As We See It

By DAN PATRICK

At last a man has risen in the councils of the United Nations who has the courage to stand on his toes and talk back to Russia in words of one syllable.

He is Britain's scrappy foreign secretary, Ernest Bevin. In the last week he has written history at the UNO session in London by telling off Russia in no uncertain terms.

Gone from his vocabulary is the diplomatic double-talk under which nation after nation has stepped back in political defeat before Russia's brash show of power politics. Mr. Bevin apparently realizes that a halt must be called to this constant appeasing of Russia.

There are those who have preached the false doctrine of getting along with Russia at any price. In Bevin's opinion that price has become too high and it is to his eternal credit that he has called the turn.

The issue in itself — whether the presence of British troops in Greece constitutes a threat to world peace — is relatively unimportant. What is important is that a voice has been found in London which refuses to further appease the growing lust of the Soviets for Empire.

We don't read the Daily Worker or its red-tinged press brethren, but it can be assumed that at the present moment, Mr. Bevin is being thoroughly damned all along the line as a "disturber" of world peace.

Of course, his outburst is not compared with that of the chief Soviet delegate, Andrei Y. Vishinsky who forced the UNO in its first test case to release its grip on the Soviet-Iran dispute.

Translating the two cases in point into every-day English, the Russians want a free hand in settling their problems in Iran but want British troops to withdraw from Greece because they might "influence" the results of the coming election.

At its best, the policy of appeasement is dangerous. We have numerous historical examples but the world best remembers the fiasco of Munich.

There the Western powers sold the Czechs down the international river to satisfy Fascist demands and bring what Mr. Chamberlain so erroneously called "peace in our time."

Rather than bring the peace for which Mr. Chamberlain worked, the Munich deal served only to whet the Nazi appetite for further bloodless conquests. In a few months, the pact was broken and within a year, Hitler's legions stormed over the Polish plains to start the Second World War.

At that time people all over the world cried out in protest against this policy of appeasing Germany. Yet, in some instances, these same people are now calling for a policy which will meet the Russian demands on every controversial issue. Where is the consistency in such reasoning?

You cannot bracket all those who wish Russia appeased as parlor pinks or lovers of the Soviet Union. Some are outstanding Americans who see this policy as the only alternative to an armed clash.

Keen students on Russia are almost unanimous in their verdict that Russia does not want war because Russian economy cannot stand war. When the Kremlin tells the world that the Soviets want peace you can believe it. For a change they are telling the truth.

We Americans, the British, the French and the rest of the world don't want war. The Russians are part of that world. They are human and humanity revolts at the very thought of another struggle in the midst of the carnage caused by the conflict through which we have just passed.

If you think war is popular in any quarter just ask our returning soldiers. They hate it with a venom born of their privations and sufferings through nearly four years of conflict. War to them is no glorious adventure. It is nothing but mud, blood, hunger and disease.

Now there is every reason to believe that the average soldier of the Soviet Union feels the same way. War to them is something more than marching past Lenin's tomb in Red Square. It is the same mud and blood of the American doughboy and the British Tommy.

Apparently our Russian allies need an education in living as a member of the international family. They have just recently emerged from their shell of isolation and their ideas are radically different from those of the Western powers to say the least.

When Russia and the Western powers can't get together on a common definition of the word "democracy," how can they be expected to present a united front in the solution of international problems?

