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## Spring Planning

### Finland Sees an Aerial Vision Of Allied Attack By Winter

Despite dangerous German advances into Russian territory, veteran military observers cherish a hope. If they are right, the Nazis will find themselves in an extremely difficult situation. If that hope comes true, so our own speculation runs, what of the Spring?

There are the possibilities, which must have been weighed by the Nazis themselves, that mass air raids on production centers and communication lines in the North Atlantic and Winter seas may reduce Hitler's strength that he will be unable to launch a full-blown offensive next Spring.

If, indeed, the Allies do not establish a second land front, and an active one, against the Germans this Summer, the activities of the United Nations in coming months will be almost entirely limited to air operations. And the air offers a hope for diversion, but a real one for pulverizing centers vital to the Nazi machine.

Therein, it seems, lies the possible significance of the hint that Finland is squirming in the Nazi facility, and would like to make a peace trade with the Allies. The possibility of clearing the enemy from Norway may have occurred to the Finns, who have friendly lines of communication with the United Nations spread from bases so nearby.

The handwriting may be even clearer than that in America, and the uneasiness of the Finns could spring from their belief that, during the cold months ahead, British and American bombers will be devastating the areas that once were Poland, Prussia and Danzig. It is true, though, that a heavy blitzed from the thousand-plane peak of a few weeks ago, may still be the answer to many a problem.

## Spot Of Relief

### Compulsory Savings Plans Abandoned For Present

The little taxpayer who is already beginning to feel the weight of the big tax bill of the future may be promised relief of an indirect sort from Washington next week. The big tax bill, before which he cringes as before a deadly weapon, is the very bulwark protecting him from a new blow.

Until that tax bill is out of the way, Capitol sources say, the Treasury has given up on its suggested plan for compulsory savings. The Treasury group which has urged the plan as one means of checking inflation has relaxed, and will probably make no attempted comeback until Winter.

The taxpayer could fret that the election deadline was slowing up too many important war developments, but he would have no complaint of the holdup on the savings plan. He would have to almost completely cease his purchasing of war bonds during the Summer and Fall to bring the Treasury savings campaigners back into action. For the present, they have given up.

Prospects ahead, therefore, were that the public would suffer only from uncontrollable costs of living, from payroll deduction for income taxes beginning in January, and from buying war bonds. All that will change, if the plan will take enough out of most incomes to make the taxpayer happy to escape one more touch. Especially when he can see more demands arising ahead of him.

## Lost Battalion

### American Women Seek Part In Direction of War Effort

Not long ago, the United States Women's Bureau in Washington received a call from OPM. A bass voice is said to have rumbled: "We are trying to allocate rubber for women's undergarments. How much rubber must be used in a woman's corset? That, to women leaders, is taking an important part in the national war effort, was the last word.

Women, the fact is, have become the "forgotten men" of this war. The Army is buying WAAG, and the Navy is ready to open a women's corps of its own, but it has never had time to go to work on it, and taken over jobs formerly held by men. But that is not satisfactory to the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. What the ladies want is some place in the higher-up direction of the war program.

They are not getting it. The 146 highest officials of WPB, for example, are all men. Women have been given no part in helping direct the war or the peace to follow. An Army Major has been quoted as saying that the Negroes, Jews and women are the forgotten groups in America today, and that the women are getting the worst of it.

Feminine America has been co-operative, but has been balked in attempts to lead. The auxiliaries of CIO and the national women's clubs have given impetus to the movements to understand and administer rationing and restriction, but have been rebuffed by such statements as that of OPA's Consumer Chief Dexter Keezer, who expressed a fear of women in war work as "busy-bodies." The ladies don't like it.

Through National President Dr. Minnie L. Maffett, the women's clubs of the area have said as much. "They want to help, by doing more than factory work, airplane spotting, giving chicken suppers.

There would seem to be a definite place for women of executive ability to help plan the war program, and consider the planning of peace. Their place might be found on the proposed U. S. Peace Commission, which Congress is currently considering. For the ladies understand more of nation and world than corsets and cookery. They want only the chance to prove it.

## Two-Car Target

### Half-Empty Garages May Help Traveling Men

Charlotte's traveling salesmen, still latching the lead in the fight for more equitable rationing of gasoline in the Eastern states, have turned an eye upon a new source of strength and help. While the pleas are being made in Washington, they seek minor relief at home. If the public will agree to help here, they believe, their chances in Washington will improve. It's a matter of the two-car families.

