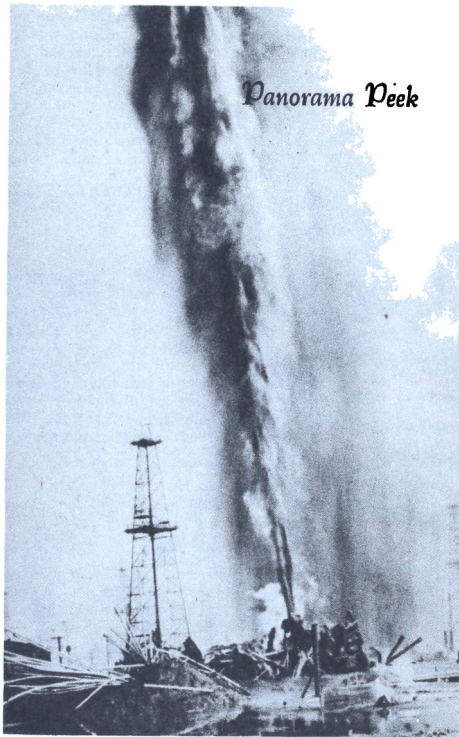
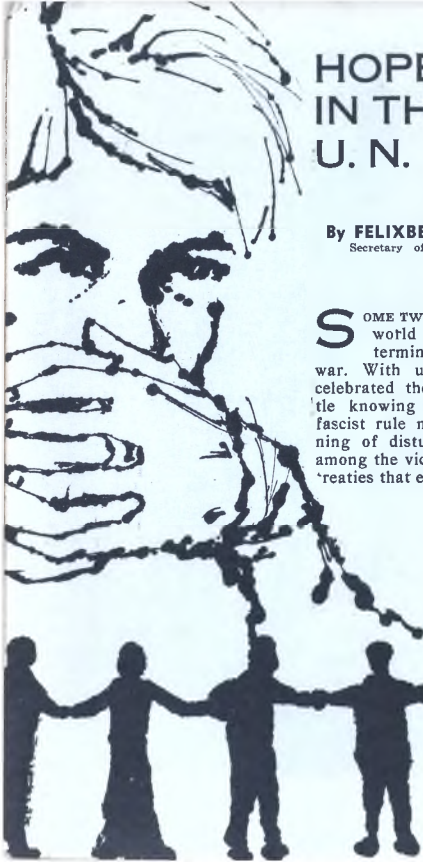


Panorama Peek



NOT YET — BUT SOON, MAYBE — is this picture of an oil well run wild a familiar sight in the Philippines, with the oil prospecting fever running high.



HOPE IN THE U. N.

By **FELIXBERTO SERRANO**
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

SOME TWELVE years ago the world rejoiced over the termination of a terrible war. With unbounded joy it celebrated the great event little knowing that the end of fascist rule marked the beginning of disturbing dissensions among the victorious allies. The treaties that ended the war were



Written a year ago, this searching article about the world organization is timely even today

treaties of peace between combatants but did not work as treaties of friendship among the victors.

Disagreement over the interpretation and implementation of accords pertaining to the treatment of the vanquished enemy sowed the seed of discord which was to generate into a giant force splitting the world into groups with interests seemingly irreconcilable. These disagreements presented a picture which was a completed antithesis of the scene in the Crimea Conference at Yalta, at which the heads of three great powers—Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin—"resolved upon the earliest possible establishment with our allies of a general international organization to maintain peace and security," which organization they believed to be "essential both to prevent aggression and to remove the political, economic and social causes of war through the close and continuing collaboration of all peace-loving peoples."

In seeming mockery of the Atlantic Charter and the Yalta accords, nations were soon engaged in struggles for power

and influence which once more plunged the world into a series of delicate and dangerous political crises, pushing it several times to the brink of war. The war in Korea, the blockade of Berlin, the war in Indo-China, the conflicts on Kashmir and Cyprus, the nationalization of the Suez Canal, the strikes in Poznan, the revolts in Hungary, the Turko-Syrian conflict—all these have contrived to undermine the faith of mankind in its own ability to maintain a lasting peace. They have served to draw attention to the ironical situation where disarmament talks alternate with launchings of new weapons. They have set minds to wondering if peace is not just an interval between wars.

