hair asked me in the German we spoke together "Wie sagt man 'schwarz' auf Englisch?" I answered "black" and she said "That is all I can say for us—it is a black New Year." There was nothing more one could say.

About three o'clock the same afternoon a scattering of people gathered around a bulletin board posted on a building opposite the palace. As they gazed at it, or wandered dejectedly about, suddenly there appeared out of nowhere dozens of soldiers, accompanied by an army band. While the music blared its loudest, the soldiers cordoned the civilians and endeavored to form them into a ring, shouting meanwhile "Traiasca Republica." Since the complete lack of enthusiasm was obvious to anyone watching, more soldiers were sent for, more people corralled (some, I dis-

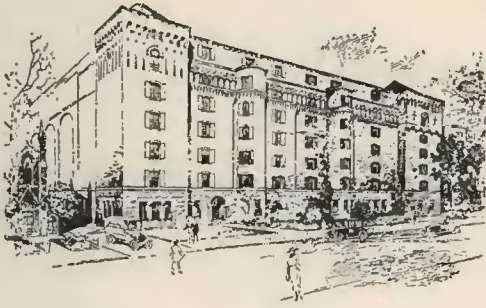
covered later, being hauled off street-cars and brought to the scene in trucks) till finally there was a crowd sufficient to warrant the term "spontaneous demonstration," as it was reported in the newspapers. Then came still more soldiers and a group of girls wearing white coats and hoods. The latter acted as cheer leaders and interspersed amongst the crowd, grabbing their hands and pulling them along in an effort to make them dance. Finally when the soldiers outnumbered the civilians by about two to one, a ring was formed and, prodded by plain clothesmen on the inside, the crowd executed a half-dance, half-shuffle around the square, while the Palace loomed black and lovely in the background. When whoever was in charge of the demonstration decided the performance had lasted long enough, the soldiers released the crowd who melted away as rapidly as the ever falling snow. In five minutes the square was empty.

On New Year's Day—the first day of this glorious new era according to the radio—there was another attempt at the same kind of "spontaneous" celebration with equal lack of success.

About noon police whistles shrilled wildly and the entire square was suddenly cleared. Then came police cars and small jeeps rushing up and down to ensure that no civilian was left lurking behind a post and finally a big, black official Packard loomed into sight, escorted, as always, by a protecting convoy. It turned into the Palace gate followed by two other official cars, also guarded by police. The "big three" of Roumania, it seemed, were holding court and receiving congratulations. I watched the long stream of the luxurious motor cars of the Party members pour in through the guarded gates and I thought of the King who was even then setting out on his lonely exile and finally of those cold, shabby, lost human beings on the outside, whose only introduction to this "glorious new day" had been a further cutting of an already meagre bread ration, and I could only pray "from this, dear Lord, deliver us."



Margaret Hudson



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## Our Retired Officers

The Editors of the JOURNAL believe that our readers are keenly interested in the whereabouts and activities of former members of the Service. Retired Foreign Service officers are being invited by letter (several each month) to send in for publication a brief description of their present dwelling place and occupation, with whatever details as to hobbies and future plans they may care to furnish. It is hoped in this way the widely separated members of the American Foreign Service Association may keep in touch with one another and preserve the common ties which unite them.

From Henry H. Balch

441 Eustis St.  
Huntsville, Ala.  
June 24, 1948

I retired from the Foreign Service on January 31, 1942 at the age of 65. Long before retirement my wife and I decided that we would settle in Huntsville, Alabama, near the places where we were both born and had lived until entering the Foreign Service. For our home we purchased a two story, comfortable old brick house located in the center of a large lawn on which are some fifty noble shade trees, at 441 Eustis Street. Mrs. Balch and I felt that the remainder of our lives would be more usefully employed and that we would actually be happier by returning to the place where we grew up and where our ancestors had lived since Alabama was admitted into the Union, in the heart of the Tennessee Valley Area.

We own 400 acres of farm land, all of which is improved and under cultivation or devoted to pastures, which Mrs. Balch and I are engaged in operating. This alone is quite a business, requiring close attention. We farm principally with mechanical equipment. The work on farms of this size is performed by families, called "sharecroppers", who work for a share of the crops they cultivate, or by hired labor. At present we have seven families living on our farms. The head of one of the families acts as our general foreman and supervises closely the work of all the other families. We pay him a fixed salary and furnish him a house to live in. In fact we have houses on the place for all the tenants which we furnish rent free. Each of our "sharecroppers" has his own portion of land allotted to him for cultivation. This year all the "sharecroppers" together are cultivating 180 acres of cotton and 60 acres of corn. At close of harvest time each "sharecropper" receives one half of all the crops that he produces and we receive the other half. The tenant and ourselves each pays for half the cost of the fertilizer and for half the cost of all seed that must be purchased to plant. We furnish the land and the farm implements against the labor for cultivation and harvesting which the "sharecropper" furnishes.

On the remaining 160 acres, Mrs. Balch and I have our pastures and grow our hay and grain. We do this with hired labor for which we pay cash by the day. In fact we obtain practically all the labor we require for this 160 acres from our sharecropper families for which we pay the standard farm wages per day. At present we have about 125 head of sheep and about 80 head of hogs in our pastures, including about 95 breeding ewes and about 8 breeding sows and the required rams and boars. Since May 1, 1948 we have sold \$1000 worth of lambs, \$100 worth of wool and \$400 worth of hogs. We have ready for sale now about 30 hogs averaging about 200 pounds each, which should bring near \$1500 at the present price of hogs. We sold \$2600 worth of cattle in February, which was all that we then had. Instead of restocking our pastures with cattle, it is now our plan to increase the numbers of our hogs and sheep.

When my son, Jackson, came home from his service in the army he also wanted to settle at Huntsville and go into business. He, with the assistance of his mother and myself, decided to promote and organize a meat packing

plant at Huntsville, my son taking the initiative and doing the background work. We accordingly organized a stock company, which we have incorporated under the laws of the State of Alabama, under the name Valley Packing Company of which I am president and my son is secretary and treasurer and general manager. The plant has already been completed, full equipped with machines and refrigeration facilities, and began operations last December. At present it employs 45 persons. The business produces many headaches for Jack and all the rest of us connected with it, but it seems to be going satisfactorily.

This brief statement indicates how I have employed my time since I retired from the Foreign Service six years ago last January. I was never happier during my long career in the Foreign Service than I have been since I came back to Huntsville to settle. My health is good for a man 71 years old. I am my own boss. I enjoy mixing with and working with the people who work for us. We have every comfort we need in our home. I mow our spacious lawn myself. Mrs. Balch and I ride out to the farm in our Packard car. We have just today finished baling about twelve tons of alfalfa hay of superior grade which we watched put up. Our foreman's wife furnishes us eggs. Other tenants let us have vegetables from their gardens. It is our friends who are stockholders with us in the newly incorporated Valley Packing Company. We are active members of our church which increases the joy and comfort that come to us as we grow older. My three children were all educated in the Service. Jackson, my older son, is married and has two daughters. What a joy to have him settle so near me. Henry, Jr. is also married and is a doctor. He is a surgeon on the staff of the Medical School of New York University and Bellevue Hospital. Henry, Jr. was one of sixteen doctors selected from Canada and the United States last March by the Markle Foundation for special research work over a period of five years for which a grant of \$5000 per annum was made to him. His first special assignment is "surgical infections" at New York University College of Medicine. Sylvia, our baby, graduated from Smith College and resides with us. She taught French and History in the Huntsville High School the past year. By the time this letter is published in the Journal my daughter will be married!

There has never been a time in the history of our country for more intelligent work by every Foreign Service employee than that which now confronts us almost everywhere abroad. I pray that our present active Foreign Service Officers and employees may ever measure up to their heavy and extremely important responsibilities.

Very Sincerely,  
HENRY H. BALCH.

### FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENTS



There is listed below the Foreign Service Officers of Career who have retired from the Service since May 31, 1948:

Name	Date of Retirement
Tuck, S. Pinkney	May 31, 1948
Bacon, J. Kenly	June 30, 1948
Bankhead, Henry M.	June 30, 1948
Scott, James T.	June 30, 1948

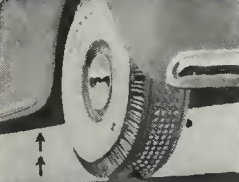
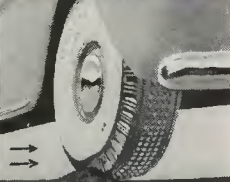


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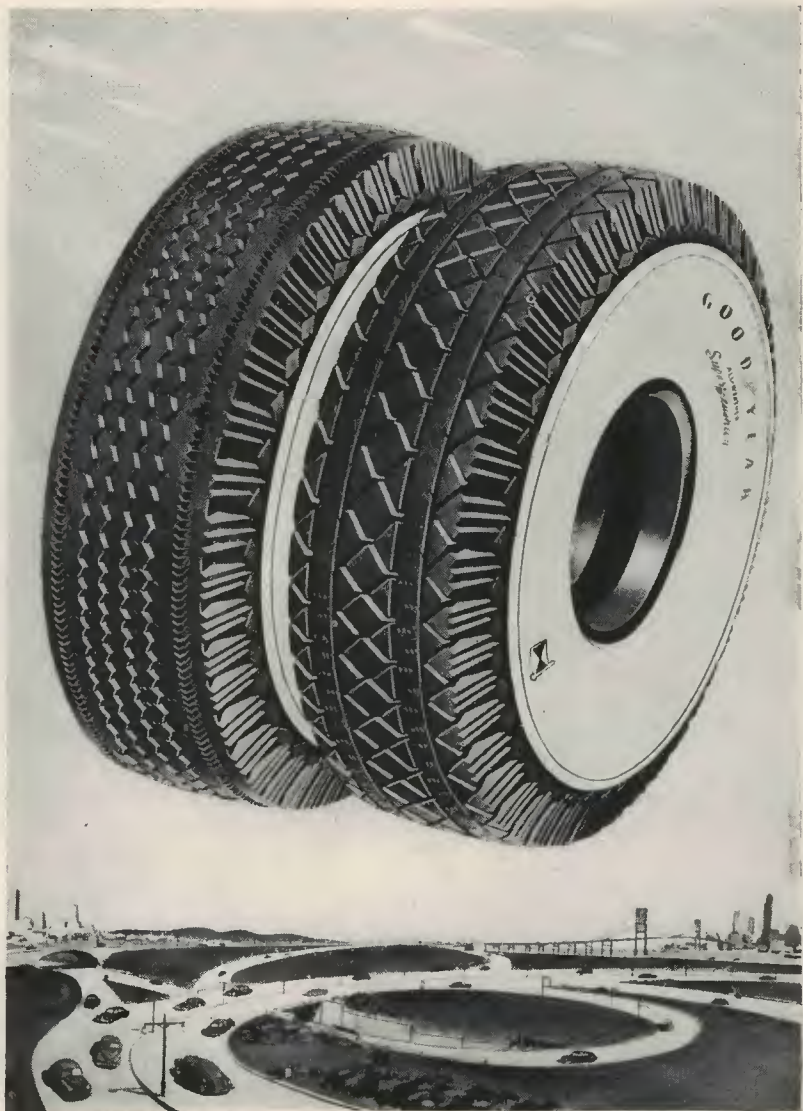
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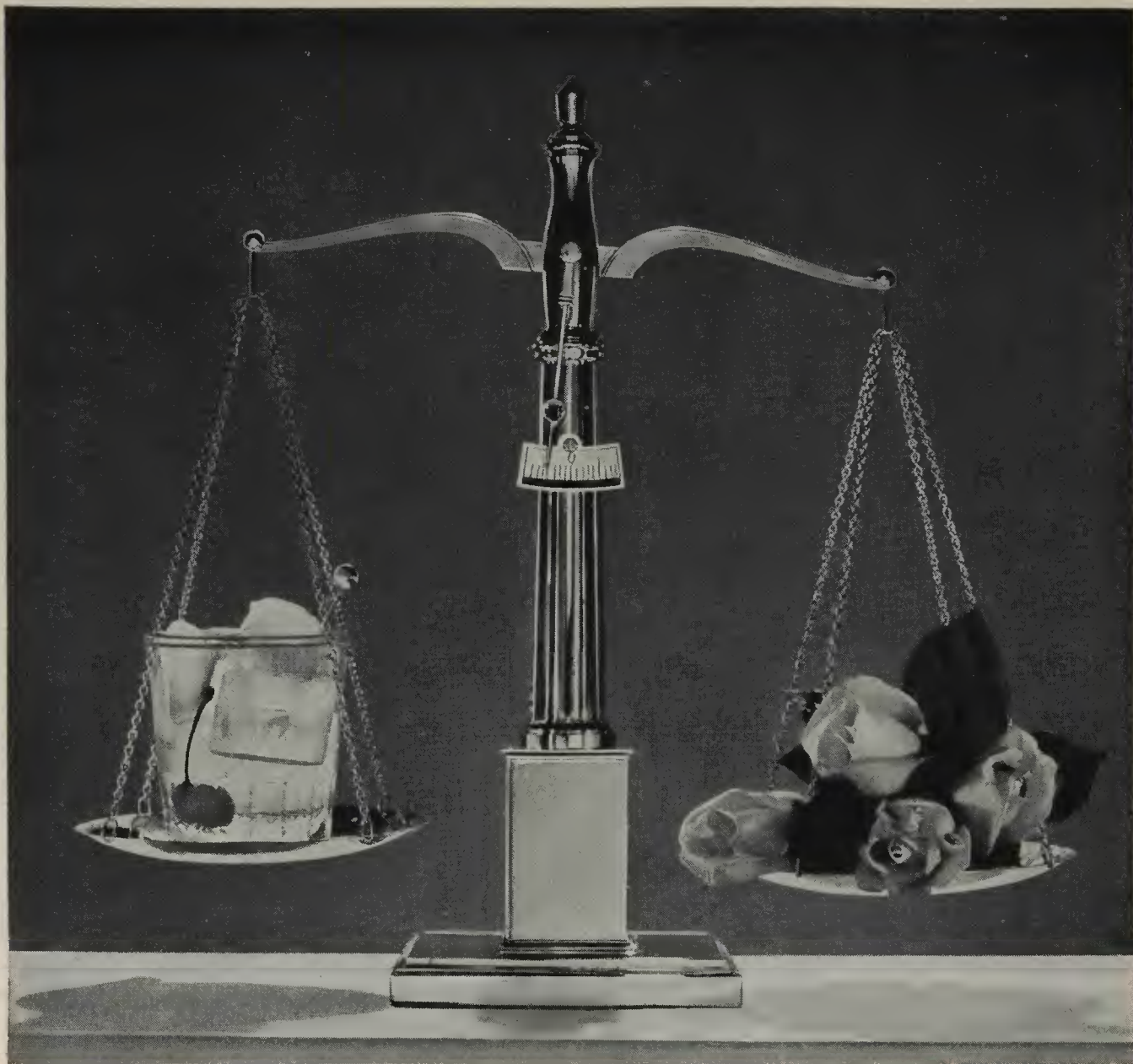
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# FOUR ROSES



## The Foreign Service and the Correspondents

(Continued from page 9)

they actually publish abroad and thus are able to reach leaders of public opinion in foreign countries while the news is still news. Of course, copies of other newspapers are flown across the oceans and read with interest by foreign government officials. But the *N.Y. Herald Tribune* can be read at breakfast time by the members of the British and French cabinets, which makes its views far more influential in European circles than they might be otherwise. *Time* and *Newsweek* reach news stands in all parts of the world almost as fast as they reach Americans. One has only to leaf through *Hansard* — the British "Congressional Record" — to see many quotations from these publications by MP's of all political opinions.

The other publications with representatives abroad are the big and powerful newspapers in America's largest cities. Most of them syndicate the despatches of their correspondents to non-competing newspapers in other large cities. Their stories do not reach the millions of Americans who read a small-city newspaper; but they have an important influence on the type of man who is himself a leader of public opinion, as do the newsmagazines. The big newspapers have prestige with Congressmen, government officials, educators, business men, financiers, labor union leaders — and the editors of smaller papers. Half the battle is won if the paper a Congressman reads for breakfast approves of State Department policy; but the other half of the battle depends to a great extent upon what his constituents are reading back home.

