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And Evening Chronicle

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• W. C. Dowd 1885-1927 •

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1942.

Air Bubbles

OPA's Johnson Can See Inflation Already

State OPA Administrator Theodore S. Johnson talks like a man concerned that he is fighting a losing battle. In his mind, the rising flood of inflation was set loose to follow its own course at the moment Congress had stripped control of farm prices and wages. He maintains that the struggle with inflation is not just in danger of being lost, but that up to now it has been lost.

In a speech here yesterday he quoted a popular news letter of recent vintage as saying that Congress did not want price control in fact, and that the people themselves were indifferent. If that is true, his job, as he concluded, is simply hopeless. The talk of Leon Henderson about saving the U. S. fifty billion dollars a year becomes a pipe dream.

There will be no district office of OPA in Charlotte, or anywhere else in the state except Raleigh. If Henderson is given no more than Congress wants to give him. And that, says Mr. Johnson, will foreshadow all plotting. An anxious ex-petroleum watcher watched him in the last stages of bewilderment. His and then both.

Some weeks ago when President Roosevelt broke into a national pressurism on rubber, he sagged that the situation was not really so bad, and hinted that our tire production was just around the corner, maybe a fate blew in Washington Donald Nelson, who knew then what the President apparently has now discovered, was upset, corrected the big boos in public language.

Last night, though, in the midst of a happy tête-à-tête with the press, he made the first official grab toward re-mobilizing tires from civilian automobiles, the minimum of confusion had come. There were natural questions to be asked.

How had the rubber situation come to change so radically so quickly? Why, if rubber was in danger and regulation was next, did not the President order national rationing of gasoline rather than let the other 27 states run loose? Why, in any event, was not some definite decision made? Why all the fence-straddling, the jumping from one side to another? Why didn't the President, or someone in authority, fight?

If the public is not brought to see beyond the little restrictions of the individual, then the 171 complicated schedules and their myriad amendments will have been in vain, and we will be staring at an economic ruin such as few nations have seen.

Because Congress jacked the courage in these pre-election days to throw a stranglehold on the farm bloc and dare the wrath of labor with a wage ceiling, the entire program is shaky in its infancy.

Three Quotes

Nos. 1 and 2 Would Be Imprisoned for a Little of No. 3

— By War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt in an address to a mass meeting sponsored by the Labor Victory Committee and the National Conference of Negro Youth.

"One hears today from industrial committees all over America the roar of defiance, the ringing protest that this must not mean the end of breaking traditions, the cracking of the clichés that have supported racial discrimination."

"Whited and Negroed, you will work together." The kind of nonsense will not stand against the record of plants like Ford's Ketter-Hayes, the Murray Corporation, Lockheed-Vega, Bethlehem Shipbuilding and the Denver Ordnance plants. In all parts of the country they are working together."

— By Hon. (Gen.) George Talmadge, Governor of Georgia, as reported in the Atlanta Journal.

Any lingering doubts that Senator Talmadge will announce his reelection in his fourth term at Moultrie and make white supremacy his main issue are swept away by his remarks in "The Statesman," his political weekly.

An article titled the campaign 60th anniversary of Wade Hampton of South Carolina, he statement that the issue is still the states' rights to secede from the Union.

"That issue," said the article, "the last demand of the South, was only to be won by killing, shooting and drowning, and stirred by those who control the multi-millions of dollars bequeathed to foundations which foundations now raise their heads."

"The Statesman" added, "that Talmadge in his Moultrie address will picture the practices by which these 'outlaws' sought to check the progress of the Negro in the South can hardly be fit for the pen of a Tom Watson to chronic."

— By Dr. Calvin Reed, a minister of Columbia, Georgia, in "The Georgia Observer" of June, 1942, a publication of the Georgia Committee on Interracial Cooperation.

We need leaders who will enable us to distinguish what between our ultimate and immediate objectives. We who are here today are very liberal, comparatively speaking, in our racial attitudes. We are established in the South, in racial mixture, we would have a very different situation from what exists today. But we are a minority. So the problem we face again and again is to decide what methods we regard as immediate that is capable of

Russia Is Next

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Japan is doing all the things preparations in an attack on Russia. Her naval press chief, Captain Ogawa, has broadcast around the world an immodest warning of "a huge offensive" to come.

More and more troops and equipment are being filtered into Manchuria.

And now, no less important, comes evidence that the Japanese are infiltrating these Aleutian Islands. After Agatsuma and his forces had landed, which could mean only the same thing—that they intend to prey on our Pacific supply line to Russia and isolate the Pacific Coast. They are isolating the Kamchatka Peninsula, the only seafarable harbor in Siberia aside from Vladivostok.

These three rocks of Attu, Agatsuma and Riksa could mean nothing to Japan unless we interfere in the war on Russia. No air fields could be established on them, and even carrier-based planes there must constantly fight for.

Consequently, many American naval experts have been urging us to re-examine their importance, some indeed supporting their occupation as a first step toward conquest of Alaska or invasion of our Pacific Coast. These supporters

forget that these three islands would have a real live military value as base bases, in case Japan intends to break up Russian trade. No one expects the Russians, of course, to have any trade in that part of the world.