Chairman Ed Vosburgh believes that, if families of the area owning two automobiles will agree to give up the second car for the duration, there will be more gas available for the hard-pressed salesman, and more chance for them to carry on their business. As a suggestion, it seems worthwhile.

There are, unfortunately, no figures available on the two-car families of Charlotte. The Carolina Motor Club estimates that there are 25,000 cars in the city, belonging to an estimated 15,000 families (of a total of 24,600). That leaves, so far as the salesmen are concerned, a satisfactory number of two-car garages in use, gives the public a chance to store or sell one automobile for keeps, and partially relieve a troublesome situation.

Because these are days when lesser luxuries are already being taken from the public, the surrender of the second car should bring no painful sacrifice. On the face of it, a family with two cars is in better condition to relinquish one than are most to make a smaller contribution. If the traveling men are able to show Washington any evidence of the public willingness to co-operate in that matter, they own chances of securing sufficient gasoline will be improved.

A top-level source—the present ration for the Jap—seems scarcely for the crying there will be to do.

They say the battleship is through, or will be as soon as bombers have decks where a lieutenant and his girl can dance.

"Hitler's promise not to use gas," says the voice of Berlin radio, "is as good as never." Little the money-back guarantee with a parachute.

There being too few desks for them in Washington, some Army officers have been sent away—an intelligent maneuver and in the nick of time. It is thus that wars are won.

## Today's Bible Thought

There is only one way to attain unity in the home and community and that is to have the same kind of sound Bible teaching. An unscriptural one: *That they may be one, even as we are one.*—John 17:22

# Drink, Pay And Be Merry-Go-Round

WHAT apparently has become a state-wide controversy was born last week with the charge leveled by some retailers that the retail druggists were profiteering today by substituting paper cups for paper cups. Fanned into flames by a News editorial, the argument has since been taken up by the retailers to exist in the face of rising costs of operation.

The case of Charlotte's druggists was stated in full in Saturday's editions of The News, but, after investigation showed that the situation was still not clear, that retailers, health authorities, jobbers and manufacturers' agents were not in agreement, the Editors made an attempt to clarify the situation. Here are offered the statements of jobbers, representatives of paper manufacturers and retailers:

A paper cup salesman: "There has been no recent increase in cup prices. In July, 1940, our firm raised prices by seven and a half per cent, but prices were pegged since. Retailers had to pay more in 1938, as a matter of fact, than in 1940. Today's price runs from \$10.25 to \$11.75 for the single cup. The double cup at less than half a cent.

Charlotte jobbers: "One says—'A cup that cost 6 cents in 1940, today we sell for 7.75. But this is not a question of rising prices. Retailers are doing wrong. What should have been done a long time ago. But in eliminating the evil of the double cup, they are creating a new one. Cops, furthermore, are getting scarce. We are not going to make a comment to label the destination of each shipment we order, whether it is going to Army, Navy or civilian users."

Some retailers exhibited bills showing that they were paying as high as \$12.25 per case for their cups. (Return to the druggist, if he can get the extra cent for each cup, is, of course, \$5.00 per case). One druggist, weary of complaints from customers, has taken cup bills from his files to prove that price rises are in effect. Another, offering proof that the public suffers from a cup-and-glass phobia, tells this story:

A well-to-do patron comes to his suburban drug store every morning with several friends, buys one drink in a cup, pay 4 cents without complaint. Then she sends it back in the store by a cub boy, to be rinsed out, filled with a new drink for a friend. She would not hear, however, of using a store-washed glass.

A number of letters poured in from retail druggists in the section, and selected parts of them are reproduced here:

Editors, The News: We wish to register a complaint against your editorial under the heading "Penny Profiteers." You surely familiarized yourself with but one side of this question—instead, you just sat down and wrote this caustic article. Horribly burning up the druggist and holding him up as an example of uninitiated greed and something to be loathed and despised.

Now, look at the other side—our side, take a whole case for example. The set-up is for this drink to sell for 5c either in a bottle or from a glass at a soda fountain. Unfortunately other factors have entered into the picture. During recent years a great many people, originally under the pretense of sanitation, demanded their drinks served in sanitary cups, but actually in most cases, to enable them to proceed on their way or sit in their cars and drink. More often than not a lid is requested, straws, napkins, and a paper cup with the lid. After all a penny's worth of extra cost has been added to the whole drink which, if no extra charge is made, amounts to selling the drink for only 4c which does not sound like good business to a druggist who has lost of taxes to pay and usually finds it hard to make both ends meet.

