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And Evening Chronicle

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1942

En Garde

Hitler's Feints Presage
A New Move to the South

Hitler, with the next move now up to him, is on familiar ground again. The war of nerves, the war of feint and maneuver, of rumor and report, is opening down the length of the Mediterranean. While he gathers troops in the Balkans, and scrapes out new airfields near the Turkish border, he waves the flag at Spain, threatened also by his soldiers. He is, obviously, preparing to move.

The emphasis Berlin and Rome place upon the Axis stand in Tunisia, where there is only a remote chance of success, is calculated further to confuse the Allies in the area. The world may look for his thrust in another direction, probably in the Middle East.

This time, however, he has not the shadow that he has used to such advantage in the past. Though the ring around him is loose enough, it is there, and growing tighter by the day. He must move now, without great freedom of maneuver, in one of two theaters. In either, apparently, he will meet formidable opposition. Anglo-American commanders, with an eye on the Mediterranean area as a whole, will not be so foolhardy as to leave eastern oil fields and Suez unprotected; and they must have long ago mapped out their strategy for possible action in Spain.

Not for several weeks can the conquest of North Africa become complete, and further consolidation must go forward after victory before the United Nations will be able to free big forces for transfer to the ends of the sea. Thus, while Hitler's chances of scoring on another offensive blow are limited, certain success is to be expected, and the coming of that blow will likely be the next big news of the war.

Whether he falls upon Turkey or Spain will be of little moment in the end. He may spread the war, but the daily arrival of ships and planes from Britain and the United States in Africa brings nearer the day of overwhelming Allied power. It is in that prospect that Hitler finds the compulsion to strike, soon.

South Wind

The Ghost of Huey Long, or:
After Bilbo, a World War

One of the most blatant performers in the Washington showbiz these days is Theodore Gilmore Bilbo, Senator from Mississippi, throwback to Huey Long, and one of the least admirable figures in the Congressional lineup. As cheerleader of the Southern opposition to the anti-poll tax bill, he has settled down for an estimated 30-day job of filibustering in the midst of war business, and promises the task his undivided attention.

The South has never been more inappropriately represented, and for North Carolina, war would disqualify a full and responsible. This is the Bilbo who, in 1938, wanted to ship all American Negroes off to Liberia, to prevent their getting the vote and taking control of the South; the Bilbo whose political showmanship won him his seat over better men.

"The Man" opened his latest campaign with characteristic vigor. He dominated Senate affairs Saturday, shouting, reading, extemporizing. He spread homily and misinformation at random, but he held the floor. He opened thus:

"Mr. President: It is now fifteen minutes of four on Saturday afternoon. It is rather annoying to be required to speak at this hour, because I come from the South, where poor people and Negroes do not work on Saturday afternoon."

He went into high gear. The proposed bill, intended to benefit the Negro, would do nothing to help him. He could vote now in the eight Southern states if he wished. The bill was unconstitutional, aimed at removing states' rights. Further, the guilt of wasting so much valuable time in the bill's discussion rested upon those who proposed it, not upon those who would fight against it.

Senator Bilbo understood, he said, that several Southern states had already eliminated the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting. Tennessee, he thought, was prepared to eliminate it, and North Carolina, too. He had filibustering books by the sack at his hand, but he didn't know that the payment of poll tax had not been a prerequisite for voting in North Carolina in several years. He went

on and on without stumbling, fighting off all efforts of his colleagues to take the floor. He ended so:

"Out of deference to my colleagues, who have been punished by being held here all day, and due to my utter horror at working on Saturday afternoon, I shall take the chance of getting the floor Monday and concluding my speech."

We could do without Senator Bilbo.

Fun With Names

The Marines Too Ought
Have an Auxiliary

It's getting to be a game of anagrams, mates, this gay creation of female auxiliary co-operative training services (FACTS), you might say, in this our time. The Coast Guard, not to be outdone by the Army with its WAACS (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps) and the Navy with its WAVES (Women Appointed for Volunteer Emergency Service), has come along with WARGOGS—Women's Auxiliary Reserve of the Coast Guard. Hah! The possibilities of the word are endless. There be had with letters are limitless. Every branch of the service should form an auxiliary, its title arranged so as to compose an appropriate acronym. The Paratroopers, for example, could get up a unit of the girls who inspect their chutes, and have a easy on-Parachute Extracareful Testing Service, PETS. What Paratrooper wouldn't feel more cheerful with a PET?

But don't overlook the Marines. They have all earned an auxiliary. What about a Seagoing Warriors' Extraordinary Emergency Trainees in Effeminate Society—in short, SWEETIES? Well, why not?

