

Requests for Aid to Jews - GENERAL: BERNSTEIN, ROSLYN (MISS)

000452

In reply please
refer to: 471

APR 15 1944

Dear Miss Bernstein:

I have your letter of April 1, 1944, and
its enclosure, concerning Jewish refugees in Europe.

The interest which you have shown in the
refugee problem is appreciated. I assure you that
the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its
power to provide speedy and effective rescue programs
to save the persecuted minorities of Europe who are
in imminent danger of death.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Roslyn Bernstein,
690 Ft. Washington Ave.,
New York, New York.

Ekt RBHutchinson:agr 4-14-44 JJA

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April 1, 1944

Miss Roslyn Bernstein
690 Ft. Washington Ave.
New York, N. Y.

x471

John W. Pehle, Exec. Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

As a private citizen and a good Jew, I appeal to you to see to it that Jewish refugees who cannot be admitted to Palestine, can at least be allowed temporary passage through Palestine to North Africa, where they will be fed, clothed, and hospitalized by a Jewish agency and your board in cooperation with the International Red Cross, if possible. As a Jew, I hate to see the Balfour promise repudiated, especially at this dangerous hour, but I am realistic. If our humane President opposes condemnation of the White Paper at this time, there must be sound military reasons. The Arab people do not have any conceivable grievance against Zionism, but the princes and potentates who control them are both envious and fearful of the industrial revolution, which the Jews are bringing to the Near East. They know that it will sooner or later replace their power. Our military strategy depends heavily on the cooperation of the Near East, both because of the oil problem, which will become more difficult as the war moves to the East and involves even longer shipping routes, and the fact that United Nation's troupes may have to violate the national sovereignty of the Near Eastern states to reconquer Burma and China from the West. Actually the Palestine problem itself is largely a trumped-up issue between the Jews and British imperial ambitions. Great Britain has deliberately appeased the Moslem elements for so long that she cannot stop appeasing them. She does not want to waste manpower policing other Moslem states the way she has had to police Iraq

In spite of these seemingly insurmountable obstacles, I do not see why people who apply for admission to Palestine do not get instead permanent visas to North Africa, temporary visas to Palestine where they can get food, clothing, and rest for a year in Haifa Hospital; and free passage through Egypt to United Nations territory in North Africa where they can reside and learn a trade, till a genuine peace shall end their wanderings forever. I, myself, together with other movie patrons have seen newsreels of camps set up in Italy for Jugoslavian refugees. No questions were asked; no credentials demanded.

In view of these facts I and thousands of other sincere Americans cannot understand why your board cannot have a conference with Lord Halifax, asking him to have these compromises in the White Paper put through for the sake of humanity. Appeal to him as a former high churchman and Christian as well as British ambassador. Remind him how the Jewish people in free territory found room in their hearts and their pocketbooks for the needs of British children when they were suffering bombing attacks at the hands of the very same enemy; how they also had contributed to Chinese war relief, and sent their sons to fight against the Fascists in Spain, when this war really started. Remind him how liberally they contributed even though their own needs

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were pressing enough. Remind him also that Christianity owes its very existence to Judaism and that the Jewish contribution to culture is far older than either the British or Germanic cultures. Also, that while their history is one continuous story of bloody persecution, they have never ceased to rear world-famous philosophers, musicians, scientists, and statesmen, thus managing to win themselves into the hearts of their compatriots of Gentile faith, until some tyrant began a religious war. Surely, if the greatness of a people was judged by their traditions and culture rather than their wealth of iron and oil, or the might of their military forces, the Jews would have preference over the Arabs, who have contributed a good deal to the Nazi cause of late. We can accept the White Paper as an inevitable evil, necessary if we want to get along with Middle-Eastern states, but we do not have to deliberately appease either Hitler or his friend, the Grand Mufti of Palestine, who are both undoubtedly overjoyed at the decision of Washington and London. Surely not to actively oppose the Nazi extermination policy is to condone it.