Good press relations, as we have said, are a state of mind; and a state of mind that must exist at all levels of an organization, but especially at the top. Henry Kaiser, George Washington Hill, Henry Ford, and J. Edgar Hoover are all examples of successful heads of enterprises with an instinct for good press relations. Personal publicity with such men is but a means of building up favorable public opinion for their organization.

The chief of mission must have this state of mind or the best press adviser in the world would be useless. Most Ambassadors have acquired a news sense, especially if they have served in public office in the United States. Others quickly pick it up.

Granted a chief with the proper attributes, the next most important thing is to pick a press officer with an instinct for news, and above all, to give him sufficient rank to do his job properly. No position is more difficult in any business than that of the press or public relations officer who is underrated. He must have a high enough position to have prestige both in the eyes of his colleagues and the press. In an Embassy, he should be a Counselor, preferably a Class 2 Officer, but if necessary an Officer of lower grade with the personal rank of Counselor.

He should not be solely occupied with the press, but have other duties of a high enough level that the press respects him for his first-hand knowledge of the situation. It is far better to have an experienced, all-round FSO in such a post than a converted newsman. The FSO can learn press relations faster than the newsman can learn diplomacy. Besides, working reporters are often suspicious of renegades, figuring, sometimes correctly, that if they could keep a job on a newspaper, they'd still be working for one. And they like to talk directly to the man who's handling matters.

The obvious man to be mission press officer is the political Counselor. If good press relations are worth

AUGUST, 1948



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<b>BRAZIL</b> Rio de Janeiro Recife (Pernambuco) Santos Sao Paulo	<b>ENGLAND</b> London 117, Old Broad St. 11, Waterloo Place	<b>PHILIPPINES</b> Manila Cebu Clark Field
<b>CANAL ZONE</b> Balboa Cristobal	<b>HONG KONG</b>	<b>PUERTO RICO</b> San Juan Arecibo Bayamon Caguas Mayaguez Ponce
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striving for, they're worth the time of the men on the very highest level. This does not mean a Counselor should have to concern himself with routine matters — he can have a very junior officer and some secretaries to take care of that. But he should keep himself free to see the correspondents any time they feel they must talk to a ranking officer; and he should get to know them outside business hours just as he knows other diplomats and Foreign Ministry officials.

He can shed a lot of the load by remaining in a sort of appeal capacity, and passing on most queries above the routine level to the officers primarily concerned, which is the most satisfactory arrangement from the point of view of the correspondents.

If it proves impossible to find a high ranking officer with the knack of building good press relations, and this may be difficult, the second-best solution is to bring in a good newsman to do the job. But it must be realized that this is merely a substitute for the ideal, a postponement of the day when FSO's themselves learn how to deal with the press. A good press adviser from the news business can teach FSO's how to do this; but any working correspondent can give all the advice necessary without having to go on the government payroll.

While most newsmen of my experience have the knowledge of the press to fill such a job, only a man with a widely-respected by-line would have the necessary prestige to deal adequately both with FSO's and the correspondents. The longer such a man stays away from the news business, the lower gets his stock of prestige. And such men are unlikely to want to join the Foreign Service in sufficient numbers to man all major posts.

The specialized job of press officer is now a dead end job, both for FSO's and newsmen. If it is taken out of the specialist category by teaching all FSO's something about it, putting the major responsibility on the top-ranking officers (where it must be in any case) and giving the routine work to junior officers, it would cease being a dead-end for FSO's. It will always be a dead-end proposition for any newsman who wants to go back to the news business.

When the first part of this article was shown to a correspondent of many years experience, he expressed his agreement with its general conclusions, but added: "Don't forget to say a word about the correspondents themselves. Some of them still think they're on the police heat back home."

There may not be very many foreign correspondents who still act like police reporters; but there are enough to give the whole press corps the bad name it has among some Foreign Service officers. The situation is rapidly improving; the newspapers and agencies are sending better and better men overseas; and the "separation out" procedure in the news business is so swift and violent that poor newsmen do not stay overseas long enough to make *two* mistakes. While power politics in the international field may have something in common with power politics in an American city, newsmen should realize that the consequences of mistakes are so much greater that it is wise to tread a little softly. You can't tell a representative of the free American press that there are some things better left unsaid, but you can try to persuade him that there are some conclusions better left unjumped. Unlike the hometown political machine, the State Department generally knows what it is doing; and is more often right than wrong.

Of more immediate importance is the realization that

reporting techniques must be varied slightly to take account of differences in customs. And if good press relations are to be attained between foreign service posts and the foreign correspondents, the overseas newsmen must yield to some of the customs and prejudices of the Foreign Service.

The most important of these is the personal touch. No foreign service officer will ever speak absolutely freely to a newsman, nor should he be expected to do so. But he'll speak with considerably more freedom once he knows a newsman well enough to regard him as a friend, which means inviting him to luncheons, dinners, and other social functions.

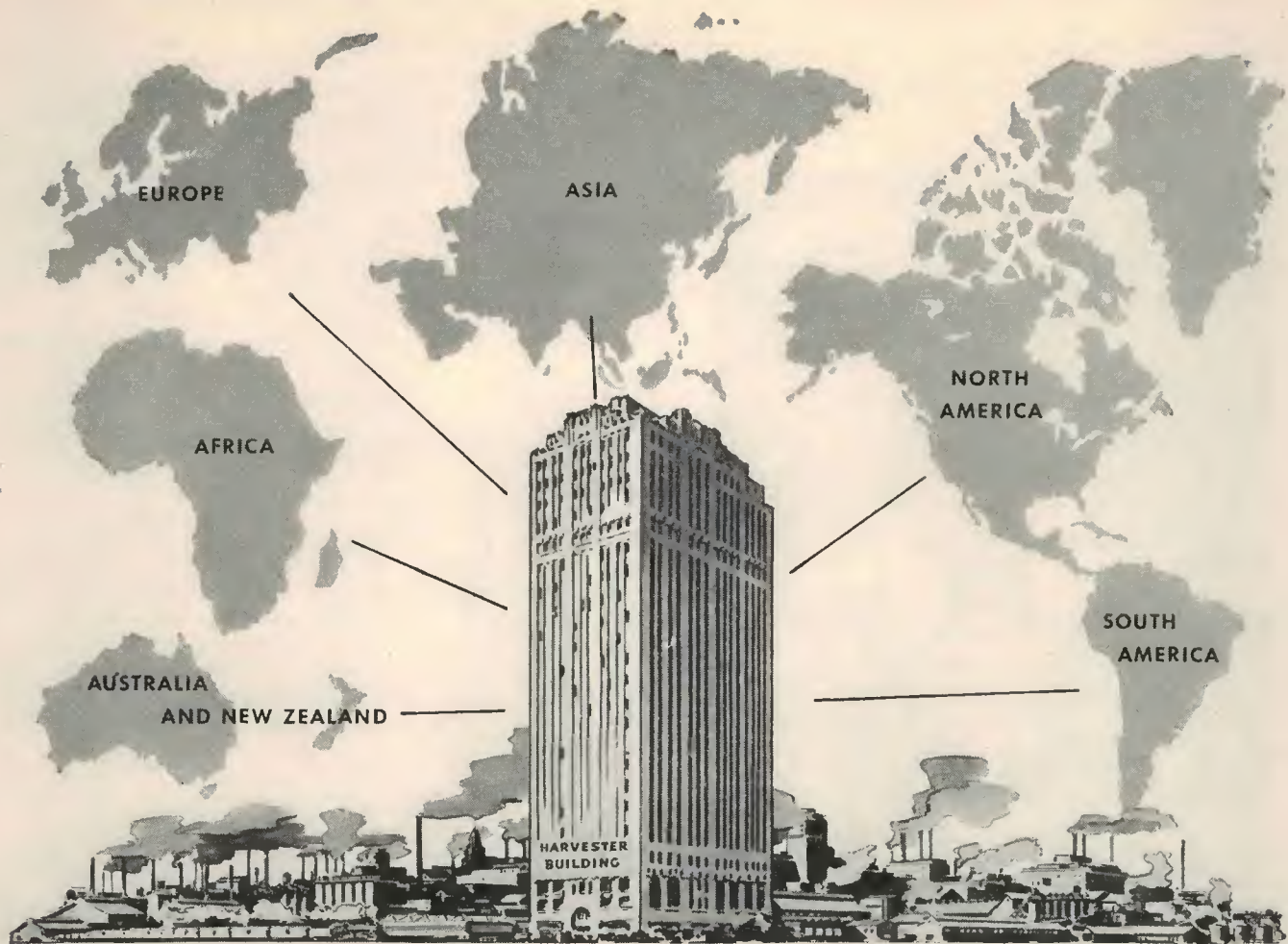
In one large foreign service post there are over one hundred American correspondents — an extreme case, admittedly. It cannot be expected that all the senior Embassy officers at this post can be on intimate terms with all these men. What happens is that some officers know some newsmen and others know a different group, generally those with whose by-lines they are familiar.