Bonanza

Senate Bill Would Provide
Golden Shower for Washington

The plain citizen, if he knew the import of the runaway vehicle of waste designated as S. 2656, would wonder if he wasn't playing a sucker's role in this war. Under that proposed "War Over-time Pay Act of 1942" some 400,000,000 of his bond and tax dollars would be diverted annually to the jeans of Federal civilian employees in teeming Washington.

Without a study of the situation, or a survey of any kind, the bill would set up a mandatory 44-hour work week for Government employees, with pay and a half for a minimum of four hours per week, per worker. This in the face of insistent and recurrent reports that Washington bureaus are already dangerously overstaffed, and falling all over each other in getting out of work's way.

The bill seems an affront to the taxpayer, a piling of waste upon waste. This forcing upon all Federal hands of overtime pay, whether or not they earn it, places an arbitrary, inflationary premium on inefficiency at a time when efficiency is a crying necessity.

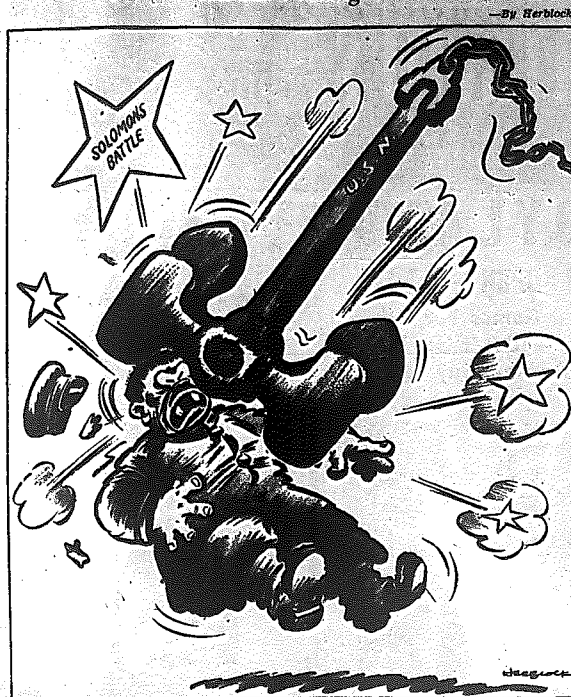
Many Federal employees in Washington are working a full week now. To force them to industriousness, the Government would, under the proposed bill, simply keep them longer, pay them more. Agencies like the OPA, already topheavy, tangled in red tape and employing more lawyers than the Department of Justice, will soon eat their heads off. If Leon Henderson, for example, must have a lawyer in every county in the United States, and drawing overtime pay at that, we might almost as well have let inflation come and do its worst.

The President indicated that he, at least, will show no disposition to feather the bed of Federal employees when he instructed his chiefs to cancel all draft deferments in the Government family. That puts the nation's public servants on a plane with the taxpayers. The next move in equalization seems to be the defeat of S. 2656, to assure the hard-working little bankers for bureaucracy that they will not have to pay double for nothing.

"Incompetents in Washington must go!" cried the new American Legion commander. As he named no names, not a creature stirred.

On orders from the home office, France has set its clocks back to Berlin time. Or approximately the Fourteenth Century.

Every day in the news now seems an eternity. Sooner or later, though, Hitler's future will be brought up to the present.



National Relief

The Great Pacific Victory

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
THE more about this latest Solomon Islands victory that can be told, the more it will inspire every one in our nation. Especially inspiring to every American, whether in the armed forces or in civil life, is the gallant story of the two admirals who lost their lives when they plunged into the heart of the Jap invasion fleet and swept it with slashing broadsides that sent the Japs into confused firing on each other.

Rear Admiral Norman Scott and Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan were faced with superior Jap forces bearing down on Guadalcanal with overwhelming numbers of landing troops. They had to decide on the spot whether to risk everything on a plunge into these heavy forces, led by two Jap battleships. They decided to go in. Both lost their lives.

But the Japs were smashed. Those Jap ships that survived fled from the scene. The Japs didn't get to Guadalcanal. They suffered heavy damage. Thus the second round of the Jap effort to retake the Solomons was won. The Japs came back the next night in a final attempt and were beaten off again.

Now they have retired to lick their wounds. They will come again undoubtedly. Meantime they may try to pound Guadalcanal by air. They have not yet put their full naval force into this fight. They were using ad batteries. They have better ones that they may yet decide to risk. The Japs have had to save. They have invested men and ships in Guadalcanal.

But we probably never again will be as nervous about it as we were last week. For the battle just ended will be an inspiration to strengthen both the fighting forces and the country. The Solomons battle was marked by the same daring and gallantry that older American battles showed in the North African campaign. Every arm of our service, Guadalcanal to the shores of the Mediterranean, has shown itself equal to the demands of modern war. In these last days America has come of age in this war.