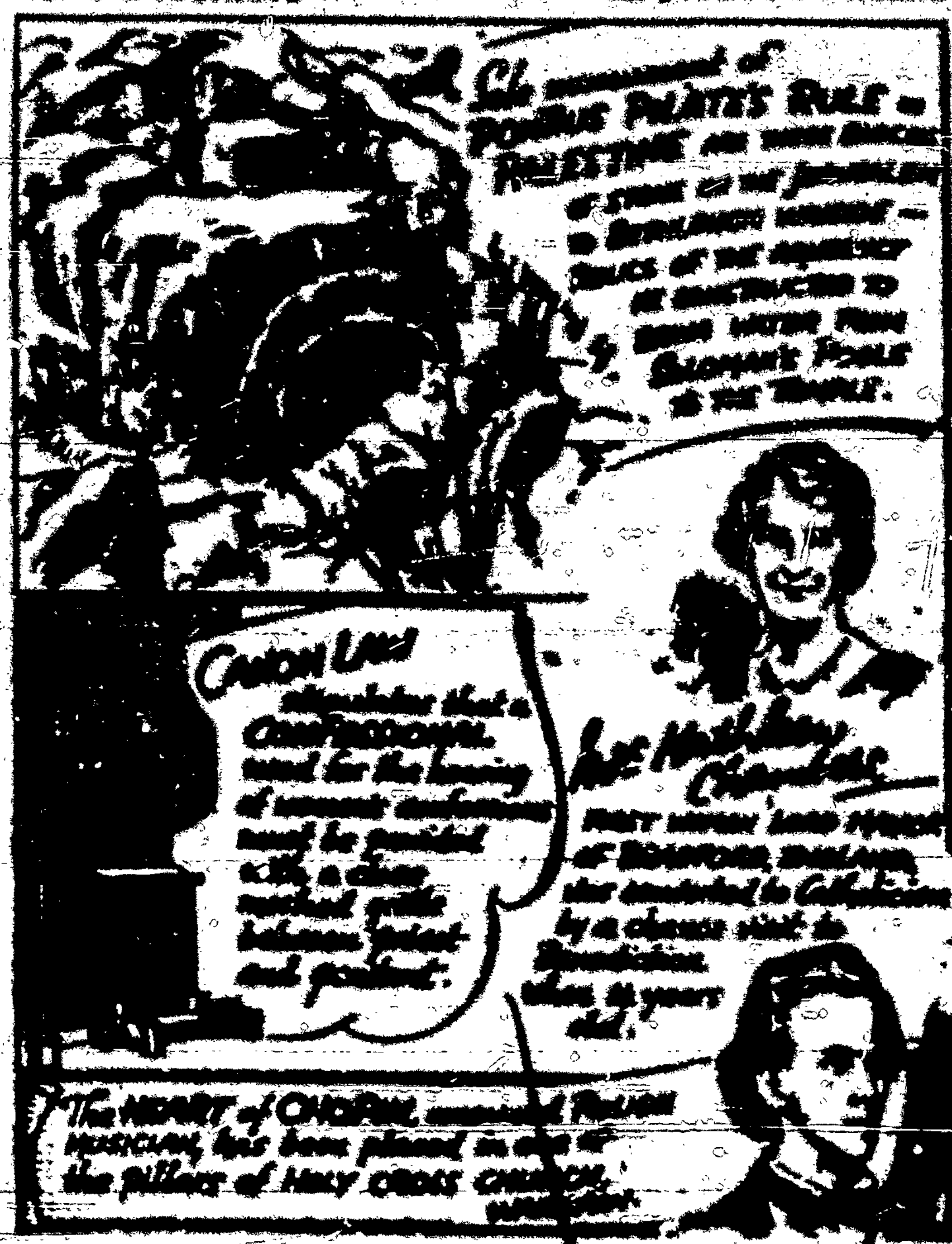
The education of the Soviets should begin now. It cannot be postponed. A constant program of appeasement will only enable the Soviet Union to build up a war potential which does not exist to any great degree at the present time.

Mr. Bevin has shown real, practical statesmanship, in striking back at exaggerated Soviet claims NOW. The United States in general and Mr. Byrnes in particular might well take note.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY



Washington: Minnesota's Fact-Finding System Advised for Nation

By Tom Rogers

Washington — One outstanding precedent that neither capital, labor, nor the administration has cited during the entire strike siege is the fact that Minnesota has had fact-finding and "cooling-off" provisions for the past seven years.

It is more than just that. And, based on the experience of that state the public should demand that far more consideration be given to the proposal of President Truman.

The reason that certain figures in the administration have not cited Minnesota's well-written law and the sound measure it has effected is this: those laws were written by and promulgated by the probable Republican candidate for the Presidency in 1948: former Governor Harold E. Stassen.

The man who just left the U. S. Navy with the rank of captain in the reserve, encountered the identical opposition the President has met from industry and management.

Yet today labor and management admit they have not been harmed. The fact-finding commission's right to call in the books and records has not been abused, and the General Motors Corporation suspected it would be when it withdrew from the hearings of the President's board. The power of the state to declare strikes illegal during the waiting period (which is forty days in strikes involving the public interest) has not worked against the legitimate interests of organized labor. The evidence in Minnesota contradicts the assertions of both the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Both sides in Minnesota agree that neither free enterprise nor free labor has been shackled in anyway. They do wish, however, that more experienced wage mediators had been appointed in these Federal matters. The mediators are all admittedly honest and idealistic. Its just that the people in Minnesota don't think they have given THEIR system as good a chance as they might have given it.

Naturally, the question that follows the best of social legislation is:

"Who is to be appointed?"

The board itself must be impersonal, unpolitical, and intelligently informed. And this brings up the problem of being able to permit public hearings.

The Minnesota tax law leaves it to the discretion of the governor and the state labor board appointed by him whether the press and the public shall be admitted to the hearings of the fact-finding commission and the Governor's own last minute efforts to mediate in cases where recommendations of the commission are rejected.

