

"They Asked for It and They Are Going to Get It!"

—By Herblock

Come On, Now

Find The Truth

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

SING his, sing no, the world makes sense. A little cat has just been let out of a small bag in Washington, where General Giraud's chief advisor, M. Jacques Lemaitre-Dubreuil, has suggested the plea that "All those who in metropolitan or African France have directly or indirectly collaborated with the Germans are literally hated by the population..."

And a hey nonny-no. I am not rejoicing that Admiral Darlan was murdered; I rejoice that the world makes sense. For a few weeks, or months, America filled with the official theory that the people of North Africa really like collaborationists who, in their ecstatic commentaries on M. Darlan, tried to make a case for him at the grave cost of making a case against the people. They went far beyond the President's concept of military expediency, and, using the opening thus presented, gave us the whippers we heard about how the population of North Africa was pretty much Fascist, and therefore, needed a Fascist leader. They tried to prove their policy was right by proving that North Africa was crazy.

When one considers what a bleak, cryptic horror this world would be if that theory were correct, one may understand the importance of the little cat which has been permitted to mew in Washington by General Dumb.

It suddenly makes North Africa make sense. Now we understand North Africa. Why, it's just like Hoboken; it hates collaborationists. Oh, the rain it rains every day for those anti-personalities who, in their ecstatic commentaries on M. Darlan, tried to make a case for him at the grave cost of making a case against the people. They went far beyond the President's concept of military expediency, and, using the opening thus presented, gave us the whippers we heard about how the population of North Africa was pretty much Fascist, and therefore, needed a Fascist leader. They tried to prove their policy was right by proving that North Africa was crazy.

All through the war, we have seen such bent spirits at work; men who don't make sense justifying their actions by the plea that the people don't make sense. With a hey ho; it just isn't so: North Africa makes plenty of sense.

And so does the rest of the world, a feeling I acquired when that I was a tiny little boy, and which I still have. Some Americans, for example, believe we should not openly attack Italy's king. They profess not to respect that unshapely monarch themselves; they know his record of compliance with Mussolini; they would, if respect for royal personages were put beside Victor Emmanuel as a failure. Measuring him against other kings, they would call him miserable and unheroic.

But they blindly assume that the Italian personality is somehow different; different enough to admire this royal specimen, though everybody else would consider him not admirable.

This is the North African mistake. Some of us believed that the North African French are peculiar people, who prefer collaborationists. And some of us think the Italians are peculiar people who, for some weird reason, respect royal personages. None of it is true. All these mysteries are in the eye of the beholder. A pro-Darlanist, gazing upon North Africa, finds North Africa to be pro-Darlanist; a make-a-deal-with-the-king-like, looking upon Italy, finds that it admires its king.

We can find the truth about French Africa and Italy, and other countries of our general culture, by looking into our own hearts. If we are revolted by Victor Emmanuel's record, we should be willing to hate the Italians—the embodiment of believing them to be revolted. That lesson has just banged out at us from North Africa, with a noise like a pistol shot.

Or you want a policy that would please North Africa, and Italy, too? Then find a policy that will please Hoboken, or Peoria. Neither Italy nor North Africa want anything that is not good enough for these two starboard cities. She likes that is the plain and simple truth, which the people of this world have been trying to get in edgewise ever since the debate started.

The Old Spirit

Asset For War

Christian Science Monitor

WHEN a party of American parachute troops went climbing into an Italian-held Tunisian village yelling, "Hi, Ho, Silver," the Italians fled in utter confusion.

Describing the incident, the captain related that his men were approaching the town from two directions. One column, a little ahead of schedule, surprised and captured an Italian machine-gun position with the help of a few hand grenades.

The other column, eager to join the action, came tearing in shouting the Lone Ranger's call at the top of their lungs and spearing the remaining Italians so thoroughly that they began shouting wildly in all directions.

Now this isn't just a funny story that proves nothing. It has real significance. And it's this: that spirit and spontaneity are a definite asset for the American soldier. Americans have that asset. It's the natural expression of free people.

It's the way men are when they can speak their minds, cast an independent vote; when little boys can boast that some day they'll be President, maybe, or even an engineer.

The men who made the "So Solly" flag had that spirit. When a submarine diving an odd-looking flag rate to base several weeks ago, someone rubbed their eyes and looked again. Plying from an improvised staff was a new kind of banner.

Painted on it was a donkey, or "wavy hind," with its eyes trained on eleven Japanese flags—eight merchant and three man-of-war pennants—denoting the number of ships sunk by the submarine.

At the bottom of the flag were the words, "So Solly."

It was the original handiwork of a grinning, bearded crew back from an adventurous journey in enemy waters. They told of ships sunk right outside of Japanese harbors and of escapes from death's clutches.

On Guadalcanal American Marines and soldiers, battling mud, rain and Japs, had that spirit too. They expressed it by rigging up a Christmas tree right there in the jungle. It would have done credit to any home in the United States, and the war correspondent who told about it.

Even as they laugh American young people can think seriously and work hard. Even in battle, as these incidents prove, there is a resilient spirit. It's not a thing born of deprivation; a sort of back-to-the-wall bravado. It's a natural spontaneity—a sort of dividend of democracy.

This is not meant to imply that we're the only nation with a funny bone. From it, no one will ever forget the sturdy fiber of British humor and how it withstood the terrible hardships of the blitz. There was spirit for you, and it carried them through.