I hope you understand that I fully appreciate the work your committee is already accomplishing in this field. As an active worker in The Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, I helped as much as I could to bring about the creation of your Board. This is simply an argument advocating a method of avoiding the main evils of that infamous doctrine, the White Paper. If you can do nothing without further legislation and you agree with this method, I hope you will speak to Representative Celler, Will Rogers, and Senator Wagner. But if legislation is not necessary then I hope you will not only try to influence Lord Halifax to act on behalf of Jewish children and civilians, but will get him to act immediately, even to call the Prime Minister long distance at the expense of the Jewish agencies, stating that the United States, as a mandatory power cannot condone the White Paper as it is written at present, but recommends the following compromises. Even if your board, or the President himself, fails at convincing the British government of the cold-blooded cruelty of the White Paper at a time like this, Jewish Americans and other well-intentioned Americans will be grateful to you and feel they really belong to a country worth fighting for. Just in case Ambassador Halifax does not fully understand the consequences of that law, or does not care, I am enclosing this editorial and drawing by Arthur Szyk, which speaks for itself.

Yours very respectfully,

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PM Daily

FIVE CENTS

(Copyright, 1944, by Field Publications)

VOL. IV - No. 246
Friday, March 31, 1944
Fair and Mild

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PM TELLS YOU MORE NEWS IN LESS TIME

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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OPINION

Drawn by Arthur Stry



Entered as Second Class Matter, Post Office, N. Y., N. Y.

WHAT'S THAT UP AHEAD?

VIC JORDAN

PATORUZU

UPA HAS PLED ON WHICH KIDNAP GIRL HAD WRITTEN ASKING FOR HELP

PM's FRIDAY

To include...

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The Shutting of a Door

Tomorrow, on Apr. 1, the 1939 British White Paper on Palestine, closing it to further Jewish immigration, is supposed to go into effect. The whole idea of the White Paper, always wrong, is today so monstrous that the British may possibly seek to temper the starkness of their act by some rhetorical expedient. Whether they do or not, the White Paper spells the shutting of a door against millions of the victims of Nazi terror.

The fact that these victims are European Jews is not the crucial fact. The crucial fact is that they are human beings. To shut a door on their agony—a door that could so easily be kept open—is not a crime against Jews. It is a crime against human sensibility, a denial of whatever residual dignity centuries of greed and cynicism have not stripped from men. The crime would be an equal one if committed against Arabs or Armenians, Chinese or Hottentots.

The crime happens to be committed against Jews by the fusion of the logic of Nazi terror and the logic of British policy. For it is the Jews whom the Nazis are seeking to extinguish as a people, and the Jews who must be rescued now or they will be murdered as a people. It is Palestine alone that will readily afford them refuge. And it is exactly Palestine which the British are closing against them, because they fear that the growth of Jewish numbers might make it a colony less pliable for the booty of oil and perquisites of imperial power.

This is not a new British policy. A series of White Papers, stretching over 17 years from 1922 to 1939, whittled away the trust explicitly imposed on the British in the mandate originally given them over Palestine. This is simply the end of the passage, and at the end is a door cynically shut against an anguished people.

The irony of it is that the last White Paper should have been issued in 1939, just when Hitler was poised to strike at the world; just when England was about to enter a war in which it appealed for aid to the conscience of humanity; and the tragedy of it that the time set for putting the White Paper into effect should be exactly now—now when Hitler's quishings have taken over the Balkan countries and have doomed new millions to death for the crime of being Jews, and now when the Allied armies are poised for the thrust that will liberate the continent.

But irony and tragedy are literary qualities. What concern with them have the weary Titans of the Foreign Office? How should they trouble the dull-headed-witted men who have learned all the cunning little considerations of an imperial diplomacy? Their assay, against the facts, that there is no more room for immigration into Palestine—at the very time when Walter Lowdermill, of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, has published a study estimating that with proper development Palestine can support 4,000,000 people more, and

the whole Near Eastern area some 20 to 30 million. They worry about Arab hostility to Jews in the very act of encouraging it. They have thought of everything except the simple and shining truths of ordinary humanity.

