



As We See It

By DAN PATRICK

Much to our gratification, the articles appearing in our Victory Magazine of recent date are eliciting considerable comment.

Peculiarly enough the two which most readers have singled out are authored by women—Clare Boothe Luce and Dorothy Thompson. Both, of course, are widely known for their positive views on a number of subjects especially in the field of foreign affairs.

Our own State Department is reputed to consider Mrs. Luce the best-informed individual on foreign affairs in the nation outside of the Department itself. Miss Thompson is generally conceded to be an outstanding authority on Germany and its problems.

We mention this pair because a lady we know has questioned the propriety of including the viewpoints of Mrs. Luce and Miss Thompson in a magazine issued under Catholic auspices. The lady in question wondered if Catholic women are so bereft of talent and literary ability as to force us to resort to the writings of those outside the Church.

Before enlightening the lady on her wonderment, it might be well to emphasize that all writers for the Victory Magazine, including Mrs. Luce and Miss Thompson were solicited by us and asked to write on a specific subject assigned by those who prepared the magazine.

In extending such invitations, the Magazine editors were primarily concerned with obtaining the outstanding authority on each subject. We did not inquire into the religious affiliations of the prospective contributors and if you reexamine the Magazine you will find Protestants and Jews as well as Catholics represented in its pages.

Now for the lady's wonderment.

No we don't think our Catholic women lack talent and literary ability. However, granting that they have such ability, the records show they don't use it. Now that the lady brings up the question we can't for a moment think of a single Catholic woman who could handle the subjects assigned Mrs. Luce and Miss Thompson with the skill and ability which this pair has consistently displayed.

That, you might say, is a sad commentary on our Catholic women. To which we add a fervent Amen.

The Church recognizes motherhood as the prime function of womanhood. The millions of Catholic mothers who are carrying through on that life assignment so magnificently certainly do not come within the scope of our criticism.

The children they bring into the world and raise to manhood and womanhood are eloquent testimonials of their work and sacrifices. Such matters as international affairs, domestic writings and reputations fade into insignificance alongside the tremendous role of motherhood.

And, by the way, this motherhood is particularly significant this week as the Birth Controllers, making their perverted ideals behind such fancy phrasing as the League for Planned Parenthood, start out on their annual quest for members. It's almost ironic that an organization which preaches control of numbers should make an annual show of increasing its own numbers.

Excepting, therefore, the vast majority of our Catholic women, we still have goodly number left who have ability and time to exert that ability.

And in which direction do they exert it? Unfortunately too many exert themselves unto exhaustion climbing the social ladder and attending this affair and that affair because "it's being done" and "you've got to meet the right people." O, yes, there is chaos in the world. Strikes—Russia and the like. But these women can't be bothered. Those things are so "B. H. don't you know?"

A business man of our acquaintance met one of these women at a cocktail party the other week. She complained to him about the clergy "dabbling" in labor matters, declaring somewhat emphatically that they should tend to their religion and her husband and business men like him could handle business. Apparently a papal encyclical in her private opinion is some kind of a vehicle.

It is high time that some of these women bestir themselves on the problems of the day which, in the final analysis, are their problems and will vitally affect their welfare and that of their children.

The course they should follow has been clearly charted by the Pope in his recent encyclical on the duties of women. The Holy Father exhorts them to a certain activity in politics to safeguard their inherent rights.

Yes, there are plenty of latent Lucas and Thompsons in our midst. We're hearing and so in the rest of the world. But right now their ability is positively deafening.

I don't know who my grandfather was; I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be.—Abraham Lincoln.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY



Washington Powers to Divide Spoils In Pacific, Near East

By Tom Rogers

Washington — We're off to Paris. The game of power politics has never seen so many chips on the table. And the final division of the spoils will probably run as follows:

The United States will get the Pacific base it wants.

Russia, however, will get the Kurile Islands and will definitely become the dominant interest in Korea.

Old-time "China hands" fear a great sea of "face" for us in the East if the Communists thoroughly organize Korea. As mentioned in this column three months ago — the Japanese Reds are going to make great territorial gains this year — and Korea is only a few miles across the straits.

Despite General Marshall's mission, the Soviet, as J. B. Powell of the Shanghai Weekly Review told us in August, will dominate the rich Manchurian industries and will be delighted to find an "understanding" man such as Mao Tse-Tung in the provinces just to the south of Manchuria.

England will definitely return to Hong Kong.

France and Holland, with the help of British troops and superior arms, will return to the Indies and to Indo-China — and the flame of Asia for the Axis will eventually flare again.

But this time the wind will be from another direction.

Russia will get what she wants in Iran. (Wiseacres in the East predict that Colonel Schwartzkopf will talk when he returns to the States.) And Russia will probably get what she wants in Turkey . . . and that will be the fulfillment of an old Czarist dream: the oil fields of the Black Sea area and . . . THE DARDANELLES.

This will cut close to the lifeline of the British Empire to India. So will the land routes which will be controlled by the Russians in Iran. And the recent rumor in Paris that the Soviets were buying shares in the Suez Canal (which is a private corporation) is scarcely calculated to give the British peace of mind. Russia, of course, will keep all she has staked off for herself in the Balkans, the Baltics and Eastern Europe.