LION WAS SQUEEZED ON CANNED FRUIT

Pike Flies Leon Henderson was squeezed into making what he called the first break in the price ceilings, raising prices on a number of fruits and vegetables.

As a matter of fact it was not the first break. A few weeks before Henderson raised the price on canned citrus fruit.

Certainly powerful Administra-

tional forces, including Peter Clegg, head of the Texas oil industry, staged into Henderson's division with protests and got their way.

This time, however, the inner pressure was so great that even the tire production was just around the corner, maybe a fate blew in Washington Donald Nelson, who knew then what the President apparently has now discovered, was upset, corrected the big boos in public language.

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Even the American Farm Bureau Federation demanded Wickard and even his veto power. When he hesitated, he was threatened with a campaign of opposition in Congress.

Finally the Farm Bureau wrote a letter to Henderson demanding that he take the price cut subject to some sort of a way out. He tried to get Congress to pass a subsidy bill, giving a bonus to the growers. Congress refused. His appropriation bill was voted down on the consideration. He relented.

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TEXAS KNEW MORE ABOUT SUGAR

Apparently the information concerning sugar in Washington is not always complete. I have received the following correction on a recent column from a Texas editor: "I have just made a copy of your recent article on sugar. Regarding the sugar situation you stated:

"A Texas factory said it was going to stop sugar because it was too expensive."

I made it read:

"The huge refiners at Sugarland, Texas, with millions of pounds of unrefined sugar on hand, have closed down their works until June 6 if them. Its great warehouses at Sugarland are filled with refined sugar, while millions of pounds have been shipped to points of destination and Galveston. Having no outlet for refined sugar the management stated it had no other alternative than to close its plant."

But they won't be ready to sacrifice,

we guess, so long as there is this strange disparity between sections. That the East should save while the West goes to the moon, the great majority of us are bound to say.

On the West Coast so much sugar is on hand that motorists are being forced to fill their tanks to relieve the storage problem. So long as that condition exists it will be plain to us that either the rubber situation is not as they picture it even now, or someone is running in two directions at once. When the President said that the American people were ready to make any sacrifice, he was speaking an obvious truth.

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— By W. C. Tamm, editor of the "Wanna Bot?"

N. C.'s Traveling Senator Explains a Long Absence

For five whole weeks while the world rocked pell-mell on its balance, that great world statesman, the Hon. Robert B. Reynolds, Senator from North Carolina and chairman of the Senate Military Committee, went hopping. First in his native Asheville he journeyed on one of his strangely infrequent trips to North Carolina, and this time only to cast a vote in the Democratic primary on May 30. That franchise exercised, on he went to Hot Springs, Ark., where for three weeks he took the baths.

Monday, July 6, saw him back in Washington. Accounting for the rest of his absence, he said that he had visited defense projects and army posts in Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee and Florida. Very inspirational and worth while," the Senator explained, "to see the morale and behavior of the men in uniform."

Very, Oh, very, particularly if the viewing is done from the vantage point of some swank resort like Hot Springs. And in all the states where Robert looked him over it just happened that there is some swank resort like Red Orange, Louisville, Chautauqua, Florida, Miami Beach and other may spas. Check the registers of the better hotels at those places and if you don't find inscribed therein the name of Robert B. Reynolds, U. S. Senator, then we'll admit the possibility that he was off for five weeks on business and pleasure combined instead of pleasure exclusively.

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5th Column on the Economic Front

—By Herblock



Serastopol Chaser

Turkey Goes On The Fire

By Pertinax

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Turkey had come very close to steering her course. On June 18, 1941 a German-Turkish political treaty was signed. Article two stated that both parties were pledged to "communicate with each other in friendly manner and endeavor to maintain their common interest in order to bring about an understanding on the treatment of such questions."

All over the world, diplomats were still wondering what might be the significance and the implications of the new alliance when, suddenly, the chief German Ambassador was summoned to the German Embassy and told that his country was to place the whole of the Black Sea under its effective control and do away with Russian Naval power there.

Political observers credit it with the intention to have at hand the warships needed for the purpose and consequently to secure from Turkey free passage across the Dardanelles.

Last year, it was repeatedly announced that Germany had used Turkey as a base to harass British shipping in the Aegean and that the latter had been relieved from what had seemed to be impending attack. The Turks could afford to keep their ships in the Black Sea, but the Germans could not, because the British fleet was to be used as an instrument for the smooth fulfillment of their program.

For several weeks, diplomatic relations between England and Turkey deteriorated, due to secret negotiations which culminated in the signing of the "lease-Lend Act." As first indirect, as deliveries made from this country to Great Britain were set aside for Turkey and transferred from the end of last year.

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Now, with Seastopol in the grip of the Nazis, German prospects in Ankara are brighter. And they will become still more favorable, assuming that Field Marshal Rommel's offensive spreads to the Middle East.

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As things stand today, the Turkish rulers still wish for a United Nations' victory and they can do with all the help they can get. The friendship existing between Ankara and the Soviet Union for fifteen years is still intact. Hitler, when he signed the pact in March 1933, he pursued to involve in the best Bolshevik manner, Russian claims over the straits.

With the exception of President Inönü and Marshal Çakmak, Turkish commanders in chief, the higher ranks of the Turkish Army were never entangled with German influence which was potent in the whole country's government.

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