Yet it is easy to indulge in the luxury of blaming others when our own American policy is also at fault. President Roosevelt has made it clear that America had never recognized the White Paper policy, and we will presumably throw our weight against it at some future time. Yet for the present he supports Gen. Marshall's military veto of any Congressional resolution on the matter. The President delivered an eloquent plea to the Balkan countries last week to give refuge and protection to the refugees whom Hitler is seeking to wipe out. Yet it is difficult to see how the Allies have a moral right to ask the Balkan governments to admit and protect refugees against whom they themselves shut the Palestinian door. And, for that matter, the American one.

This is not a question of ideals. When you call something an ideal you seem to remove it from the area of belief and action. This is a question of making even minimal sense of our behavior as functioning human beings. When two people have been brought up in as great a tradition of reason as the British and the Americans, they owe it to themselves to make some sense. —MAX LERNER

THE NATION

Congressmen, Stimson Differ Over Work Draft

Secretary Wants Legislation, but House Group Asks Him to Act

The muddled manpower situation was a little more muddled today after Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and a House Military Affairs Subcommittee differed on who should act to get 4Fs now in non-essential activities either into war work or labor battalions.

Stimson agreed that the estimated 1,000,000 4Fs in non-essential jobs should be actively involved in war work; but maintained they shouldn't be put into the Army.

Meanwhile, the subcommittee headed by Rep. John M. Costello (D., Cal.) put out a three-point proposal calling on the armed forces to go ahead without waiting for legislative action which, it said, would be forthcoming.

The recommendations mentioned only the War Dept., but Costello said they also applied to the Navy.

Stimson told his press conference the War Dept. would help carry out any program enacted by Congress, but said he didn't think "this vitally needed step" (getting 4Fs into war work) should be taken by indirection; by inducting men into the Army who are not qualified to serve in the Army.

Both the Army and Navy take the position that Selective Service should have control over work battalions.

The subcommittee maintained the War Dept. should take 4Fs for war work because it already has the authority to use men hitherto deferred for physical reasons.

The recommendations were: That the War Dept. "accept and use men for special labor duty," publicly disclosing its intention of so doing.

That Selective Service re-examine all 4Fs, giving deferments to those men currently working in es-

sential industries or agriculture for so long as they remained in such jobs. Others would be prepared for induction.

That legislation be drafted to cover, supplementing if necessary, the program.

The subcommittee did not say what "special labor duty" it had in mind for 4Fs taken by the Army. Members said the War Dept. would have to put the men where they were needed. The 4Fs who were willing to go into civilian war work would be allowed to do so; those who refused would be inducted.

Meanwhile, the WPB (War Production Board) issued a list of 15 critical industries in which highly skilled and irreplaceable men under 26 may be deferred. The list includes workers turning out amphibious vehicles, tins and tubes for aircraft, combat and heavy-duty vehicles, radar, rockets, critical parts of heavy trucks, research work assigned by the Army or Navy, certain specified combat planes, landing craft and submarines, aircraft

Takes CIO Job



Mrs. Verda Barnes has resigned as assistant to the director of information of the War Manpower Commission to become director of the women's division of the CIO Political Action Committee. She was national vice president of the Young Democrat Clubs of America in 1939 and 1940.

carriers, types of naval ammunition ship, and aircraft maintenance for the Navy; tankers for the Maritime Commission; and combat-loaded cargo and transport ships.

No Gag on Winchell After All

Walter Winchell will not be gagged in any way Sunday night when he answers Rep. Martin Dies' (D., Tex.) innuendoes.

Following a conference of radio and advertising agency officials, it was decided last night that Winchell, beleaguered by Dies' Sunday night for 15 straight minutes of time paid for by the columnist-commentator's own sponsor, will not be limited in his reply to Dies' charges or in making charges of his own.

Winchell will take one minute, or none, or 15, or whatever he desires.

There will be no special censorship of the script but, as usual, Winchell will submit his words to Lennon & Mitchell, Inc., the agency which handles Winchell's Jergens' lotion account.

In addition to Winchell, those

who attended the conference included his attorney, Mark Woods, president of the Blue Network; Ed Koback, Blue official; Philip Lennon, of the agency; and James Andrews, the agency radio director.