The wire services find themselves somewhat out in the cold, partly because the Embassy never knows what sort of copy they send out, while they see the stories from the special correspondents. But it's largely their own fault. At this post, as elsewhere, agency men are overworked, at least as compared with the special correspondents. They don't have all day to write a story; and they certainly don't have much time for chatting with Embassy officers. So they use the old wire service technique and call up on the telephone, which is satisfactory in 90% of the cases. When it is not, they must realize it is because the Foreign Service has to proceed on the assumption that telephone wires are always tapped.

And, of course, they vary the men they send around. Much better results would be obtained if their one best man was the only one assigned to contact the Embassy, whatever the story. That one man would come to be trusted by Embassy officers, whereas they can never get to know any one of four or five at all well.

Most of these correspondents belong to one of a dozen full-time bureaus representing newspapers, radio networks and magazines. If the dozen best men, one from each bureau, were regularly assigned to the Embassy, they could in course of time get as good press relations as they deserved.

If relations between the foreign correspondents and the Foreign Service became much better than they are now, there might be no appreciable difference in the type of news sent from abroad. Most foreign policy news would continue to come from the State Department in Washington, as it should. Most of the news sent home by the correspondents would continue to come from local government sources. Some foreign service officers think that there's no need for better press relations overseas because of the fact that foreign policy is made in the Department, not abroad. And some newsmen say they can cover the local scene without going near the Embassy. But if these views are true, why the complaints? Why do FSO's complain about the stories written by the correspondents; and why do the correspondents complain about lack of information and guidance from Foreign Service sources? There *is* something wrong; and the sooner it's set right, the better. It's difficult enough to fight centrally-controlled propaganda with a completely uncontrolled free press; and that's all the more reason that every effort should be made to effect better liaison between the men who implement our foreign policy and the man who reports on its results.



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### 1948-49 APPROPRIATIONS

The appropriation for the general program of The Foreign Service, as passed by the Congress on June 1, amounts to \$98,620,000, or \$1,622,615 less than had been requested. The breakdown of the appropriation, as requested and as approved, is as follows:

Object	Approved by B. of Budget	Appropriation 1949	Decrease
Salaries and expenses.....	\$44,665,830	\$43,750,000	\$915,830
Allowances .....	7,301,300	7,150,000	151,300
Representation .....	700,000	650,000	50,000
Retirement fund .....	2,150,000	2,150,000	—
Printing and binding .....	175,485	170,000	5,485
Building fund .....	35,000,000	35,000,000	—
Emergencies .....	10,250,000	9,750,000	500,000
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>\$100,242,615</b>	<b>\$98,620,000</b>	<b>\$1,622,615</b>

A cut of the size made in the 1949 budget naturally entails substantial cutbacks in certain programs which had been envisaged in the proposed budget. In order to maintain the highest possible level of support for its employees. The Foreign Service now plans to cut down on the funds expended on salaries, using those funds to carry on an adequate program with respect to home leave, health benefits, hardship post pay differential, transfers and so on. This program means that there will be some 680 fewer employees on Foreign Service payrolls in 1949 than had been requested. However, the largest cut in numbers will be in the staff corps personnel and it is estimated that normal turnover of personnel, plus anticipated transfers of personnel to such programs as the USTE, ECA, Displaced Persons in Europe, etc. will mean that Foreign Service personnel need not fear termination of their services.

No change in quarters or living allowances will be necessary as a direct result of the cut in appropriation, but representation allowances will suffer as a result of the \$50,000 reduction made by the Congress.

#### II. INFORMATION PROGRAM

Congress approved appropriations and authorizations amounting to \$28,000,000 for the information and educational program for 1949. Approximately \$8,000,000 of this amount will be used to finance Foreign Service activities, as compared with \$3,450,000 which was available for the same purpose during the fiscal year 1948. This increase will make it possible to reopen some posts and to strengthen others. It is now expected that the American personnel will be increased from about 150 to nearly 500.

About \$4,000,000 of the appropriation will be used for the completion of the radio bases now under construction and improvement of those already built. In this connection, it should be noted that Congress also approved a supplemental appropriation for the remainder of fiscal year 1948 amounting to \$3,000,000. Of this sum, \$1,600,000 was used for capital improvements in existing radio relay bases and for the improvement of signal strength of the "Voice of the U.S.A." About \$678,000 is being spent by various divisions in the U.S. for broadcasting and supplying additional books, press material, etc. to overseas posts. Some \$406,000 was allotted to overseas posts for expenditure in the U.S. for the rest of the fiscal year.

The 1949 budget contained some \$13,500,000 to be used in the U.S. in the production and purchase of films, books, magazines, press materials, etc. for distribution to overseas posts and for the supplying of the Wireless Bulletin and VOUSA broadcasts. The broadcasting will cost over \$7,000,000.

Finally, \$2,500,000 has been authorized for transfer from the information and educational appropriation to other appropriations in the Department of State to cover administrative costs.

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## Customs Relief for the Returning American

By WILLIAM L. SMYSER, *Foreign Service Officer*

This line of thought is fully in accord with that of the Economic Cooperation Act of 1948 where it is stated, in Sec. 117 (b), "The Administrator, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall facilitate and encourage, through private and public travel, transport, and other agencies, the promotion and development of travel by citizens of the United States to and within participating countries."

Prior to 1897 a returning traveller paid customs duty on practically everything that he brought home from abroad. When the \$100 margin of free entry was first granted in that year, it was worth more, in terms of goods brought in, than the \$400 limitation is worth today. This is due to the rise in prices since the turn of the century. Yet not only do we pay more for the same things today, but we also want more things. Although the wholesale price index shows a more than 300 per cent increase in 1947 over that of 1897 fifty years before, this index indicates only the increase in the cost of living, while there has also been an increase in the standard of living. The best figure from which to realize a current equivalent of the original \$100 exemption would be our increasing per capita consumer expenditure which reflects both the rise in the cost of living and the rise in the standard of living. In 1897 the average American spent \$187 a year, which had increased by 1947 to \$1,151, that is to say, more than sixfold. In order, indeed, to have the same duty-free purchasing scope in 1947 which his grandfather enjoyed in 1897, our hypothetical American should therefore now

be permitted an exemption of \$621.

To be really in consonance with our policy of helping our foreign friends overcome the "dollar shortages" and to acquire the dollars wherewith to buy the American goods that they need, and even more generous customs exemption of \$1,000 would not be out of line. It just occurs that generosity makes good sense and accords with higher policy in this year of the Marshall Plan.

The present situation of the United States in international trade is entirely different from that existing in 1897. Today the United States is a dominant creditor nation, faced with the necessity of creating dollar exchange abroad so that its exports may continue to find a foreign market where payments in hard currency can be met on time and in the only acceptable medium.

