

States, and that the resulting organization have the strength to put down future aggressions. We expect, too, that all members of such a world organization give up any claim to territorial aggrandizement.

Such a bi-partisan resolution has been introduced by Senators Ball, Burton, Hatch and Hill in the Senate. This resolution by two Republicans and two Democrats provides that the machinery of the United Nations be used to bring these ideals about. I believe such a plan will work. But I personally am ready to go along with any organization, whatever the name, that will obtain these results.

So far, despite the fact that an overwhelming number of Americans have indicated by the Gallup and Fortune polls support of such a plan, the Senate has taken no action. The House, a little ahead of the Senate, has reported from the foreign affairs committee the resolution of Congressman Fullbright of Arkansas. It is plain and simple in its direction that the House favors "creation of appropriate international machinery with power adequate to prevent future aggression and to maintain a lasting peace, and as favoring the participation of the United States therein." As further proof of the non-partisan approach to this, the committee of 11 Republicans and 15 Democrats reported this unanimously.

Thus with the Ball and the Fullbright resolutions, both non-partisan, a start has been made on this broad front of international co-operation.

I do not mean to say that the way will be easy. Even the establishment of the excellent co-operative effort in the Western hemisphere among the two American continents was not easy. But today 22 nations are united as neighbors for peace and for their mutual interests. Our idea of the "good neighbor" can and should be expanded into a "good neighborhood of nations."

It seems to me that the broad base of an international organization, incorporating the big four as well as the 26 other members of the United Nations, offers the nucleus for a world organization of nations working for a better neighborhood in which to live. Other nations, even the vanquished, could be admitted to this organization as soon as their objectives were determined to be toward peace.

In such an organization, the privilege of membership and the machinery of adjusting disputes would offer a continuing desire of all for success of the undertaking. Many perplexing international situations, the profitable solution of which would be incalculable to the members, could be adjusted. Monetary stabilization of the currencies of members, adjustment of tariff disputes, the orderly disposal of surpluses, the reciprocal use of terminal airports and navigation facilities—all these and dozens

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Science and Peace

BY PAUL B. SEARS

THE THOUGHT of peace is uppermost in the minds of all of us. But if we wait until it is dumped into our laps before making up our minds that it is going to be a peace that will last, the world will be at war again in time to consume your children as soldiers, and perhaps sooner than that.

The thing we have called peace is not peace. Up until the present it has merely been the breathing space between wars. Nations have made treaties, not to preserve peace, but to catch their breath. Among the principal nations of Europe, there have been less than thirty years of peace during the past 465 years. The average nation has spent about one-half of its time at war.

I propose that we define peace not as the mere stopping of armed conflict, but as a kind of collaboration and agreement of harmony, which gives some guarantee that it will last.

When I talk about science and peace, I do not mean that peace is something that can be worked out in the laboratory. We are so used to having science come along with new tricks to save us trouble that we are somewhat spoiled. What I

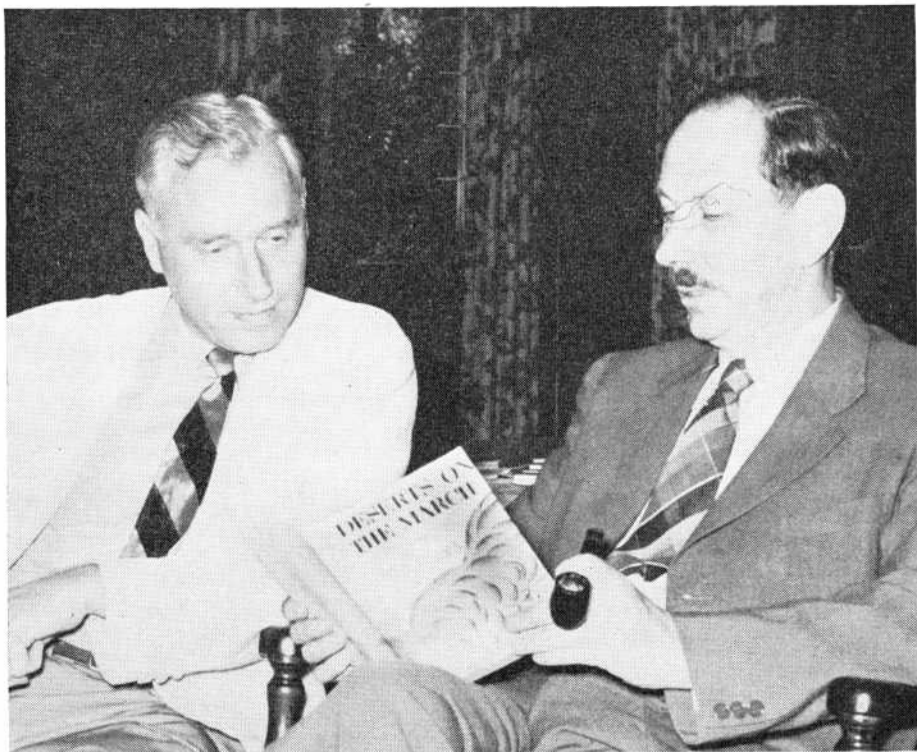
do have in mind is that while peace is a matter of human resolution and effort, we cannot get it unless we understand the realities with which we are dealing. It is the business of science to let us know what those realities are.