Winchell, in his news broadcast last Sunday, made no direct reference to Dies' new agreement. This Sunday night, however, he is expected to grab his Blue Network mike and pitch.

Meantime, in Washington Rep. Warren Magnuson (D., Wash.)'s Lt. Comdr. in the Navy Reserve informed the House Winchell was not "stripped" of his Navy uniform, as was contemptuously stated by Rep. Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.).

"His status is that of many in the reserve on inactive duty," Magnuson declared.

Bar to Palestine Blamed For 300,000 Lives Lost

Zionist Blasts British Policy as Immigration Is Ended

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, condemning the British White Paper closing Palestine to Jews, asserted in a Washington "that at least 300,000 lives would have been saved if the British had permitted unlimited immigration of Jews into that country. The White Paper goes into effect at midnight tonight.

"The problem of Jewish immigration," he said, "has been brought into tragic focus once more by the Nazi invasion of Hungary and the Balkan countries, which has placed additional hundreds of thousands of Jews in the hands of the executioner."

"Today every Jew who can escape the charnel houses of Europe and get to Palestine is a life saved," said Dr. Goldstein, adding that he hoped FDR's recent pledge that "full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish national home" would register with British officials.

At the same time, 1500 U.S. university professors signed a petition calling on Roosevelt to act in behalf of free Jewish entry into Palestine.

The petition urged "full opportunity for colonization so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth."

Among the signers were Prof. Albert Einstein of Princeton; Prof. Mortimer J. Adler and Francis E. McMahon of the University of Chicago; President Harry D. Cidwose of Brooklyn College; Prof. Alain LeRoy Locke of Howard University; and Prof. Mark Van Doren of Columbia.

Meanwhile, Govs. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina strongly protested against slamming the door of Palestine to the 4,000 Jews still trapped in Nazi-occupied Europe.

"It is but elementary justice," said Saltonstall, "that the doors of

Palestine be reopened to the fullest extent, consistent with military considerations, for the Jews of Europe against whom Hitler has so savagely expended his fury."

Gov. Johnston, declaring "we are fighting this war for religious freedom," said:

"There should be no doors closed to the Jewish people who wish to enter Palestine. Religious intolerance must be abolished and persecutions of the Jewish people must cease or civilization must fall."

Gabriel A. Wechsler, national secretary of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, attacked the putting into effect of the British White Paper as "drawing the bolt on the gate of rescue," adding that Palestine "is the nearest and most logical place of refuge for those Jews who can escape."

At New York, the Agudath Israel Youth Council of America appealed to the British Government through the British Ambassador to the U. S. A. Lord Halifax, to abrogate the White Paper at once, "independent of any political considerations as to the future status of Palestine."

Aviation Underwriters Hit

Sen. Joseph C. Mahoney (D., Wyo.) declared before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee that three combinations of insurance underwriters issuing 96 per cent of all aviation insurance "levy unduly high charges for their services."

O'Mahoney said the three pools made a profit of 30 per cent on more than \$9,000,000 of premiums collected in 1937-41.

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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievance."—Article I, Bill of Rights, U. S. Constitution.

25 Unionists Arrested at Weirton Passing Out Handbills

Accused of 'Unlawful Assemblage'; USW Will Seek Court Test

By JOHN T. MOUTOUX
Staff Correspondent

WEIRTON, W. Va., Mar. 31.—Twenty-five members of the United Steel Workers, CIO, were arrested here yesterday when they attempted to distribute handbills to employees of the Weirton Steel Co., urging them to join the union. There was no violence.

Sheriff Richard Wright of Hancock County, who personally made the arrests, charged the union men with unlawful assemblage. They were locked up in the County Jail, but the union at once made arrangements to obtain their release on bond.

Yesterday's arrests came only two weeks after five USW members were injured in an attack by Weirton's "hatchet gang" while passing out literature at gates of the plant's strip mill. The union says two of the injured, Charles Fagan and Charles Barrance, Jr., are still hospitalized.

Three other workers were assaulted and severely injured Feb. 17 for the same reason.

Making Weapons

PM recently published detailed evidence showing that the company, headed by Ernest T. Weir, has been producing weapons allegedly for use in labor strife.