There appears to be plenty of room for more dollar spending abroad, if customs declarations in the port of New York are to be taken as a true index to recent outlay under the restraining influence of the heretofore prevailing exemption of \$100 only. Officials of the Department of Commerce have opened their records of overseas expenditures based on reports made by returning tourists from the European and Mediterranean areas to the port of New York. Unless forgetful passengers inadvertently overlooked some European spending, it transpires from the record that in 1936 about 89 percent of the returning tourists declared less than \$100 worth of purchases abroad for

(Continued on page 40)





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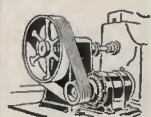
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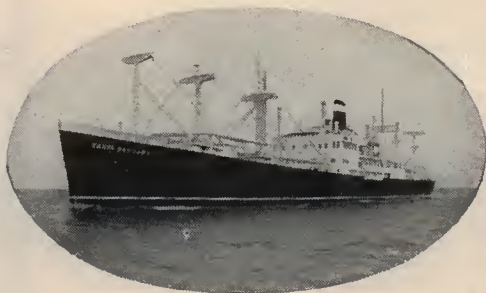
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personal use. This leaves a good margin for tourists who want to take full advantage of an exemption of \$400. The time is ripe to urge our friends to "get in there and spend."

One feature of the new \$400 exemption is the premium which it places upon travel that lasts longer than twelve days, and consequently encourages us to spend more than would be possible in a shorter time. In fact, while it is possible for a tourist under the new legislation to enjoy the \$100 exemption once a month throughout the year, it is possible to enjoy the \$400 exemption only once a semester, or at best twice a year, and then only for such trips as have lasted actually in foreign territory exclusive of the sailing time for more than a dozen days. The object of putting in the twelve-day exemption was probably to exclude from the benefits of the new legislation mere "importers" who might want to take quick trips abroad in order to get goods in without paying duty. Customs officials don't have much sympathy for such persons, although they appear to be ready to encourage bona fide tourists who go to visit and to spread abroad the rich invigorating flow of dollar exchange.

The tourists who will benefit from the \$400 exemption are not those who just jump across the border but those who go on a real vacation. It is surprising to learn that during 1947 the average American visitor stayed in Europe and the Mediterranean more than three months, excluding travel time. Those who travelled by sea spent a longer time abroad than those who travelled by air. This is also true of South America where those who went by sea stayed for 104 days while those who went by air stayed 83 days. Apart from the cruises even those who went to the Caribbean, except to Bermuda, enjoyed 94 days for shopping when they went by ship, and 31 when by plane. It may be concluded that the average tourist visiting Europe, the Mediterranean, South America, the Far East, and, under certain conditions, the Caribbean and places nearer home, will be eligible to take advantage of the increased exemption offered in the new law.

The American abroad, forewarned as he may be of the duties ahead, often buys not only beyond his means but also beyond what he can bring in duty free. Now Congress has enacted a bill, originating in the new foreign trade policy, for the relief of the returning traveller. Public Law No. 540, approved May 19, 1948, raises his customs exemption from \$100 to \$400, thus letting him bring home four times as much as heretofore, whether in Scottish woollens, French perfumes, Italian silks, Czech costume jewelry, Peruvian bangles in solid gold, or Mexican silver.

This is good news! Besides selling us their climate and their scenery again and again, it seems to be the foreigner's intention, when we visit his shores, to load us down with souvenirs and knickknacks, jewelry and apparel, objects of value and absolute trash, which may later serve to remind us of our travels. And how we enjoy the spending spree! We can't take home with us the climate and the scenery, so we try to buy out the shops. This works out well while we are still abroad and homeward bound: the shopkeeper and his country are glad to get our dollars, the common carriers are stimulated to higher levels of activity by the added weight of our goods and by the increasing baggage charges levied upon them, and the insurance companies enjoy the extra premiums which always seem to make our return trips, laden with the results of our travelling, far more costly than our trips when outward bound. Inevitably, however, there is a touch of apprehension about these homeward journeys. There dead ahead, a matter of minutes only beyond our entering the narrows and saluting the Goddess of Liberty, stand the formidable ranks of

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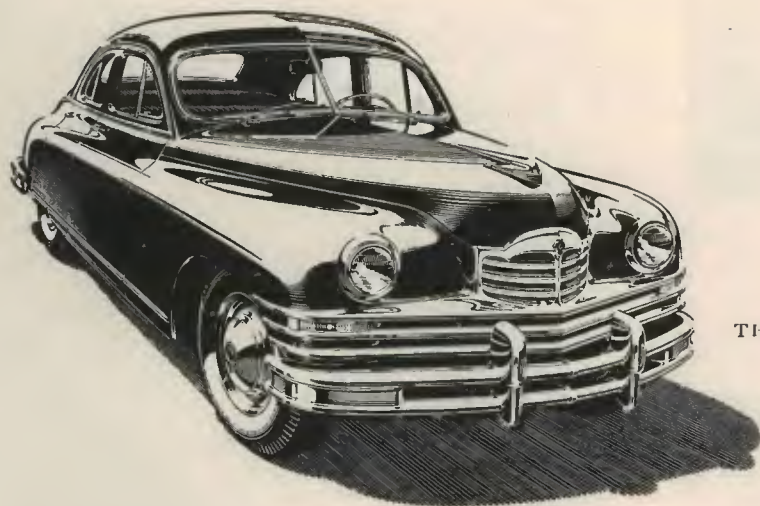
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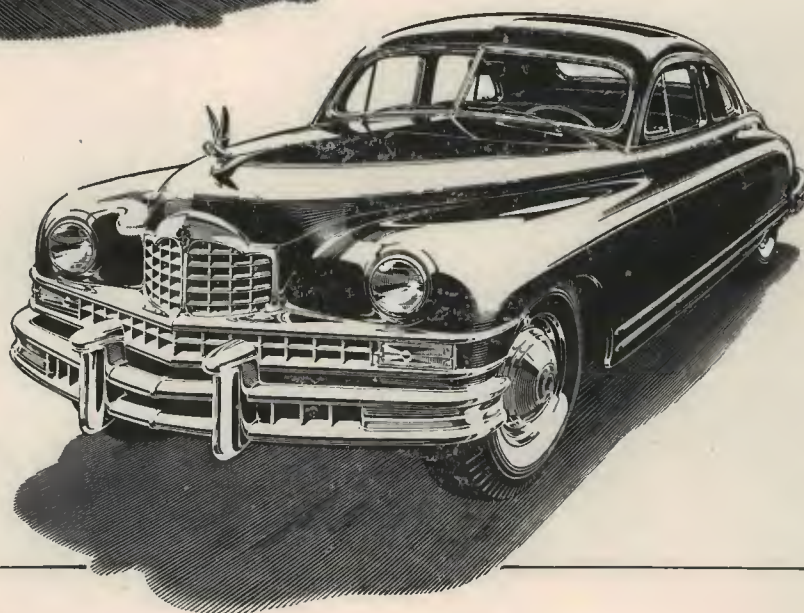
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## Customs Relief for the Returning Americans

(Continued from page 40)



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the customs agents. All the buying which has been the source of such pleasure to ourselves and to our wives and our friends and our sweethearts—not to mention the foreign shopkeepers, the common carriers, the insurance agents, and their governments—now causes misgiving. Now the import duties will be levied. Now the piper must be paid.

It costs a lot, in self esteem and in frayed tempers as well as in hard cash, to come into New York harbor or San Francisco Bay with many trophies and with very little money left, only to find that since the goods one has bought far exceed in value the exemption to which one has been entitled since 1897, one must pay a heavy duty. After passing the customs, many of us have felt that we had better economize—next time. We do not economize. It just isn't in human nature. And perhaps for this reason—or could it be to spread our dollars more evenly abroad so that those foreigners could continue to spread their orders over here?—our government has seemed to understand and has actually increased fourfold our exemption.

In general the new law means that twice a year an American can travel abroad and bring back on each trip four times as much value in duty free goods as ever before. Like all bills that finally become Acts and win the executive signature, this Public Law No. 540 is merely a compromise in the right direction. Thus, a customs battle has been won, the campaign isn't over. Its supporters are still anxious to place the incidence of customs limitation higher. And they are not so much thinking about the relief which they bring to American travellers abroad as they are thinking of the flow of dollars spread more evenly over the world, giving the foreigners, through our increased purchases abroad, a chance to buy more extensively in our own markets.