You can say, correctly, that peace is primarily a spiritual problem. The first step toward peace, it has been said, must be a change in the hearts of men. With this I agree. But our spiritual life has to be lived in this material world. The quality of spiritual life depends, it seems to me, upon our honesty in facing the facts of that material world. If we cannot be honest about those facts, we cannot be honest about larger matters.

Now modern science is the child of religion. It was not until the western world, through common religious belief, came to feel that the universe was one of law and order, that men had the courage and confidence to try to find out what its laws were.

But, just as the best of parents often mistrust the judgment of the best of children, so organized religion in the western world has been reluctant to modify its

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REUNION FOR FORMER O. U. COLLEAGUES

Paul B. Sears, former University professor now at Oberlin College in Ohio, visited with President Brandt while on the campus in August to address the 1943 summer graduating class. President Brandt was director of the University Press when Dr. Sears' book *Deserts on the March*, which won a \$2,500 award as the most outstanding non-fiction work of 1935, was published.

Bizzell

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ment on the part of our political leaders. Training, therefore, in the social sciences for dealing with all aspects of these social problems seems certain of recognition.

In the third place, I think we will have a revival of interest in the humanities. Civilization, what is left of it, is the product of all human experience. It is the function of education to perpetuate all that is best in the history of mankind. There is no great nation of the past that has not made its contribution to civilization. The Hebrews gave us our religion, the Greeks, a sense of proportion and beauty, and the Romans transmitted an appreciation of law and order. These are vital assets that the world cannot ignore or forget. There is ample justification for believing that had we not neglected these and other vital contributions to mankind in recent times, this terrible war might have been avoided. This conviction is so deep-seated in the minds of men everywhere that I believe we will never be satisfied with any system of education that does not recognize the importance of cultural education as a vital subject-matter of instruction.

As America shifts from war psychology to peacetime procedures, there must be many readjustments in the field of technical education. It is impossible to foresee where the emphasis will be placed, for it is not possible at the moment to tell the extent to which armaments will be maintained by the nations of the post-war world. But the shift from war conditions to peace conditions will call for millions of technically trained men to supply the needs of people for all kinds of things that the war situation has made impossible for them to possess.

We have seen great systems of education like those of Germany, Italy and France completely disintegrate when dominated by a false political philosophy. Under our democratic system of government, regardless of its defects, education at all levels of learning has grown in importance through the years. One of the greatest tasks ahead is to conserve and promote an educational system that has meant so much to our people. This will be one of the supreme tasks confronting us in the post-war world. It will certainly take courage, discernment, and sacrifice to maintain our educational system in the interest of our own people and other peoples of the world who must look to us in the future, not only for bread to sustain their bodies, but for the bread of life—*Reprinted from the Daily Oklahoman.*

Monroney

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of other rights—could flow to make such co-operation attractive.

But most important of all, I feel, would be the fact that through an international police force, composed mainly of joint forces assigned by the member nations, aggression could be stopped before the small blaze, left unattended, whips into a world-wide fire.

Yet I know there are those who say that such a plan can never work. It has never worked because we've never truly tried it. We have a doctor's clinical record on the only experiment, the League of Nations, ever made in that direction. We know its every fault and all of its causes of failure.

We have a blow-by-blow story on aggression from Manchuria to Ethiopia to Austria to Czechoslovakia. We had to sit idly by and watch these fires start and burn bright, and wish that there was a fire department, somewhere, that could put them out before they engulfed all civilization.

How near these fires, the little ones that started in 1932 and 1936 and 1938 were to come to destroying the free world, we need only to remember that desperate scene of the bleeding wounded men on the beaches at Dunkirk. Then only 23 miles of the English Channel stood in the way of Hitler's first goal for world domination.

We came too near the brink of disaster then to withdraw again from the rest of the world in blissful isolationism and to pull down the shades and go to sleep. Then the torch of the world's liberty flickered low and almost fell from the faltering hands of a generation who were always faced with "too little and too late."