Orville J. Kincaid USW head here, said yesterday the union would make a court test of the arrests. In the meantime, he said, the union would continue its efforts to distribute handbills to Weirton workers.

The handbills advised of the efforts now being made by the USW before a War Labor Board panel in Washington to obtain a 17-cent an hour wage increase and added:

"Despite the baseless claims of others, the USW as in 1936, '37, '41 and '42 is carrying the fight alone for a general wage increase for steel workers throughout the Nation. Do your part. Join the USW now."

The majority of the Weirton Co.'s 12,000 employes belong to the Weirton Independent Union, which has a contract with the company as the sole bargaining agent.

Peaceful Episode

Unlike the two previous clashes over passing out literature, yesterday's episode was peaceful. The USW sent five delegations of five men each to distribute handbills at two of the plant gates. Soon after the first delegation had taken its place at one of the gates and begun offering handbills to those who entered and left, Norman D. Ferranti, Justice of the Peace of Hancock County, accompanied by Sheriff Wright, walked into the street in front of the delegation and read this proclamation:

"Whereas, the laws of this state prohibit riots, routs and unlawful assemblages and make it a criminal offense by fine and imprisonment to participate therein; and

"Whereas, under said laws, I, as Justice of the Peace, have the authority to command every person participating in an unlawful assembly to disperse or give them their assistance in arresting other persons taking part in such unlawful assembly; and

"Whereas, any person who shall

refuse to disperse or give me such assistance, upon my command, is guilty of the crime of riot and subject to a jail sentence of not more than one year and a fine of not more than \$500; and

"Whereas, there are now gathered many persons who are acting in a turbulent and disorderly manner, dangerous to the lives and properties of citizens of this state;

"Now, therefore, I, as Justice of the Peace, having jurisdiction in this district, do hereby, in the name of the law, command and call upon each and every person here assembled to disperse and go their ways. And I do hereby further call upon every such person and upon the Sheriff of this county, and his deputies and posse, to arrest and secure every person taking part in this unlawful assemblage who shall not immediately disperse and go his way as I have commanded.

"Any person here assembled who shall refuse to disperse and refuse to give me assistance, as aforesaid, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, for riot and unlawful assemblage contrary to the laws and peace of this state."

Cards Put Up

Shortly thereafter, printed cards bearing the proclamation were tacked onto telephone poles in the vicinity of the gate where the delegation was distributing the handbills.

Kincaid said that 24 of the 25 men arrested were former longtime employes of the Weirton Co. who were dismissed recently because of union activity. The other was a field representative of the union. Kincaid said that one of those arrested, Jack Civiens, is a veteran of this war who was given a medical discharge from the Army. He identified another, the Rev. William Council, as pastor of the First Baptist Church at nearby Wellsburg, W. Va.

Kincaid said that within recent weeks the company has discharged approximately 2000 workers for union activity. All but 65 have been given employment in other steel mills in the Pittsburgh area.

UNRRA Meets June 23

The Council of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration will hold its second meeting at Montreal on June 23. The announcement by Sir Arthur Salter, acting director general, said it would be a relatively brief business session.

Republican Sworn In

Republican Dean M. Gillespie was sworn in as a member of the House, filling the vacancy caused by the death of Lawrence Lewis, Democrat, as Representative of Colorado's First Congressional District.



Sheriff Richard Wright, with club in hand, leads five members of the United Steel Workers, CIO, from the gates of Weirton Steel Mills at Weirton, W. Va., where they were passing out handbills, to the county jail. They were booked for unlawful assemblage.

Photo by Dan Keleher, PM

Boston Booksellers Yield To Ban on Another Book

Special Correspondence

BOSTON, Mar. 31.—Close on the heels of the suppression of Lillian Smith's best-seller novel *Strange Fruit*, comes the belated revelation of another recent ban, this one on Elliot Paul's *The Last Time I Saw Paris*.

The ban on the Paul book was the work of Boston's Watch and Ward Society, long a self-appointed guardian of the city's morals. The society itself has refused to comment and its executive secretary, Louis J. Croteau, declares that W. & W. is a "closed corporation" and does not explain its actions to the public.