## Puerto Rico of Today

(Continued from page 11)

Under conditions as hereinbefore described the fact that a large number of Puerto Ricans are leaving the Island should not be a surprise to anybody. Large groups of them are at present living in New York. Even under the deplorable conditions in which those that occupy the District of Harlem are existing, there they find work, amusement, hope. Harlem is a transition. As their assimilation takes place, from there they move to other places, other sections of the city of New York. Then they lose their identity as Puerto Ricans. About seventy thousand live in Harlem. Two hundred and fifty thousand live in New York City. Many of them, of course, came from the Island as trained professionals or skilled workers. Those may never have gone through Harlem.

But there are other areas in the United States where Puerto Rican Americans might find better opportunities of life. In order to channel this spontaneous migration more and more into new fields, the Government of Puerto Rico has established a migration service with offices in San Juan and in New York, where information is offered concerning working opportunities for the newcomers, conditions to be met and the new ways of life which they are to follow.

The contribution of the Puerto Ricans in New York is notable. Humble service at hotels, restaurants, and similar

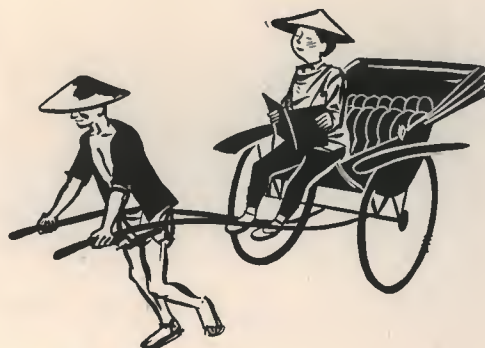
(Continued on page 44)



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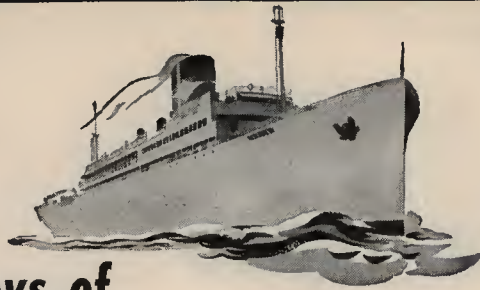
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activities; skilled work at garment factories and in small businesses; professional work at schools, colleges and universities; high positions in higher business circles and in the world of art; that is the place of Puerto Ricans in New York City. Recently José Ferrer, notable actor from Cyrano de Bergerac fame; Jesus Maria Sanroma, renowned pianist; Graciela Rivera, soprano coloratura; the Figueroa Quintet; Rina de Toledo, soprano; Rosita Rios and Noro Morales' orchestra, all Puerto Ricans, appeared at Carnegie Hall in one continuous performance which lasted three hours, in the presence of a full house. The *New York Times* aptly remarked that for such a small Island, it was noteworthy that such a group of notable artists could be present as an example of the contribution of Puerto Rico to New York culture.

Six thousand students attend the University of Puerto Rico. The School of Tropical Medicine of Puerto Rico is an outstanding center of research and learning in tropical medicine.

Engrafted in the deep roots of its Spanish culture, Puerto Rico is abreast of modern times and more and more influenced by the currents of American ways of life which flow from the mainland into the little Island.

Puerto Rico is profoundly democratic. There is universal suffrage, secret ballot; ninety per cent of registered voters vote at every election. Every four years the people congregate and exercise their fundamental democratic right in a free election. Under recent amendments of the Organic Act of Puerto Rico, Congress has authorized the election of the Governor. In November 1948 the people of Puerto Rico will elect their Governor and their Legislature. As far as local government is concerned, only the Supreme Court and the Auditor will continue to be appointed by the President of the United States.

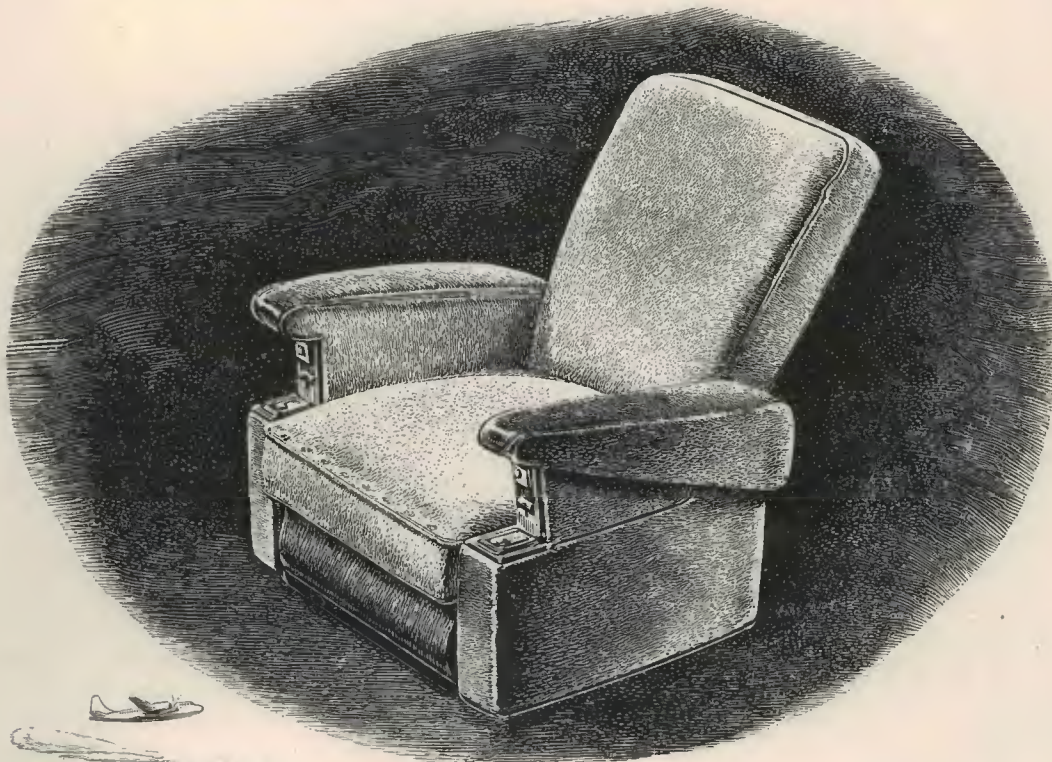
The Organic Act of Puerto Rico is only a law of Congress. It is held that it may be amended by any subsequent law implicitly or explicitly. That it may be amended implicitly is not a satisfactory arrangement. Proper measures to correct this situation are at present under the consideration of Congress. By making amendments valid only when they may be expressly adopted as in the nature of amendments, the Organic Act of Puerto Rico will acquire a more permanent significance. It will be closer in its nature to a constitution.

That the people of Puerto Rico may adopt their own constitution under such a framework of adequate relationships with the United States as it might be determined, is the fundamental aspiration of the people of Puerto Rico. In this they all agree. There exists disagreement as to what the nature of such relationship should be. Statehood, independence, a federative relationship other than that provided by the federal constitution, find sponsors in the Island. More than once the President of the United States has recommended to Congress that the people of Puerto Rico be given the opportunity to decide this question in a plebiscite. No action as yet has been taken by Congress. But in the meantime, progress is being made in the direction of attaining full democracy in the Island, with the question of ultimate relationships in the background.

This, in a nutshell, might be said to be Puerto Rico as of today. The obstacles to the pursuit of happiness are great. Liberty is not yet complete. Life is still jeopardized by conquerable health and economic hazards. But Puerto Rico marches on, with full faith in the significance of its American citizenship.

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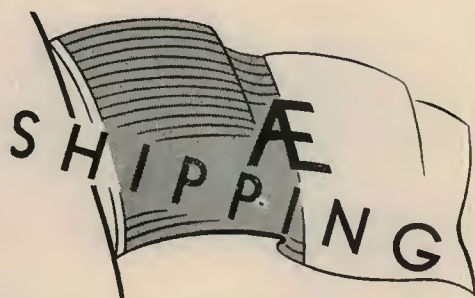
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## News from the Department

(Continued from page 21)

Chief of the School of Management and Administrative Training of the FSI. Mr. Freeman was formerly Assistant Security Officer of the Department of State.

