

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.

EPT RHHutchinson:agr 4-14-44 SA 7

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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 troops 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 existance 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 Cellar, 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,

300455

PM Daily

FIVE CENTS

(Copyright, 1944, by Field Publications)

VOL. IV — NO. 246

Friday, March 31, 1944

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COMPLETE EDITION

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PM TELLS YOU MORE NEWS IN LESS TIME

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PM, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944

OPINION

Drawn by Arthur Szyk



Enveloped at Second Class Mailer Post Office, N.Y., N.Y.

WHAT'S
THAT UP
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SATURDAY

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4:15, 6:15,

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Committee

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Berkman (2nd)

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New Venetian

RKO Palace

Hall

Paramount

2:30, 10:20,

Hall, Ward

5:30, 10:30,

Tivoli

7:30, 10:30,

A. Ray - Pump

9:30, 10:30,

Schubert

11:30, 10:30,

Orpheum

11:30, 10:30,

Vista - Le Vol

Warner - Blues

Greenwich

City - 2nd Flr

Am - No, Voca

Loew's Comedie

St. Street Play

Elgin - 1st, Buil

Shubert, Park

Greenwich - 1st

Berkman - 1st

Loew's - 2nd, Va

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RKO 3rd St. - 1st

Loew's - 2nd, Buil

Metropolitan - 1st

Metropolitan - 1st

Loew's - 2nd, Va

Loew's - 2nd, Va

Times - 1st, 2nd

The Shutting of a Door

Tomorrow, on April 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 tempor 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 Hollentots.

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 people. 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 boot 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 granted by 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 is that the time set for putting the White Paper into effect should be exactly now—now when Hitler's quislings 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 Europe.

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 leaden-witted men who have learned all the cunning little considerations of an imperial diplomacy? They assert, against the facts, that there is no more room for immigration into Palestine—at the very time when Walter Lowmyer, 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 thoughts 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 has 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 Palestine door. And, for that matter, the Americans are

This is not a question of ideals. When you can 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 LEIBNER

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 4-Fs now in non-essential activities either into war work or labor battalions.

Stimson agreed that the estimated 1,000,000 4-Fs 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 4-Fs into war work) should be taken by induction, by inducing 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 war battalions.

The subcommittee maintained the War Dept. should take 4-Fs 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 4-Fs, 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 4-Fs taken by the Army. Members said the War Dept. would have to put the men where they were needed. The 4-Fs, who were willing to go into civilian war work would be allowed to do so; those who refused would be induced.

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 vehicle, tires 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 Democratic 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 engaged in any way Sunday night when he answers Rep. Martin Dies (D., Tex.) in audience.

Following a conference of radio and advertising agency officials, it was decided last night that Winchell, belabored 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 Lennen & 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 Krobak, Blue official; Philip Lenzen, of the agency, and James Andrews, the agency radio director.

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

Meanwhile, in Washington, Rep. Warren Magnuson (D., Wash.), a 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 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 executioners.

"Today every Jew, who can escape the ghastly 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. Gideonse of Brooklyn College, Prof. Alan LeRoy Locke of Howard University, and Prof. Mark Van Doren of Columbia.

Meanwhile, Gov. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina strongly protested against slamming the door of Palestine to the 4,000,000 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 persecution 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. O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) declared before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee that three combinations of insurance underwriters issuing 96 per cent of all aviation insurance, "left 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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VIC JORDAN

PAT ORUZU

Copyright 1944 Field Publications
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. by St. Louis Publishers**PM'S MOVIE GUIDE****FRIDAY AND SATURDAY MOVIES**

To include Saturday listings. Times are omitted today except for selected Times Square and Brooklyn Red-Top theaters. In these theaters scheduled feature times are given from matinee to closing. Where Saturday is not indicated, Friday pictures hold over.

*New Pictures—See "Red-Top"

† Recommended by Schools Motion Picture Committee for Children

MANHATTAN—Times Square

Apollo—(2nd) —Mr. Died Go to Town; Mad Emperor; *The Devil's Disciple; Sea Hunt; Private Hargrove; 10:01, 12:01, 2:10.

Belmont—(iled Without Sat.)—No Eng. Titles; 9:15.

Bryant—(Happened 1 Night; Sat.)—38 Steps; Sat.—Fever.

Capitol—Reserve Boddy; Sonny Dunham Orch.; Jimmy Durante on stage; 10:35, 1:31, 4:19, 8:07, 11:10.

Cribs—(2nd) —The Carpenter; 9:30, 11:40, 1:55, 4:00.