What makes the ban on *The Last Time I Saw Paris*, both strange and ludicrous is that it was put into effect by the Boston Booksellers Assn. only several months ago after thousands of copies of the original edition by Random House had been sold in Boston.

Reprint Edition

According to booksellers, the only editions on sale here at the time the ban took effect were those put out by Doubleday Doran in a one-dollar reprint edition. Every public and circulating library in metropolitan Boston and throughout Massachusetts has copies of it.

The request for its withdrawal

from sale was made—as was the case with *Strange Fruit* by Richard Fuller, head of the Booksellers Assn. Some book stores in Cambridge are also members.

Strange Fruit is virtually unobtainable today anywhere in Massachusetts, apparently as the aftermath of its being withdrawn from Boston stores.

A few suburban book shop owners said they still may try to secure an OK from their local police departments before offering it for sale.

Conspiracy of Silence

As the manager of one of metropolitan Boston's largest book stores said, "What I object to is the conspiracy of silence that envelops the whole issue that *Strange Fruit* brings up. Nobody will take a forthright stand and take the responsibility for either banning the book or of trying to make a real test case out of it."

Police Commissioner Thomas F. Sullivan, whose implied disapproval of *Strange Fruit* resulted in its withdrawal, still insists he didn't order the book removed or threatened prosecution. But he hasn't offered any reassurances that he wouldn't prosecute any bookseller who dared to put the book up for sale.

The publishers of *Strange Fruit* have declared they will not issue a special "big leaf" edition to suit Boston.

NMU Suit Against 'Tribune' Quashed

A motion of the Chicago *Tribune* to dismiss libel suits brought against it by three members of the National Maritime Union, CIO, was sustained at Chicago by Judge Philip L. Sullivan of the U. S. District Court.

The suits, filed Jan. 21, charged that the *Tribune*, on Jan. 22, 1943, printed a copyrighted news story credited to the Akron (O.) *Beacon Journal*, claiming that sick Marines were compelled to unload supply ships at Guadalcanal because union crew members refused to do it. Judge Sullivan held that if the story contained libel, it was not directed at the plaintiffs.

Fan Mail

Rep. Clare Hoffman, Republican isolationist from Michigan and Winchell Baizer, inserted into the Congressional Record copies of several letters he had received from Michigan industrialists who said that when they arrived at Chicago on Mar. 22 they were addressed by a Navy chief petty officer who told them:

"You have an isolationist representative up there. Let's see what's his name? Oh, yes, Clare Hoffman. I understand he's almost ready to declare war on Hitler."

In a speech prepared for delivery in the House, Hoffman said that no officer has the right to attempt to influence the political views of men in the service.

VIC JORDAN
P A T O R U Z U
PM
FRIDAY
MARCH 31, 1944
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O'Donnell Gets Backtalk But Does He Hear It?

After All, a Man's Conscience Can Go Only So Far

By BARNETT BILDERSEE

Happened to be reading John O'Donnell's *Capitol Stuff* column in the *Daily News* the other day. Nothing new, just more smear Roosevelt laid on in thick daubs. But with a deft touch. None of Pegler's Pier 6 roundhouse swings. It was the finesse that intrigued me.

Must have been a painstaking job to curve in each innuendo so neatly and still steer clear of a fact. Couldn't help thinking that a man who labored so to say things by hint and shadow can't have much faith in his own stuff.

I don't know John O'Donnell. But I began to wonder what John O'Donnell's conscience says to John O'Donnell. Maybe, it went something like this: (If O'Donnell is bothered by such details?)

JOHN O'DONNELL (In his column): American misfortunes and losses in our ill-fated Italian campaign are inflicting deeper wounds than his political reversals on the domestic front or the mounting physical weariness imposed by sustained White House duties.

JOHN O'DONNELL'S CONSCIENCE: That's quite a mouthful, isn't it? Gets the President on the war, politics and his health in one sentence. Old Man Patterson will like that one. Ever hear of accuracy, or isn't that in a newspaperman's vocabulary any more? Come now, what do you mean "ill-fated Italian campaign?" Thought it was still being fought. And who



Callused American reaction for you anyway? Well, skip it. It's no worse than lots of others say.