The film shown was made some time ago and was used in a similar program given about 18 months ago. It is interesting to note that "home talent" was used in making the film and that there were seen such familiar faces as those of Henry S. Villard of the Policy Planning Staff; Clare Timberlake, now Consul at Bombay; John Hickerson, Director of the Office of European Affairs; and Paul Culbertson, now Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid.

### Luncheon for Mr. Villard

MESSRS. ROBERT MCCLINTOCK, EDMUND GULLION, WILLIAM F. DECOURCY, CECIL LYON and FRANK P. LOCKHART were hosts at a farewell luncheon at the Metropolitan Club on July 2, 1948 to MR. HENRY S. VILLARD, retiring Chairman of the Editorial Board of the JOURNAL. Mr. Villard is sailing on the S.S. *Gripsholm* on August 15 en route to his new post as Counselor of Embassy at Oslo.

### Journal Board Dinner

In celebration of the return of MR. GEORGE V. ALLEN, former Business Manager of the FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL, to the Department in the capacity of Assistant Secretary of State, and in appreciation of his previous assistance to the JOURNAL, the JOURNAL Editorial Board entertained Mr. and Mrs. Allen at the Chevy Chase Club on the evening of May 29.

### Association Picnic

One of the most enjoyable informal social gatherings of the season was the picnic on May 29, sponsored by the Foreign Service Association. The picnic was held at Lubber Run Park in Arlington, Virginia, an ideal spot, with ample shade, open grills, a clear water creek, children's playgrounds, baseball field and other facilities which contributed to a very successful and pleasant outing for about 100 members of the Association and their families.

### "Embassy News" from Buenos Aires, Argentina

The JOURNAL is now receiving copies of "Embassy News" published for personnel of the Embassy at Buenos Aires. The News is published semi-monthly and keeps the personnel posted on all important events taking place in the Embassy and Buenos Aires—concerts, language training, personals, etc.

### Association Luncheons

The last Foreign Service Association luncheon for the season was held at the National Press Club on June 15, 1948. These luncheons have been largely attended, averaging about 125 persons, and have been greatly enjoyed by members of the Association. They will be resumed in the autumn.

### Shuttle-Bus Service Discontinued

The uncomfortable but nevertheless useful shuttle-bus service between the New State Department Building and Old State and Annexes has been discontinued for lack of funds.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

Field Correspondents and Contributors are requested henceforth to send communications for the JOURNAL to Mrs. Barbara P. Chalmers, c/o Department of State, Washington, D. C.





To get a thing done . . .  
*do it yourself*

A Lark, nesting in a wheat field, was fearful that reapers would come before her fledglings were grown. When she heard the farmer ask his neighbors and relatives to help in cutting the wheat, she was unworried. But when he started to sharpen his scythe, she bade her youngsters take flight, saying: "If a man would have anything done, he must do it himself."

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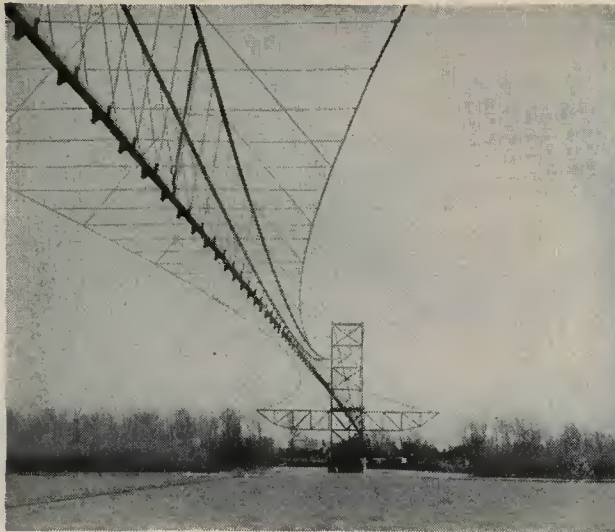
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## The Book Shelf

(Continued from page 25)

It is interesting to speculate upon the question as to what stand Jefferson would have taken with regard to the position of our country in World affairs if he had lived in our times, particularly as to our membership in the United Nations. While, as shown in his letters of June 11, 1823 and October 24, 1823 to James Monroe, he was then a distinct isolationist and strongly advocated abstention from political connection with countries of the Eastern Hemisphere, it is believed that the great changes in international life which have been wrought in modern times through various inventions, especially the airplane and the radio, and which have made all countries neighbors, would have persuaded him, if he were now living, to advocate a complete abandonment of isolationism, a whole hearted participation in the activities of the United Nations, and an unrestricted use of our prestige, resources and power for the prevention of aggression and the preservation of peace among nations. Such participation is a practical necessity, and Jefferson, as Dr. Lehmann's book shows, was preeminently a practical man. Just as he readily gave up his original idea of limiting the territory of the United States, when Napoleon suddenly, for political reasons, offered the enormous Louisiana Territory for sale to the United States at what now seems the absurdly low price of \$15,000,000, it is believed that Jefferson would have taken the lead in advocating, not only membership in the organization of the United Nations, but active leadership in its affairs. While his first thought would have been of the welfare of our own people, he would never have lost sight of the welfare of the peoples of other lands. He would have considered always the oneness of humanity.

RICHARD W. FLOURNOY

**Poland.** Edited by Bernadotte E. Schmitt. *United Nations Series.* University of California Press, Berkeley. 1945. \$5.00.

Although three years have passed since the publication of this volume, its unique contribution to the rather sparse collection of English language volumes devoted exclusively to Polish history is deserving of renewed consideration.

Plans for the book were laid in the fall of 1942 when the editor, Dr. Bernadotte E. Schmitt, then Andrew MacLeish Distinguished Service Professor of Modern History at the University of Chicago, contacted twenty-two experts on various facets of Polish history and secured their services as contributors to the volume. Several of these experts who were at the time Polish nationals residing in the United States as refugees from German-occupied Poland, have now returned to Poland and occupy important positions in the academic, social and economic life of that country. The list of American contributors includes the most prominent specialists on Polish history in the United States. For instance, three chapters were written by Dr. Oscar Halecki who, in addition to being the author of numerous books on Polish history, was co-editor of the well-known *Cambridge History of Poland*. Among the other distinguished American contributors are: Dr. Stephen P. Mizwa; Dr. Malbone W. Graham; Dr. S. Harrison Thomson; Dr. Julia Swift Orvis; Dr. Joseph S. Roucek; and Dr. Robert J. Kerner, General Editor of the United Nations Series. Of particular interest is the chapter entitled "Anthropology of Poland: Prehistory and Race," written by Dr. John Lawrence Angel, prominent anthropologist. Most of the manuscripts were submitted during 1943 which actually dates the book as of that year rather than as of the year of publication.

It follows from the method by which the volume was pre-



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### The Book Shelf (Continued)

pared that, although chronology is adhered to, the arrangement is primarily according to category with single chapters being devoted to over-all historical surveys of specific political, economic and social problems. In addition to the obvious advantage which this arrangement offers for reference work, it presents twenty-three distinct and apparently uncoordinated and uncensored approaches to and opinions of details of Polish history. While this structure precludes a general "slant" which often colors historical works, it does raise the question of individual bias especially with respect to those chapters contributed by the Polish nationals. In this connection, it should be borne in mind that while one might expect a certain amount of natural antipathy toward Germany on the part of the Polish contributors, especially at the time when the manuscripts were prepared, their political thinking was more or less independent and, at least, does not reflect the official political orientation pursued by the Polish state today. Fortunately the topics discussed by these Poles are of a non-political and comparatively non-controversial nature and it is the opinion of this reviewer that the chapters written by them are relatively free from bias. Such bias as does appear in the book as a whole is not in any way to be compared to the very heated and emotional approach to Polish history taken by the majority of historians since the foundation of the Lublin Government.

Thus, while the book obviously does not fill the void of recorded Polish history since the last war, it is an interesting, unique and particularly valuable addition to the pre-war volumes on this subject.

It is of interest that the editor, Dr. Schmitt, is now serving as Special Assistant to the Division of Historical Policy Research in the Department of State.