Our forces have shown that they have high-

Hidden Meaning

We Want A Free India

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON
THE liberals are always complaining because Mr. Roosevelt never says anything about Britain granting India her freedom. If they will read again the President's radio address to the Philippines, they may find he has spoken on India, definitely and forcefully—without identifying her specifically.

Delays of diplomacy may prevent FRIL from telling Britain straight what to do with her empire, but the Independence formula which he set for Querson is not copyrighted. Furthermore, he said it was a United Nations pattern, philosophy and ideal for all small nations.

Briefly, it provides, first, the acceptance by both the larger and smaller nations of a sincere desire to work toward independence. It provides mutual economic and political planning, step by step, toward complete independence over a period of years.

No doubt it is the formula which Mr. Roosevelt will insist upon at the peace conference for India, and all undeveloped nations desiring independence.

Japan Must Wait

A number of public men and people (including Representative Maas) are crying out for aggressive action to destroy Japan in the Pacific, instead of concentrating largely on Hitler in Europe.

True facts are easy to see, although they naturally are not being announced officially. The Pacific war is a naval war primarily. To defeat Japan we must have mastery of the Western Pacific. Anywhere we are to go, we must have superior naval strength. But we cannot attain this as long as the British fleet is required in the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

We cannot even put forward our own best naval effort there while a threat to our shipping and shores keeps our fleet in the Atlantic. Losses of our auxiliary carriers (the fleet's offensive spearhead) reported around the Solomons the past month make our Pacific naval position none too sound, even in view of the recent victory.

Mr. Roosevelt's basic strategy, therefore, seems beyond debate, no matter how impatient we may be to even the score with the nether Axis partner who has taken the greatest toll of our men and ships.

Waste for War

The voice of Senator Byrd is again crying out against the war waste in the wilderness of flowing billions that is Washington. He says that the waste is

quality equipment. Our airplanes and our tanks, as well as our ships, are proving adequate to the demands made on them. Our forces have shown that they have the ingenuity and the skill in planning. They have shown the teamwork. It was not lack of equipment, but lack of coordination. General MacArthur's bombers were in there pitching with the Navy in the Solomons action.

Finally our forces have shown that quality which comes out of the bones of the men themselves, and without which nothing else counts—the personal qualities of courageous execution. We saw it in our men on Wake Island, at Midway and on Batan. In Africa and the Solomons we have seen it conspicuously in the commands. Officers and men are proving fully worthy of each other.

The Japs were coming down on Guadalcanal in three columns. Two were headed by battleships, and the third column by a heavy cruiser. Our far smaller forces had to break it up, or else see Guadalcanal become another Batan.

That was when Admirals Callaghan and Scott plunged in. They went in between two of the Jap advancing columns which were about three miles apart, coming on abreast. Our plunging column was thus about a mile and a half from the Jap columns on either side. We took the chance of being wiped out by crossfire, but it was the one way in which we could fire broadsides in both directions as we went through that lane of Jap ships. So our column ran that gauntlet of death, playing the one long shot left to us. To have hesitated would have been to lose everything. Our men took the necessary risk and won.

Within a few minutes the third column of Jap ships, not able to determine in the dark what was happening, began firing on its own adjoining column about three miles away and the whole Jap formation broke up in confusion and fled.

Admiral Callaghan and Captain Young were killed by a hit on the bridge. Admiral Scott, on another ship, lost his life. We will have losses in this war—but none that will hurt more than the loss of such officers as these.

The swishing of paper currency—planned war expenditures for the year have reached \$78,000,000,000 (twice the size of the debt that worried us before the war) as the clock has ticked away \$20,000,000,000.

It is practically impossible for anyone, even with Byrd's unequalled persistence, to keep the war flow efficient by eliminating unnecessary expenditures. The condition of affairs prevents it. For a very good instance, the new Colossus of Washington (the Pentagon Building) cost \$70,000,000, although the building was up and the money gone. If the case of the airport here (which cost three or four times what was expected) Mr. Roosevelt gave the funds to get started from the lump sum of money granted to him. Ex post facto appropriations were then extracted from Congress.

This has been a spending Administration. It favored spending for economic purposes before the war. It never believed in economy as a policy. It thought spending was good for the country and that the war was a time when the Government should have been made, through the Budget and Treasury, to cut down a few unneeded activities (like CCC), but there has been no real force for the abolition of waste in this war administration anywhere.

Senator Byrd and his committee are now after the Government bureaus which have accumulated more than 2,500,000 employees. He will meet with opposition everywhere, even from his associate Senators and Congressmen whose friends occupy the "thumb-twiddling jobs" that Byrd wants abolished.

The justice of his position and his own persistence will enable him eventually to get rid of some of the most war-worthless employees, but not until Mr. Roosevelt gets interested in war waste, and imposes pressure from the top, will there ever be a chance of any general constructive success in the effort.