Who was the fellow who said there had been no advance in paper cups or other paper products? You should have looked into this and you would have found it untrue, not overlooking the fact that they have always been high enough to warrant this small extra charge. Cups are higher, lids are higher, napkins are higher, wages are higher, syrup are higher, service is expected and demanded and every item entering into the operation of a soda fountain has advanced in recent years and months.

We think your editorial very unfair to a class of people who are generally admitted to be underpaid and over worked, enslaved to long hours every day in the week and every week in the year, and who have always been the target of politicians and misanthropic newspapers whenever they have that urge to blather. "There ought to be a law."  
—CHARLES B. PORTER, Porter Drug Company, Concord.

Editors, The News: In your editorial of July 23, 1942, you referred to a small group of druggists as dishonest and cheap little profiteers in regard to charging a penny for paper cups used

at our soda fountains. I do not think that the group is small and I do not think that they are dishonest or cheap. All the drug stores in this area have been charging for paper cups because they cost money. The paper you use to print your paper with is not given to you and you do not give it away, therefore why should the druggists be referred to as dishonest and cheap when they add a justified charge to a sale?  
—A. H. CONNELL, Economy Drug Store, Lincolnton, N. C.

Editors, The News: As one of your constant readers I am taking this opportunity to do some explaining to you and others who seem to be so greatly misinformed.

The druggists of Lancaster, S. C. by mutual consent through the medium of local trade organization, raised the price of soft drinks served in paper containers early this Spring, after paper containers had advanced in price about 25 per cent. This we thought, was necessary because the price of everything (including labor) had increased to such an extent that the margin on our goods was so low as to nearly drive us out of business.

In passing I would like to call your attention to the fact that this action was taken only a short time after The Charlotte News had advanced the price of their paper from 18¢ per week to 20¢ per because the price of paper had advanced, and I thought the raise was justifiable and did not enter any protest. "IT STILL DO NOT THINK THE CHARLOTTE NEWS IS A PENNY PROFITEER."

I also notice that the cup makers have some very elaborate advertising in your paper capitalizing

on the sanitary feature of their cups. I am wondering if this advertising is bearing on your editorial policy.

(Note: The News has not carried any such advertising. Editors, The News.)

You quote some of Carl V. Reynolds in your editorial, I presume he is the North Carolina State Health Officer, well, if Dr. Reynolds is one of a million of hotels and druggists in North Carolina who does not use it to that that hotels, restaurants and drug stores merit the A rating by serving their patrons clean plates and glasses.

You will find if proper investigation is made that the druggists of North and South Carolina, in fact the whole profession would wide work every day in every way to protect the health of the community that we serve. You will find that doctors, nurses and druggists work hand in hand to this end.  
—L. S. WILLIAMS, Williams Drug Co., Lancaster, S. C.

Editors, The News: Why don't you get your facts straight before you go into print? I am a pharmacist and I know that the price of a cup is not 4 cents. It is 5 cents. I have talked with several justifiably indignant druggists about the way you are handling this business. Well, there are certain features I like too well to de-bate with you. I am J. H. Knox and C. A. Paul.

I believe that you are right to make some correction. Am I fighting with you?  
—A. F. CASCADE, Concord, N. C.

## Hull Gives A Warning

By Paul Mallon

IT WAS NOT fully in the text, but State Secretary Hull's fiery state that he designed to warn the American people up to the coming season of the war situation.

Apprehensions of officials here at the time of the bolt in Czechoslovakia were somewhat lost in Mr. Hull's restrained choice of statements in language. But you will notice the implication of his whole address was that there can be no compromise, no matter how handsome in Russia, that we are fighting irreconcilably for the freedom of our lives and nation and world.

Of secondary importance were the quiet, firm warnings that the extreme nationalists that they cannot remain neutral in such a struggle; as they are not neutral, they are a little salt on the ambitions of the most visionary New Yorkers in the extreme nationalists, justifying up a millennium for the post-war world.

As Mr. Hull went on the air, public opinion here in this country was still on the west side of the lower Don, but they had actually crossed it at two strategic points. Timoshenko's army was caught in two bad pockets. The first was east of Stalingrad, where a large Russian force was faced by the Nazis in front and the Don on two other sides. The other pocket, was pushing Rostov.

To extricate himself from this second nest, a full retreat from Timoshenko seemed necessary. But at both ends of the battle line in the first week of the Nazi drive had crowd the Don, northward and southward, and were moving toward Stalingrad from three directions.