VALDEMAR N. L. JOHNSON

**Persistent International Issues.** Edited by George B. de Huszar. Harper and Brothers, New York, 1947. 262 pages. \$3.00

These *Persistent International Issues* are as persistent today as the day when each article was written. Each problem has been handled by a man who not only is an authority on the problem but has been actively connected with his particular problem. George B. de Huszar, the editor of this volume and author of "Practical Applications of Democracy," wrote three chapters for this volume. The issues considered are: relief and rehabilitation, displaced persons, health, food and agriculture, transportation, industry and trade, money and finance, labor, education, and politics.

The problems have been covered only to the early part of 1946 but have not been projected adequately into the future. De Huszar has aptly pointed out that peace is ". . . the by-product of the solution of major international problems . . . Consequently cooperation cannot be sporadic but must be continuous, permanent and organized." Inasmuch as the solution of these ever-present problems is essential to a lasting peace, a peace that must be based on cooperation and collaboration, this volume is recommended for an understanding and a clear view of these social and economic problems and the tasks that face those who will handle these "international issues."

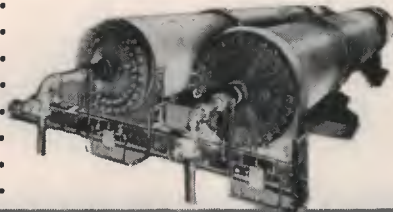
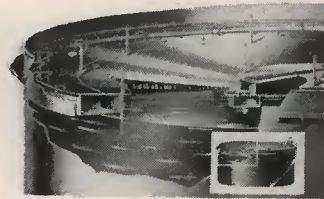
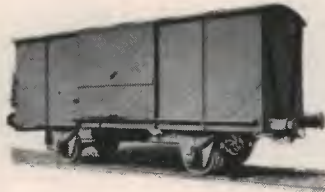
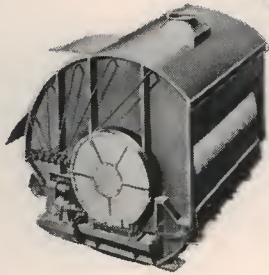
Each one of these problems is an important aspect in the foreign policy of the United States — they form a considerable part of European recovery — and each essay gives a clear idea of the importance of each problem, the difficulties encountered and envisaged.

ELEANOR WEST.

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## News from the Field

(Continued from page 23)

### ISTANBUL

June 9, 1948.

This is a pretty good post, but expensive. But there are compensations. We have an extremely congenial crowd here in the Consulate General and the diversions are interesting, to say nothing of the work. There doesn't seem to be an awful lot of news, but here it is for what it is worth.

The Consulate General has rapidly assumed the character of a despatch and travel agency for this part of the Near East. VIP's are constantly coming and going and we have occasion to meet many important and interesting people. It would be just too much to list them, so this general statement will have to do.

The aircraft carriers *Rendova* and *Siboney* arrived in May bringing a couple of loads of airplanes for the Turkish Aid Program, and Coca-Cola for the rest of us. Each vessel stayed in port several days and the streets were dotted with handsome American sailors in uniform. The crews played some basketball games with local Turkish teams and provided interesting entertainment for several hundred people, including Turks, Americans, etc. The usual receptions were given and the impression left by the visitors was something better than favorable.

Memorial Day exercises were held at Forikoy Cemetery in memory of the Americans buried there. The Consul General, C. E. Macy, presided and did a good job of it.

On the sporting side I ought to mention that the Consulate General has what is being described as the best baseball team in the history of Turkey. It opened the season by defeating Robert College 10-5 before an enthusiastic crowd of Turks and Americans. In the second game a week later (on June 5) the Consulate General defeated 15-7 an even better team representing Socony-Vacuum and Pan American Airways. Vice Consul Powhatan M. Baber, Colonel Littell and Commander Wilding were the backbone of everything, while I was voted by the Turkish spectators as the wearer of the "most elegant" uniform (Basketball shoes, brown corduroy pants, khaki army shirt, red cap, and cigarette with holder). The Consul General has umpired the games (nothing to do with our winning) and is still on speaking terms with everybody. In fact his skill in calling the close ones has earned him the name of The Man with the Radar Eyes.

CLIFTON P. ENGLISH.

### SAIGON

May 21, 1948

The biggest news here is the award on April 28 of the *Medaille de la Resistance* to Mrs. Paulette Petra, French clerk at the Consulate General. Mrs. Petra will be remembered for having received the Medal of Freedom in Washington in 1947.

Madame Petra was awarded the *Medaille de la Resistance* for her loyal and unselfish work for the Allied Cause in Indo-China during the War. The medal was presented by the High Commissioner for French Indochina, Monsieur Emile Bollaert. Amongst those present were the American Consul General, George M. Abbott, Monsieur de la Fourniere, Director of the French Bureau of Information, and members of Monsieur Bollaert's government. Madame Petra was toasted with champagne at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Madame Petra is well known to all who have worked in this part of the world. On April 24 we celebrated her fifteenth anniversary with the Foreign Service.

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DUBLIN

May 28, 1948

On April 22, 1948 the cruiser USS FRESNO flying the flag of Admiral Richard L. Conolly and accompanied by two destroyers, USS W. R. RUSH and USS JOHNSTON, sailed into Dublin for a courtesy visit of six days. Since this was the first visit in over twenty years the Legation staff did a great deal of work paving the way and felt well acquainted with the Navy when they arrived.

Mr. Vinton Chapin, Counselor of Legation, was the first aboard the FRESNO to greet the Admiral. The Admiral then paid his respects to the Minister, the Honorable George A. Garrett, at the Legation, and the official calls began. Irish hospitality was so great that the Minister and senior Foreign Service Officers were nearly run ragged going to the many functions.

A dinner in honor of Admiral Conolly was given by the Irish Defense Forces at McKee Barracks on April 22. On Thursday and Friday nights the ship's company of the FRESNO held a dance in the Gresham Hotel. The ballroom was decorated with United States, Irish, and signal flags. The music provided by the Navy orchestra was slightly superior to that usually heard by the Irish girls who entered into the fun and were soon jitterbugging with their partners.

Friday afternoon a reception was given in honor of Admiral Conolly by the Minister and Mrs. Garrett at the Legation residence in Phoenix Park. Among the seven hundred guests were officials and wives of the Irish Government, members of the diplomatic missions in Dublin, as well as officers of the United States Navy.

An open-air band concert was given on Sunday in St. Stephen's Green by the U. S. Navy band. It was attended by a huge crowd.

A basketball game, also on Sunday, between the FRESNO and the Irish Defense Forces teams at Portobello Barracks ended with a score favorable to the Irish team. Later that evening a softball game was held in Croke Park between two teams from the ships. Approximately 22,000 persons attended, and proceeds of over \$4,000 were donated to a local charity. On Monday afternoon Admiral Conolly gave a reception for 175 guests aboard the FRESNO. His birthday also marked the occasion.

Special tours of historic and scenic interest in Dublin were arranged for the officers and enlisted men by the Irish Defense Forces, and Dublin theaters issued special invitations to the movies. Many men were invited to Irish homes where they enjoyed the traditional Irish hospitality. The ships sailed for Bergen, Norway, on Tuesday leaving behind a vast amount of goodwill, which, of course, was the purpose of the visit. Reports from the fleet reaching the Legation are that the visit was most memorable to the men and to the Admiral. In this the Irish, it appears, agree.

PHYLLIS L. BOLLINGER.

IN MEMORIAM

WITHEY. Howard F. Withey, retired Foreign Service officer, died on June 2, 1948, in Chula Vista, California.

BERGEN. Miss Beatrice Bergen, of the Foreign Service Staff Corps, died in Pretoria, March 30, 1948.

LETCHER. Marion Letcher, retired Foreign Service officer, died on June 24, 1948, in Chatham, New Jersey.



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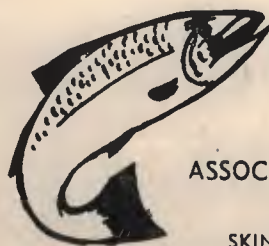
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