Finally, Italy will lose the Tyrol in Austria and Italy . . .

The Russian grab of American-owned oil wells in Hungary last week was so surprising to those who have been following the thorough Russian methods in Europe and in Korea.

This, to our knowledge, is exclusive.

One of the big problems of the peace is that of the Italian territories.

Secretary James flew to London without a single man from "State" to act as an expert on the area. A few days later, in great haste, an expert was flown there with great haste to assist able, overworked, weary Dunn — chief target of the left-wing comments in this country.

The President's message was more or less known in substance before it was delivered. The FEPC will issue a terrible blow in the party, but at the same time cautious Republicans are insisting that their own men do not count 1946 elections in the bag. They will have to do more than take advantage of an opening; they will have to come forward with a program of their own.

Briefly noted: The interest of the people in the New York Stock Market is increasing every day. Not even the major strikes are expected to halt the rise for long. In view of this fact, we have talked at length to two men, one a Washington correspondent for a financial organization; the other one of the leading economic writers on the staff of our top news organization. We'll try and tell it for you next week.

Archbishops Spellman and Glennon, who are flying to Rome in two weeks, may have as their companion James A. Farley. We tried to confirm it this week, but could not. Watch for Maxwell for Ba-Senka, one of the most stirring books of our day.

Reopen S. Africa Missions Montreal — (RNS) — Representatives of several Catholic orders from Quebec and Ontario have left here to reopen missions in South Africa. They will take up posts in Durban, Lawrence Marquet, Port Elizabeth, Morn-

Apathy Hinders U.S. World Leadership

BY J. J. GILBERT

Washington (MC) — The apathetic attitude of the American public is believed by many observers here to be a prime hindrance to the country's exercise of its potentially preeminent leadership for world organization and lasting peace.

President Truman, in his recent adaptation of the "fireside chat" technique, plainly blamed the apathy of Congress for the failure to obtain legislation which he deems vital to the country's broad post-war recovery. Observers take the view, however, that it is true that Senators and Congressmen are apathetic, the blame rests primarily upon these constituents, the people, who are responsible for the individual members.

Frustration has been expressed in Washington over the apparent indifference of the American people to the deliberations at the first meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in London. At the same time, dispatches from the English capital told that the highest concern was being shown by the UNO delegates as to how the United States would react to, and how far it would support, any proposal that was brought before the meeting.

The delegates, it was said, showed considerable anxiety over the mounting and broadening strikes in the United States just as the UNO meeting was commencing. They were disturbed too, by the demonstrations among GI's abroad to be brought home quickly, and they were wondering how the rapid contraction of the U. S. Army and Navy would affect this country's ability to give teeth to rules adopted for world collaboration.

Observers in London were frank to admit that they sensed beneath this concern a virtually unbroken feeling that the United States is the real hope of world organization for peace — that it is the one country that has not only the ideals to be aimed at but also the power and influence to give them actuality.

People abroad, apparently, are much more concerned by signs of unrest in the United States than are the people at home. Strikes and lockouts seem to be regarded here merely as "growing pains" that necessarily follow a war. Many students of such matters complain that the American public is inclined to be interested not in the basic issues involved in a labor-management dispute, but in the result of the dispute, and only then when it affects them directly — as, for instance, when they have to walk to work or get along on fewer strikes and chops.

Remember the headlines that appeared in one edition of a newspaper, one could not help seeing stories telling of more than a million workers being "out" or threatening to strike, paralyzing such basic industries as steel, communications and power, parking, of fantastic housing shortages, of Congressional inquiries to fix responsibility for the Pearl Harbor disaster; of the top officers in our Army and Navy explaining to a mass meeting of Congressmen the why's and wherefores of this country's demobilization program; and similar matters of great national importance.

If the American people will not interest themselves in ascertaining the basic issues in such vital and personal matters, observers ask, how can they be expected to manifest that interest in international affairs which is proper to the leadership in world affairs that we can hope to enjoy?

If the American people, taking them as a whole, are not interested in finding out the real reasons why electrical equipment is not being produced, or meat is not being produced — how can they be expected to be concerned with the fate of the Baltic States, or the Balkans, or the future of Iran, the Nationalist Communist negotiations in China?

American should not have the indifference of grave national issues to a few individuals, and they cannot leave our interest in international affairs to a small group. Our occupation policy in conquered countries will bring gains or losses to all of us, even though it has been evolved and executed by but a few persons in key positions. Our defense or abandonment of the rights of small nations will be to the credit or discredit of all of us, despite the fact that only a few persons had anything to do with mapping the course taken. Policies which our State Department projects abroad — be they educational, social or political — are credited to all the American people, though precious few have anything to do with preparing or presenting them. This is especially true when our Government advertises those policies as giving a real insight into the United States as it is.

It is not enough for Americans to know the strikes and lockouts are settled or how they settled. They should acquaint themselves with why they occur. Only in that way can they prevent them.

In the same way, Americans must make certain that they understand what we are doing in international relations, and why we are doing it. They must make sure that, if our Government is painting a picture of this country in some elsewhere, that picture is a true one. They must interest themselves in important international affairs as they are developing, before they get out of hand. We already have been victimized too often by the apathy of our