Newspapermen assigned to cover the field of labor relations in the twin cities, where most of the business and industry of Minnesota is carried on, report that they are usually admitted to the governor's last minute negotiations, unless in rare cases one side or another asks for an executive session. In any case, they find that they always get the reports and recommendations of the fact-finding commission for publication.

In Washington, the question is: will the two parties risk labor or big business pressure to demand the Minnesota system. If they do, the unions will hit both — and Wall Street will let its weight be felt. On the other hand, the Republicans know Stassen performed the feat, and at the same time, the Democrats are afraid to use too much of it. . . .

The final question is: Who will bell the cat. . . .?

Before the repeal of the 18th amendment, a number of interested observers pointed out that in event of any revocation of that cursed law, the several states might adopt the example of such countries as Sweden where there is control of state liquor agencies — and individual rationing. Kentucky is now considering this in a bill before the state legislature and North Carolina is intent on doing the same. That will mean 19 states with monopoly systems and twenty-one states with private stores.

It is a knotty problem: one side will cry "socialism", the other side will cry "temperance." But there is no doubt that a drive is on to legislate morals once again — and this time it may come from the left. . . .

INFORMATION DESK

Why Mostly Italian Cardinals

The Holy Father has just named many new Cardinals from various nations. But I don't see why almost one-half of them should still be Italian. If the Church is universal, why shouldn't they be apportioned to each country according to the Catholic population?

When Jesus Christ founded His Church, He gave supreme power in it for ruling and governing to St. Peter. St. Peter was to pass that power to his successors, the Popes. As the Church grew larger, the work of ruling over it became more difficult, so the Popes naturally called in some of the neighboring bishops, and some of the local priests and deacons to assist him.

These then helped the Popes in administering the many affairs which have to be settled by the Pope, took part in the Papal ceremonies, and were often delegated by the Pope to take his place or represent him at certain functions. Such

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assistants were each called "cardinals," a word which by that time meant "prominent." If they were bishops of the neighboring sees, they were called Cardinal-bishops; if they were pastors of the Roman parishes, they were called Cardinal-priests; if they were deacons, they were called Cardinal-deacons.

Later the Popes began to bestow the title and privileges of Cardinal upon some prominent ecclesiastics even outside of Italy as a distinct and signal honor. Gradually the number of non-Roman cardinals was thus increased.

But non-Roman cardinals are unable to be of much assistance to the Pope in his ruling of the Church, because they live so far from him. He must keep many close to him at Rome, to continue assisting him actively. Obviously, the most logical ones to appoint are those who live there — the Italian clerics. Not only is it logical, it is also what is to be expected. As indicated above, the Cardinalate is, after all, by origin and by nature, a function connected with the diocese and ecclesiastical province of Rome.

[illegible] is the real ruler of the Church and that the Cardinals are not meant to be representatives, as are our Congressmen, but that they are merely assistants and advisers to the Pope, then we can see why so many are Italians, so few from other countries. You would not normally expect your own Bishop to choose as members of his board of consultors or advisers, priests who in the majority at least were from outside the diocese; from California or from Florida, China, Portugal etc.

Is it true that the custom of calling priests "Father" is something quite recent?

The custom of calling secular priests "Father" is fairly recent. In ancient times only bishops were called "Father." Later, [illegible] members in religious orders or congregations were given the title to designate their spiritual dignity and to distinguish them from novices and lay brothers.

Today secular priests in continental Europe are not called "Father" but are given a special title, such as in France, of "Monsieur l' Abbe." In English speaking countries, however, secular priests who were formerly called "Mister" are now called "Father." This custom was first introduced in Ireland and brought over to the United States. It has been the common form of address in the United States for the last 50—75 years.

Some bible-reading Protestants criticize the Catholic practice of calling priests "Father" on the basis of Our Lord's words in Matthew 23: 9: "And call no one on earth your father; for one is your Father, who is in heaven." But the sense of this is that no earthly father should ever be allowed to stand in the way of our service of our heavenly Father. Our Lord himself applied the title "Father" to human fathers, as, for example, in the parable of the prodigal son when He represents him saying: "I will get up and will go to my father, and will say to him: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and thee'" (Luke 15: 18).

Why should there be seventy cardinals and no more? That seems like an odd number to have. Why not a hundred?

In the course of history the number of cardinals has varied. During the Middle Ages they numbered around 53 or 54. After the thirteenth century the number [illegible] and often [illegible] considerably. Pope Sixtus V (1585-1590) regulated the number by fixing it at seventy. They were to be divided according to the various orders as follows: 6 cardinal bishops, 50 cardinal priests, and 14 cardinal deacons.

The choice of seventy was not [illegible]. The Pope had in mind [illegible] Moses, who at God's bidding selected seventy elders to assist him in ruling the Israelitic people (Numbers, 11:16).