No one here knew how much Timoshenko had in reserve. He offered no real resistance thus far to the Nazi advance, except the extreme nationalist end of the battle line around Voronezh. Officials were little heartened in that regard, and the public about the disposition of the Russian forces or with a knowledge of what to expect.

Mr. Hull's idea for the post-war world recognized and accepted many aims of Vice-President Wallace and his corps of promoters, but leveled these down to an entirely different level. He advocated "co-operation among nations" not a new League of Nations, but a new League of Nations, or "union now." He advocated helping needy nations which would be free to trade and co-operate fairly in a new world trade system, not a free-trade all-including program to industrialize the world at our expense.

While he wanted an international police force, which he meant, he talked one of Mr. Wallace's waste scales for remote peace, and the extreme nationalist end of the battle line for beer-drinking workers of Europe and other dietary matters.

Undoubtedly, the long contemplated Japanese attack on Russian Siberia, if it materialized, would bring the scheme of a second front nearer to the decline phase. More than ever, cooperation between the United States and Britain are convinced that the Japanese will show their hand very soon. Dissident voices can be heard, indeed, here and there. The meeting of Japanese troops in Manchuria has long been reported in the press.

## Remember—

By Herblick



## For The Second Front

### A Date Is Already Set

By Portinas

PREPARATIONS for a "second front" are in progress. The fuel decision may be held in suspense. All arrangements are being made as though a definite course of action had already been fixed up to deal with the situation.

This does not mean that in Washington and in London the political and military leaders are irrevocably committed to a given course of action. But, obviously, they want everything to be made ready in case the conclusion be arrived at that, in the common interest, intervention on the continent cannot be delayed any longer. In the near future, the speed-work accomplished in Washington will come up for discussion by the War Cabinet in London and some who shared in the preliminary studies here, are due to attend.

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Since, for months, the military commanders in Tokyo have been credited with the design to stab Russia in the back, a more expedient policy might have been to forestall Siberia, an air force big enough eventually to make short work of the inland population centers in the Soviet Union, on a few hours notice. The assumption may well be hazarded that such preventive measures were seriously considered, but not recommended themselves to the Kremlin.

## Honey Huts In Ireland

By Ernie Pyle

LONDONDERRY, IRELAND  
WHAT has struck me most about this American camp so far away from home is the way the men have fixed up their Nissen huts with homely touches.

One Marine Corps hut has stars painted all over the ceiling to resemble a night sky. Many boys have tacked up pictures of their girls, their parents, and so on. Others have put up brightly colored magazine pictures. Some have bought dimmy lampshades down here. Others have engaged personal artists for extra paint and decorated the inside of their huts. In some the boys have used beer cans to make pretty little table lamps. Others have rigged up beer cans as bed lamps.

Captain William J. Larson, commanding officer of the base, encourages all this. He says that you can put up anything they want as long as it isn't lewd. He has even offered a prize to be given next month for the most kempt hut. "I think I have the credit for this," he says.

In this camp the soldiers have really made in transforming what was really just a bare dormitory into a home. By Navy trade they are all craftsmen, and they can do things you and I can't. They've taken the legs off their green lockers, set them down on the floor about four feet apart, then bought some heavy green material and stretched it on wire across the open space. They even did the sewing themselves. This not only forms extra closet space but gives a neat touch that the best interior decorator couldn't surpass.

Captain Larsen also offered a prize for a golf tournament that is going on now. The boys have plenty of games here, both indoors and out. Other officers laughed when he spent a lot on badminton sets for the Marines, but he can't sue now, for they have bought four sets, they even set up a court under the trees so they could play while it was raining. They actually have to play around tree trunks, which makes the game more interesting. And the final touch of enthusiasm came when they started playing three men to a side.

The Marines at this base are used solely for guard duty. They patrol every gate at every one of the camps. Even at the officers' home where I'm a guest I can't see a car or a truck, or even get down every five minutes in the dead of night.

One thing I forgot to mention is the bomb shelters. At every one of the camps, shelters are dished all over the place like flyspecks. No matter where you are, you would have to run only a few feet to reach one.

Practically no shelter will stand up under a direct hit. These probably wouldn't either. But they would stand a close one, I'm sure, and the thing that pleases me is that there are so many of them.

## Visitin' Around

In His Own Kin To The Meeksville Meeker (AP) Item. (Loving Dispatch) Mr. Meek has some fine looking beans in his garden.