

I personally think we should redefine our standards of diplomacy. I should like to see foreign policies dictated by plebiscite and referendum, so that the entire people of a nation, and not a mere cabal of cabinet members, or the hierarchy of a single all-powerful party, dictates what a nation's policy shall be. I should like also to see our text-books and dictionaries cleaned up a bit. For example, one of the traditional definitions of diplomacy—it happens to be that of the best-known American dictionary (Websters)—is "the artful man-

For in questions of war, peace, and freedom the people are extremely uncomplicated. They want no petty connivances, no bi-tri- or quadrilateral alliances; they want frank and open discussions, a clear presentation of problems and a showing of cards face up. The test of what I am saying is whether you, as one of the people, wish to see the world in one camp, or in two or more; whether you prefer that all people capable of self-government should be politically independent; whether you favour diplomatic and trade relations

PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLES

There is a little prayer which I wrote to conclude a programme celebrating victory in Europe; and I am rash enough to think that tonight, some 400-odd days, since the end of the war, it might still be valid.

—NORMAN CORWIN, speaking from 1ZB, October 6, 1946.

*LORD God of trajectory and blast,
Whose terrible sword has laid open the serpent,
So it withers in the sun for the just to see,
Sheathe now the swift avenging blade with the names of nations writ on it,
And assist in the preparation of the ploughshare.*

*LORD God of fresh bread and tranquil mornings,
Who walks in the circuit of heaven among the worthy,
Deliver notice to the fallen young man
That tokens of orange juice and a whole egg appear now before the hungry children;
That night again falls cooling on the earth as quietly as when it leaves Your Hand;
That freedom has withstood the tyrant like a Malta in a hostile sea,
And that the soul of man is surely a Sebastopol that goes down hard and leaps from ruin quickly.*

*LORD God of the topcoat and the living wage
Who has turred the fox against the time of winter
And stored provender of bees in summer's brightest places,
Do bring sweet influences to bear upon the assembly line;
Accept the smoke of the milltown among the accredited clouds of the sky.
Fend from the wind with a house and a hedge him whom You made in Your image
And permit him to pick of the tree and the flock
That he may eat to-day without fear of to-morrow
And clothe himself with dignity in Winter.*

*LORD God of test tube and blueprint,
Who jointed molecules of dust and shook them till their name was Adam,
Who taught worms and stars how they could live together
Appear now among the parliaments of conquerors
And give instruction to their schemes:
Measure out new liberties so none shall suffer for his father's colour or the credo of his choice:
Post proofs that brotherhood is not so wild a dream as those who profit by postponing it pretend:
Sit at the treaty table and convoy the hopes of little peoples through expected straits,
And press into the final seal a sign that peace will come for longer than posterities can see ahead,
That man unto his fellow man shall be a friend forever.*

agement of securing advantages without arousing hostility." The dictionary offers this with a straight face, seemingly unaware that in modern history most diplomacy has consisted of the artful management of arousing hostility without securing advantages. Perhaps in a future edition Websters can be influenced to rewrite their definition to read: "The artful management of securing amity, which is the highest of mutual advantage."

There's a wonderful song about Abraham Lincoln called "The Lonesome Train," which contains the line, "You could never quite tell where the people left off and where Abe Lincoln began." It will be a happy day for all of us when we have the same difficulty telling where the people leave off and their diplomats begin.

with the very kind of fascists we have just beaten—I am referring to Spain—or whether we should pursue logically the principles for which we fought.

Right now all nations without exception should be concerned with building a peace so sound that such old "B" picture impedimenta as spies are surplus property and can be dispensed with. And the way to start that building job is to see how close we can get to each other, not how far apart.

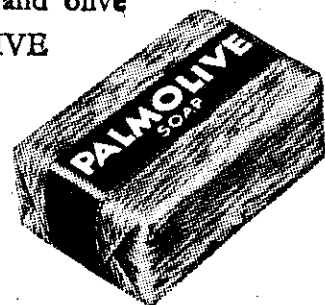
If you look out of the window to-night you will see that it is not warring. The gloomy prophets and forecasters would have you believe that a big storm is blowing up. But it is largely their own huffing and puffing which makes the windows rattle. Actually the condition is closer to being one of mist in the valleys—a mist that will clear by noon, as good men count the time.



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