O'DONNELL: In the Italian campaign the "capture of Rome" by Anglo-American arms has been the pet project of the psychological warriors. Trained military brains schooled at West Point and skilled by a lifetime devoted to the science of warfare, don't like the proposal—but it was stuck down their throats by the top-flight politicians and the self-appointed civilian masters of global psychology.

CONSCIENCE: Now you're cooking with gas. But let me ask you one question, "Says who?" I suppose you were there when the invasion of Italy was planned. You speak, of course, as though you really knew. Would you care to name some of the owners of those skilled military brains? By the way, who do you mean by "self-appointed civilian masters of global psychology?" Not that I can't guess who you mean for us to think you mean. Go on.

O'DONNELL: Original political theory was that FDR would make his fight for the fourth term on the grounds that he and his New Deal Party deserved sole credit for U. S. victories.

CONSCIENCE: Don't let me stand in your way.

O'DONNELL: Seizure of Rome and Vatican City, at suggestion of Commander in Chief Roosevelt.

CONSCIENCE: Excuse my interrupting. Wasn't it "stuck down the throats" of the military just about two sneers ago? Am I getting lost or does it come out now that "the top-flight politicians and the self-appointed civilian masters."

turn out to be the President himself now with no hedging. But go ahead, Goebbels always says if you repeat it often enough it finally will pass for fact.

O'DONNELL: The skilled strategists, the men who have devoted their lives to the science of and disunity by letting people think the best and most patriotic brains are on your side. I'll admit that. Incidentally, who are these best brains who didn't want to reopen the Mediterranean short route or get bases for our planes in Italy or KO the Italian fleet?

O'DONNELL: Now, at long last, the story is coming out. It's too hot for censorship to squelch.

CONSCIENCE: Is that any place to stop? What story? Who

squelched it? Why don't you try arms, shook their heads. They don't like the idea of heading the so-called "soft underbelly" of Europe and advised against it.

Montreal, Chicago to Play for Title

MONTREAL, Mar. 31.—(UP)—The National Hockey League champion Montreal Canadiens qualified to meet Chicago's Black Hawks in the Stanley Cup finals when they whitewashed the Toronto Maple Leafs, 11-0, here last night to take their semi-final series against Toronto, four games to one.

DETROIT, Mich., Mar. 31.—(UP)—The Chicago Black Hawks eliminated the defending champion Detroit Red Wings last night, 5 to 2, and will meet the Montreal Canadiens in the finals for a session of the battered cup, Hockey's most cherished trophy.

Tom O'Reilly . . .

America will see the dawn of a new fishing era with the opening of New York's trout season tomorrow. Trout fishing has long been the last stronghold of the proud, crusty individualist. Tomorrow, thru war conditions, it becomes a team sport.

If you wish to cast in the Beaverkill, the Esopus, or the West Branch, you've got to join a team because there is no other way to get out there. No man alive has enough gas coupons to motor to these finny retreats and return home again, all alone.

Since the serious trout fisherman is generally an aloof and secretive character who will never tell you exactly where he expects to find his quarry and moves off muttering if you approach him in action, tomorrow's team opening might be considered an acid test.

Frankly, I don't think the idea will work without bloodshed. Fishing is the philosopher's sport. And no man can achieve the philosophic mood while "teamsters" fall down, about, whistle and hook in camp. Look for bodies in Titicus Outlet and Clocinda Lake, Sunday!

Fishing is, of course, the one sport in this nation that everybody has tried. I doubt if there is an American alive who hasn't been guilty of holding one end of a line in the daff hope that some piscatorial chump will grab the other. All our Presidents, for instance, have been fishermen and it is almost a campaign rule that a man can't get elected without being photographed in his boots holding a pole. Come to think of it, I've never seen a photograph of Wendell Willkie fishing. The only thing that saves fishing from being a complete flop in my book is the fact that not all fishermen are serious. I have long been an ad-



mitter of the fisherman who uses his sport simply as an excuse to go out and lie under a tree. This gentleman opens the lunch basket, spreads the blanket, sits his pole in the ground and goes to sleep. Occasionally he rises to bait the hook.

