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THESE DAYS:

Mrs. Roosevelt Criticizes Dulles

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT has been publishing an interesting series of articles about herself in The Saturday Evening Post. They are in many ways a postscript to her autobiography.

The particular article to which I refer contains some criticism of John Foster Dulles, our Secretary of State, which requires examination. The matter comes up in relationship to Nehru of India, for whom Mrs. Roosevelt has considerable admiration. She says:

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" . . . I cannot help but feel that Mr. Dulles fails to understand the feelings of many of the peoples with whom we must deal—that he lacks antennae with which to reach out and sense the attitudes of others at times when such attitudes may be of utmost importance in our struggle against Communism."

The question, of course, is whether the Secretary of State is a good-will ambassador or a finely-schooled strategist in international relations prepared by knowledge and experience to negotiate with other countries in the interests of the United States. That phrase, "in the interests of the United States," may not concern Mrs. Roosevelt too much because she is devoting the latter years of her life to the interests of the UN and there could be a conflict of interest.

It might be argued that a good negotiator is one who understands those with whom he negotiates, but it cannot be argued that he is any good if he is always conceding to the other side, always sacrificing the interests of his own nation. In the long history of sacrificing the United States from 1933 to 1948, the record is so one-sided that surely some country in this world ought to be grateful to the United States. After World War I, at any rate, Finland was grateful and paid its debts. After World War II, such countries as India have shown no gratitude for this country. Their attitude might be summed up in the phrase, "What have you done for me lately?"

The reason Mrs. Roosevelt desires Secretary of State Dulles to have antennae which reach out and sense the attitudes of others is that the aforesaid others "may be of utmost importance in our struggle against Communism." But these others, even after receiving such gracious aid at the hands of the Government of the United States, in most instances have been neutral between the United States and Soviet Russia. Nehru, for instance, is neutral.

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