The people themselves must take a hand in this, for this is their war, their sons fight it and their money pays it cost. Surely they owe, then, this duty to see that we do not through partisan politics, stupidity, timidity or blindness allow this thing to happen again.

The government is yours through your voice in public opinion and through your strength at the ballot box. No other force in the world is so powerful as that of American opinion. And here in America, from the common people, must come the initiative for a lasting peace else the Armistice, whenever it comes, will be an empty and hopeless victory and a mere interlude between greater and more devastating destruction.

Sears

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ideas in the light of scientific discovery, and thus a magnificent opportunity to promote harmony of understanding among men has been delayed.

It is often said that peace is an economic problem—that it cannot be secure until there is a fairer apportionment of the world's resources. I happen to believe this,

although I know that one can be happy with very little, nor am I fool enough to think that wealth breeds goodness and harmony of itself. But I do know also that the slum districts of cities produce outlaws in much higher proportion than do the homes where people have enough for their needs. And in rural America, the greatest source of waste and disorder lies in the fact that impoverished and backward families cannot provide surroundings which will train their children to create anything better than the conditions under which they have grown up. What is true within a state like Oklahoma is true within the family of nations. Poor and undernourished people may not have the vitality to start trouble; nevertheless, they are ready to listen to troublemakers. Japan, with less than a quarter of an acre of crop land per person, is giving us a run for our money.

It has become a stock gag for editors and cartoonists to laugh at Henry Wallace's suggestion of a quart of milk daily for every child in the world. The facts are that we know very well what it takes to nourish well-developed human beings to maturity, and that a high proportion of human beings never get it. It also is a fact that the earth could provide it. I do not think for a moment that Mr. Wallace has visions of converting the United States into a universal dairy. But I do think that he believes it our duty, by promoting interchange of goods and services and by giving others the benefit of our knowledge and advice, to help the people of the world to achieve an adequate human diet.

So far as peace is an economic problem, it cannot be solved without scientific honesty in balancing the world's books. We must know what we have to deal with in the way of resources. We must know what is necessary to sustain the world's population. We must understand human nature, for whatever else it may be, economics is a study of human behavior. In short, we cannot solve the world's economic problems without the aid of natural science.

Peace is not only a spiritual and economic problem. It is a political problem of first magnitude, too. The making of a just peace will call for superb political talents, backed by the will of the common people. Such a peace will not happen of itself. You must make your will known, and the proper channel is through your local community.

What has science to do here? A great deal, I can assure you. Where we know the facts, we can narrow down the area of uncertainty and dispute and thus have more hope of getting somewhere. We can avoid much tragedy, to say nothing of hot air and confusion, if we know the facts. This is supremely important in the making and establishment of peace. William E. Borah was a lover of peace, but

the tragedy of his life was that he had a great capacity for moral earnestness combined with complete lack of scientific attitude. As chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he was in a position of great power, yet his influence was so disastrous that the French Ambassador said, "I am hurrying to Borah's funeral, first, because my absence would be noticed, and also to make sure that he is really dead."

Aside from those whom Churchill calls "light and wayward people," the worst obstacle to peace is the wide-spread, fatalistic belief that war is a necessary evil—that human nature is hopeless and cannot be trusted. This is often called, wrongly, a realistic attitude. True realism consists in getting at the facts and facing them honestly. Now you cannot hope to make anything work unless you believe in it. This is true of peace. I think you will be interested in the argument in which many political and military leaders believe.

First, they maintain, war is a biological necessity. All animals have some means of offense or defense, often both. Even harmless animals defend themselves by the rapidity with which they breed, and the weight of their numbers.

Second, competition is a universal law in nature, becoming more intense as the requirements of the competitors become more nearly alike. It must therefore be greatest and most severe within the species, and man is a species.

Third, populations tend to increase to the limits of their means of subsistence, and when they reach those limits, they come into conflict with neighboring populations.

Fourth, nations are beyond all ordinary laws, sovereign in themselves. The only law that binds them is the law of survival, for which they must be ready to make any sacrifice.

Fifth, when the population of a nation has reached its limits and feels the pressure of surrounding nations, its survival is threatened. The nation is sole judge of this condition.

Sixth, war is the only recourse under this condition, because there is no type of adjustment or arrangement that will solve the problem and remain in force.

Such is, in outline, the argument of those who call themselves realists. If it is true, I see no alternative but to keep the world perpetually in the condition of an armed camp and to be ready always to die with our boots on.

I must insist, however, that as a biologist I see some serious flaws in the argument. It is composed of dangerous half-truths. It is bad biology.