Since he never expects to catch a fish, he is never disappointed and hence must be classed as the happiest of all trout fishermen's devotees.

Trout fishermen, however, are invariably serious. One thing that makes them suspicious characters is their canny habit of reading books about their sport in the off-season. They are constantly studying new methods of snaring the wily trout and they are divided into two schools who will fight at the mere mention of a worm or a fly.

Mrs. Elizabeth Greig, the charming Scottish lady who operates the Angler's Roost, in Manhattan's E. 40s, is the world's champion "flier" of trout flies and agrees with me that this idea of sending trout fishermen out in teams is fraught with danger.

She hurrs, "I know some trout fishermen who would never make my team unless they brought along an extra hook or two. This is one way for the loud fisherman to make the serious trout vastly inferior under ordinary circumstances he would never be selected but any man with an extra hook these days is as good as a butcher."

Hooks and lines are very scarce and it is impossible to buy a new fishing reel in the entire city of New York. Incidentally, Mrs. Greig says that anybody who has a few hooks, feathers, tweezers and other fly-tying equipment that they won't be able to use this season, should send them down to the Hobby Room of Halloran Hospital on Staten Island. Mrs. Greig has been teaching some of the wounded war heroes down there her fine art. They have taken to it with considerable enthusiasm but are having a very difficult time getting the proper materials.

Boys back from the Pacific and Italian beachheads are concentrating on Royal Coachmen, Golden Hackles and other fancy snates. So if you have hooks and no gas or a little gas but no friends who will tolerate you, send that stuff down to Halloran. Strake!

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A THING OR TWO

Soviet Foreign Policy Is Not So Enigmatic

WASHINGTON—Soviet foreign policy is as enigmatic as it looks when viewed through the lenses of ideological apologetics or ideological attack.

I think we may hazard a few statements of fact, and place some reliance on what they indicate for the future.

1. The Russians are in the home stretch of a long and bloody war.

2. In that war, they got little help from the international working class solidarity of Marxist tradition. In the Allied countries, sections of the working class were more hostile to the Soviet Union than the capitalist class; put Matthew Woll alongside Thomas W. Lamont and judge for yourself.

In Central Europe, whose working class

had been Marxist for two generations, terror and patriotism prevented any effective aid we know of from the German workers to "the workers' fatherland."

In some countries, as in Poland, schismatic rivalry and Soviet ruthlessness with political heresy have made the Socialists more deeply anti-Soviet than the Right.

Under those circumstances one may reasonably suspect that the Russians are in no mood to shed their blood for the sake of bringing Communism to the West.

3. The Soviet Union has been terribly ravaged. A huge volume of supplies is needed for reconstruction. Their principal source must be the U. S. A. and Britain. The Soviet Union and Communists abroad cannot carry on a revolutionary policy abroad and expect

to get those supplies.

4. The Red Army is emerging from a war a great, but battered, military power. The U. S. A. and Great Britain, which have done little fighting, have millions of fresh men under arms.

There still are plenty of people in the West who were glad to see the Nazis bleed the Soviets, and would be more enthusiastic about a war against Stalin than they ever were about a war against Hitler.

Revolutionary uprisings in western or central Europe would immensely add to the danger of a clash between Anglo-American and Soviet power.

Under those circumstances, the Soviet Union and the Communists will not only do nothing to encourage revolution but will do

all in their power to prevent it.

5. Soviet foreign policy, though rationalized by both friends and enemies in ideological terms, has been little influenced by ideological considerations, and will be less so than ever in the future.

The Soviet Union will seek the establishment of friendly governments in western and central Europe. There will be circumstances in which it may regard a rightist government as a safer ally than a liberal or leftist.

The Soviet Union will choose its friends and make its moves in terms of Russian interests. The primary Russian interest is in peace abroad and reconstruction at home.

That primary interest and not ideology will determine Soviet foreign policy and the Communist line abroad. —I. F. STONE