Bible—Fighting Seabees; 9:27, 11:34, 1:41, 4:09, 5:58.

Gotham—(4th, Sat., 1st, 2nd, 3rd)—Women Bourgeois; 10:45 Int'l.

Hollywood—Passage to Marseille; 11:00, 1:15, 3:15, 5:31.

Music Box—(2nd, Sat.)—Life of Henry Holt; 12:00.

Music Hall—Cover Girl; Lookout! "Glory of Exile"; 12:00.

Paramount—Spring Rhythms; on stage; 10:30, 1:15, 4:10.

Museum of Science & Industry—Sister; 10:30, 5:45.

New York—Death House; Arizona Whirlwind; 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:15, 12:20.

Paragon—Lady in Dark; Xavier Cugat Orch.; 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:15, 12:20.

Pix—Golden Boys; Adventure in Manhattan; 10:30.

Rialto—Weird Woman; 10:10, 12:32, 2:18, 4:04.

Strand—Song of Mystery; 10:30, 12:32, 2:18, 4:04.

Rivoli—Song of Remembrance; 10:30, 12:32, 2:18, 4:04.

Sigmar—Heart of Dixie; 10:30, 12:32, 2:18, 4:04.

State—(2nd, Sat.)—Hercules; 10:30, 12:32, 2:18, 4:04.

Toronto—Guy Named Joe; Swing Out Blues; 11:00.

World—Kings of the Ring; 1:15 last show.

Greenwich Village—Cinema—Downtown

Cinema—(2nd, Sat.)—The Devil's Desert.

Academy of Music—Lifeboat; Never a Dull Moment.

Art—Non-Voyager; Sat.—Midsummer, Night's Dream.

Beth—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; The Uninvited.

Beth Street Play—Action in Arabia.

Beth Street Play—Ride High; The Uninvited.

Lew's—Dance—Ride High; The Uninvited.

5th Ave.—Play—Heart of Paris.

Gramercy Park Hills—Bitter; Spider Woman.

Grand Central—(2nd, Sat.)—Midsummer, Night's Dream.

Colonial—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; The Uninvited.

Loew's—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; The Uninvited.

Lowes—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; The Uninvited.

Moore—Calling Dr. Death; Sat.—North Star.

Music Box—Song of the Morning; 10:30, 12:30, 2:18, 4:04.

Paramount—Guy Named Joe; Swing Out Blues; 11:00.

Pix—(2nd, Sat.)—Guy Named Joe; Swing Out Blues; 11:00.

Playhouse—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; Brooklyn Jack London.

St. George—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; Brooklyn Jack London.

St. Marks—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; Brooklyn Jack London.

State—(2nd, Sat.)—Guy Named Joe; Swing Out Blues; 11:00.

Toronto—(2nd, Sat.)—Ride High; Brooklyn Jack London.

World—(2nd, Sat.)—Guy Named Joe; Swing Out Blues; 11:00.

DAILY FOR LATE WAR NEWS, PICTURES

Daily

VOL. IV - No. 246

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944

NEW YORK, N. Y.

BUY
WAR
BONDS

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 Staff* 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 in FDR's fourth term ambitions 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



Galluped 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 air 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 intervening. 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. Goebbel 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 re-open the Mediterranean short route or get bases for our planes in Italy? To 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, shoot their heads? Then I didn't like the idea of invading the so-called "soft underbelly" of Europe and faced against it.

CONSCIENCE: Hold your hats, boys, here we go again. But it's a

pretty safe way of starting rumors writing novels! Anyway, don't tell me both you any more. I'll do it for you can finish your column in peace.

By the way, John, how do you sleep?

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 possession 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, due to 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 funny 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 "teammates" fall down, shout, whistle and hook the bait. Look for bodies in Titicus Outlet and Glenida 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 draft 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 hip 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-

mirer 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, sticks 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 has never disappointed and hence must be classed as the happiest of all Frank Walton's devotees.

TROUT fisherman, however, are invariably scholars. 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 tier of trout flies and agrees with me that this idea of sending trout fishermen out in teams is fraught with danger. She says: "I know some trout fishermen who would never make my list unless they brought along an extra coke or two. This is one way for the loud-fisherman to make the serious trout varsity."

Under ordinary circumstances, he would never be selected but any man with an extra hook these days is as popular 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 snarls. 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. Strikel.

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A THING
OR TWO

Soviet Foreign Policy Is Not So Enigmatic

WASHINGTON: I don't think Soviet foreign policy is as enigmatic as it looks when viewed through the lenses of ideological apologists 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

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.

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 money 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

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