Throughout the animal kingdom the effects of conflict and competition are offset by the operation of mutual aid and collaboration. This operates within the species and between the species. You can see it

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in General Eisenhower's polyglot army, in a hive of bees, a flock of wheeling swallows, and even in the lowly and insensible turtle. Without it, most animals could not have survived, for as I have pointed out, competition ought to be most intense and so most suicidal within the species.

Again, populations do not have to grow until they exceed the means of subsistence. We do not permit this to happen in our pastures, barns, or kennels. Population has been effectively regulated in the small countries of western Europe whose political ideals and standards of living have been an inspiration to the rest of the world. Puerto Rico is one of the world's sore spots because people have multiplied there without restriction, while the island somehow stubbornly refused to stretch. At length the legislature has legalized the spread of birth control information. This matter is controversial and I wish to be clearly understood. The whole course of advancing organic evolution is a study in the progressive limitation of offspring, and of increasing care of those that are born. Let me add a qualification. In the United States, perhaps elsewhere, it is at present far more urgent that we teach people to use what we have and to take care of it than to practice any drastic check on population. The waste in this country is appalling. With care, we could support twice our present population. When we have done all we can to make the earth bring forth, there will be ample time in this country to talk about a lower birth rate; but many other countries are not so fortunate as we.

Nations are not beyond law. International harmony is no dream of any particular party or faction. It is up to us whether we make our nation partner in a fraternity which is ruled by law. We did it with our sovereign states. What has exalted the concept of God, that is, the belief that He respects His own laws, will scarcely degrade the sovereign nations of this world.

To believe in isolation is as great a scientific fallacy as to believe in a machine for generating perpetual motion. We are all part of one great system. If there is one thing I have learned from years of studying the landscape of the United States, it is this principle—that landscape is an organic whole, and what happens in one place affects the rest of it. If forests burn in Pushmataha County, you feel it the next time you build a house. If children grow up in ignorance and filth two hundred miles away, your taxes for prisons and asylums increase, and the dividend on your life insurance policy is less. There is no isolation.

What is true of the United States is true of the world. It becomes truer as our means of communication becomes more closely intertwined. We are not free to do as we like about such facts. We can-

not choose what is our business—our business is thrust upon us. And that business is to realize that we are an integral part of a world which must somehow learn to live in harmony.

Too long we have looked upon science as a source of quick profits, or convenience, or comfort. Charles Kettering is a great engineer. To hear him talk you would think that the world will be perfect when inventors are so busy making new things that manufacturers and the public scarcely have time to throw away the old. His heaven is completely equipped with push buttons, where neither thought nor muscular exertion will be necessary. This leaves me cold, but I fear it represents what many of us expect from science. If you are inclined to this attitude, let me suggest you read "Brave New World."

I do not quarrel with profits, convenience, or comfort, but these do not come first. The first and greatest service of science is to help us get our bearing, to understand what is real about the world in which we live, to get a sense of perspective so that we may learn to live in harmony with that world and with each other.

When we face the facts and determine to struggle as hard for peace as we are struggling to win this war, we shall no longer have to shed the blood of nations.

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SWIDENSKY-WAGNER: The engagement of Miss Betty Swidensky, '43fa, Oklahoma City, and Cpl. Jon B. Wagner, '39-'42, Cement, has been announced. Both Miss Swidensky and Corporal Wagner are former staff members of radio station WNAD at the University. Miss Swidensky is now employed at radio station KOCY in Oklahoma City. Corporal Wagner was stationed at Buckley Field, Colorado, with the Army Air Force.

Mary Lee Turnbull, '43bus, Norman, has been employed in the accounting department of the Carter Oil Company at Tulsa.

WHITE-WALKER: Miss Joy Estelene White, Hominy, and Archie Walker, '43geol, Cleveland, Oklahoma, were married August 7 in St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Walker is employed by the Carter Oil Company in Carmi, Illinois, where the couple will be at home. The bride has been employed in Chicago.

CANON-WALTERS: Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Jean Canon and Ensign J. H. Walters, '43eng, both of Oklahoma City. Ensign Walters, a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, was stationed at Key West, Florida. Miss Canon attended Cottey College, Nevada, Missouri.

WELKER-McEVOY: Miss Glenna Welker, '43ed, Enid, and Pvt. Raymond H. McEvoy, Tulsa, were married July 22 in Enid. Private McEvoy, a member of Phi Beta Kappa scholastic fraternity, is a graduate of the University of Chicago. The couple established a home in New Orleans where Private McEvoy was assigned to a Medical battalion.

Margaret West, '43ed, Altus, has accepted a position at the Naval Air Station, Norman, in the payroll department.