The executive branch knows best where the duplication lies and where the thumb twiddler wastes. Only a genuine drive to clean its own house, or to aid Byrd and Congress in cleaning it, will cut these Government expenditures to the point where the taxpayer can have confidence, that he is getting his war-worth for his money.

The World Speaks

Quote. Unquote

HELP us where you are able, my friends, and we shall see again the glorious day when liberty and peace shall reign on earth.—President Roosevelt to Africa French.

THINK of the soldiers at the front. They all have mothers, wives and sisters. We can't all be weeping.—Mrs. Mark Wayne Clark, wife of general who laid groundwork for Africa invasion.

WE are going to hold on in Yugoslavia's wooded hills and mountains as long as necessary. The fact that America with her heroic fighters has entered the world battlefield has made our faith in the approaching victory absolute.—Gen. Draja Mihailovich, Yugoslavian guerrilla chieftain.

IT TAKES less of life and loss of blood to attack, to press the war home to the enemy, to win momentous battles.—Undersecretary of War Robert F. Patterson.

OUR task is to destroy the new order in Europe. We are not alone in the great war of liberation, and with our allies will achieve victory over the enemy.—Joseph Stalin.

THE Germans began this trouble, and they must take the consequences. They asked for it, and now they will get it.—General Bernard L. Montgomery, British commander in Africa.

WE PASS heavy siege guns hitting at the enemy miles away. Everywhere is the white dust. At the front the dust cloud is ten miles long. I saw abandoned trenches and guns. And there were enemy dead—tank men blown out of their tanks by our artillery.—Richard MacMillan, United Press correspondent in Egypt.

OUR country is nearer to war than she was at the opening of hostilities.—President Ismet Inonu of Turkey.

WHEN you get about 500 miles off the Norwegian coast you are under observation constantly. A couple of hundred miles closer the attacks start. And I mean the whole thing—subs, fighters, dive bombers, torpedo planes—everything they've got.—Freighter crewman in Russia-bound convoy.

WE HAVE now reached the time when victory can be taken from us only by misunderstanding and quarreling among ourselves.—Vice-President Henry Wallace.

As To Bureaus

Times Have Changed

The Congressional Record

WE are not getting an adequate return for the money we are spending in Washington; or to put it another way, we are spending altogether too much money for Government services that are neither practical nor necessary. And then, in addition to that, we are attempting too many functions. We need to simplify what the Federal Government is giving to the people.

I accuse the present Administration (Mr. Hoover) of being the greatest spending administration in peacetime in all our history. It is an administration that has piled bureau on bureau, commission on commission, and has failed to anticipate the dire needs and the reduced earning power of the people. Bureaus and bureaucrats, commissions and commissioners have been retained at the expense of the taxpayer.—From a speech by President Roosevelt, Sept. 29, 1932.

Side Glances



"Sometimes I think your mother pulled a fast one, taking that night shift job in the plane factory!"

Our Contemporaries

Still Grinning

Chicago Daily News

What's the use? The cartoonist kids millinery, and the milliner picks up ideas from the cartoon.

From the Correspondence Manual and Transcribers Handbook

A Southern insurance executive once dictated a letter in which he rejected an insurance policy because the applicant had a heart murmur. Transcribed by a Northern clerk the insurance was denied because policyholder "had a hot mama."

Editor & Publisher

Edgar C. Glasser, society editor of the Pratt (Kan.) Daily Tribune, has learned her worth to her boy friend, Warren Brown, who is with the United States forces in Palestine. Recently she sent her photograph to Brown who showed it to an Arab friend.

The Arab became quite interested and offered young Brown \$50, five goats and two camels, a sum equal to what is paid for four Arabian girls.

Brown turned it down.

The Posttown (Pa.) Mercury reports this in "Slips in the Night."

"No doubt you saw the dispatches that described those new 'stand-still' bus and trolley seats to be used in Washington during the rush hours. This is how an AP dispatch read in a Boston newspaper on the same story: 'After each rush hour ride, printed cards will be passed out to all passengers to get their reactions. Then on check-out of the printed replies on the front—or just write how they feel on the back side...'"

Christian Science Monitor

Not so long ago it was the custom in certain parts of New England, when a marriage took place, for the bridegroom to address the company in a few well-chosen words. A certain Vermont widower, at his second marriage, arose and said:

"Friends and neighbors, you all know that our good friend here (indicating the bride), who has just done me the honor of pledging herself to share my joys and sorrows, is something of a stranger in this town. Being a mere man, I feel that I need your help to make her feel at home amongst us, so I'm going to depend upon you women folks to put her entirely at ease. I know you will do this, just as my first wife would do if she were here today. I miss her considerably at times, but more than usual on an occasion like this."