IT IS IN this atmosphere that the world today watches the developments in international affairs with a mixed feeling of fear and hope. Will the dangers and the suspense of the past few years be just carried forward to the next page of the ledger of international affairs? Or will the year 1958 produce something that will assuage the thirst for power and strengthen the desire to live in a world free of suspicion and distrust? Will there be a concrete agreement on disarmament with the necessary corollary of mutual inspection? Or will mankind, in a frenzy of hate and anger,

once more plunge into another global war, unmindful of the possibility of the complete destruction of civilization?

For want of anything with which to foretell what the coming year will bring in the way of relief from, or increase in, international tension, justification for hopes or fears may be gauged by the way the nations conducted themselves, singly or collectively, in the different crises which they underwent during these post-war years.

In the face of the different fearful situations that have been menacing various parts of the world, there is a source of consolation in the observation that in all their serious disagreements and bitter controversies the nations' grim determination to win has in most cases been modified by a sober disposition for a peaceful settlement of the conflicts. And it is comforting that such disposition for amicable settlement has been shown in response to measures taken by the United Nations.

The war in the Indo-China states ended with the creation of an International Commission to supervise the application of the provisions of the Geneva Agreement on the cessation of hostilities.

A cease-fire has been accepted by Pakistan and India in their fight over Kashmir. Mr. Gunnar Jarring, the UN inves-

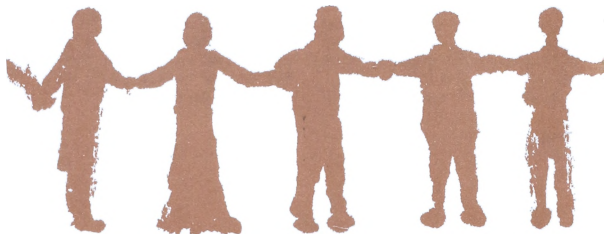
tigator, has reported that, "despite the present deadlock, both parties are still desirous of finding a solution to the problem."

Although the Suez Canal controversy has not been finally settled, the great waterway has been reopened to international shipping. The policy of moderation, which called for the restoration of peace first and the determination of rights afterwards, played a decisive role in getting the warring sides to lay down arms before discussing the case on its merits.

Responsibility for the tragedy in Hungary has been fixed and hopes for the righting of the wrongs inflicted upon the Hungarian people may be reasonably entertained.

VIEWED against the numerous explosive situations which could have thrown the world into another and undoubtedly most destructive war, the acceptance by the opposing parties of mediation and at least temporary settlement of their disputes projects a ray of optimism about what might be expected of the year 1958.

On the other hand, something more convincing than mere acceptance of temporary settlement of disputes is needed to constitute an assurance of a lasting peace. There are several factors, contributory or alternative, which could bring about



the restoration of peaceful, normal relations among nations.

About the most effective of these is a genuine desire for peace over the desire for power and for political, military or economic control over alien interests. This is necessarily complemented by a sincere willingness on the part of each nation to let the others live in freedom and to let them decide for themselves what way of life to pursue, what form of government to have. More than an individual undertaking, this principle has been made a common resolve of all United Nations members when they agreed "to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace."

The last war in Korea was at once a test and a manifesta-

tion of the effectiveness of collective action. In that war the success of the sixteen nations in suppressing aggression amply demonstrated what more the great majority of the states could do to stop aggression by one country against another. The thought of a combined force applied to stop aggression is a rein that holds back any would-be aggressor.

Whether the coming year will bring something which will assure us of a lasting peace or will throw the world into a third global war, no one can tell. However, it is to be presumed that, with the modern weapons of destruction, no country will commit anything that would be a direct cause of war.

It seems safe to predict that if ever another conflagration should break out, it will not

be ignited by direct provocation but by an act of indiscretion of one country done in underestimation of the ability and readiness of the others to take measures in retaliation.

Peace, therefore, hinges on

prudence and on mutual fear of atomic destruction. As long as such fear is harbored in the hearts of men, the world will be free from a global war. There may be an uneasy peace but there will be peace.

* * *



Voluptuary

*A rose warming a worm
Shouts out a storm warning
A worm warming a rose
Posits a poet's raging
And I, votary to these
Holds, if you please
That I rage at a rose
That is warmed by a worm
And storm at a worm
That is warmth to a rose.*

—David B. Bunao