That's what will carry us through, spirit like that. We're fortunate, indeed, to have it in so great a measure, for we're going to need a lot of it this coming year—or so.

Side Glances



"I don't blame my daughter for rushing her young officer friend home so early, with all these good-looking women around!"

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1943

The Big Bill

Only a Pay-As-You-Go Tax Plan Can Help Us Meet It

Billions are, in total, cold abstractions, without meaning to the wartime taxpayer, when the President called for his \$109 billion to be spent in the year beginning July 1, that was an alarming figure, but it carried no meaning for the man who pays. There was only the dull realization that a bill must be paid, the biggest bill ever presented.

The painful facts may be simplified, and March 15 will serve as an introduction. The meaning of the billions:

- 1. The Federal Government, from its birth in 1789 to 1933, spent less than the President proposed for spending in the coming year.
- 2. The \$801.2 billion probably to be spent by 1943 amounts to about \$500 for every man, woman and child in the U. S., or about \$2,300 per family.
- 3. The deficit, by June 30, will have risen to \$125 billion, or \$100 per capita—and the interest on the public debt for 1943 (\$1,850,000,000) is more than twice as much as the Government spent in any one year previous to 1914, with the exception of the war year 1865.
- 4. About half of the hundred-billion request must be raised by taxes (\$46 billion in new taxes).

And that speaks only for the future. The 1942 settlement is only two months away, and though almost trifling by comparison with the burdens, it will find millions of Americans unable to pay. We face the possibility that a great new class of delinquents, a class of criminals, if you will, is to be created in March. Collections will not only be difficult; they may well be impossible.

For example: A married man with one child, earning \$55 a week, must pay about one month's salary (\$198) for income taxes. In addition, Victory Tax now being deducted from his salary will amount to \$109 more. Most taxpayers will be in no condition to make such payments. Because it is late to begin saving for payment, there appears to be only one way to get relief: the pay-you-go plan, first offered by Beardley Ruml.

If Congress adopts the plan before March 15, 1942 payments will be wiped off or postponed (and it matters little if they are wiped off) and 1943 payments would begin immediately, paid out of income. The plan must be put to use in some form, or the pressure of the billions for war will make the taxpayer's burden unbearable, and threaten the breakdown of the tax system. Congress must act quickly.

The Jaypees

Once More the Legislature Gets a Chance at Control

A new phase of the old war against the bargain-basement courts of Justices of the Peace is opening in Raleigh with announcement of Senator Herbert Leary's bill to place North Carolina magistrates on a new basis. Because The News has so long taken part in the battle for reform of the parasitical Jaypee system and knows well the difficulties of curbing its evil influence, we hold little hope for the success of the latest attempt at control.

Senator Leary proposes that Justices of the Peace be no longer created willy-nilly, by any number of authorities, but appointed by a committee in each county, the committee to be composed of the resident Superior Court Judge, the chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, mayors, a member of the local Bar Association, and the Clerk of Court. He also proposes a minimum salary for Justices, and the posting of bonds by them of from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Most important of all, he would provide for them a minimum salary, to kill the old fee system.

We don't believe that such legislation would achieve control of the army of North Carolina Jaypees, or that it would bring corrupt practices to an end. But now, in a sorry past, there is no control, no limit to the number of Justices, and no supervision over their practice of rubbing out a living on fees exacted from the gullible, the ignorant and unfortunate. Senator Leary's bill offers, at least, a chance for improvement.

In our investigations of 1937, we remember, the ten Jaypees in Mecklenburg County handed down not-quite-credible—in only 23 cases out of 166. The fines, which go to the school fund,

came to only \$69.15. But the costs, which go to the magistrate and his henchmen, came to \$2,528. Despite periodic newspaper investigation and biennial proposals of control in the Legislature, the system, or lack of a system, continues to exist.

Countless charges of corruption and malfeasance of office have been made to no avail. The ousting of many a Justice only paved the way for another of the same breed. It will always be so in the lowest court of law until the Legislature disregards the political pressure exerted by the hundreds of magistrates (no one seems to know how many there are) and tackles the long-postponed task of complete state-wide control. Senator Leary has offered the opportunity once more. It should not be passed by again.

Leadership

Mr. Wood, Mr. Henry Hacc Made Progress For a Section

The ascension of Tolrence E. Henry to the presidency of the American Trust Co. and the naming of Wood H. Wood as chairman of the board of directors calls the attention of community and section to the impressive service records of the two men, and to the wide influence of the financial institution to which they have contributed so much.

It is almost exact ratio to the growth of American Trust and its services, the volume of Charlotte's retail trade has increased. This huge home institution has worked an incalculable public good, and its very prominence is a tribute to the relation of the two men whose combined service totals more than 70 years—years in the service of the social, economic and cultural advancement of the Carolinas as well as American Trust itself.

Not All Export

We're sending far more materials out on Lend-Lease than will ever come back.

It was largely due to the financial growth overseas in the form of Lend-Lease aid from foreign countries. In fact we have had some Lend-Lease aid sent to us over here. The British sent us aircraft guns for use on the East Coast and barrage balloons for the West Coast.

Most of the reciprocal aid which has come to us has been from the United Kingdom. In the form of materials and services made available to our troops in England, the Middle East, Iceland and the Fiji Islands.

We have received artillery, small arms, grenades and mines, sound locators and radio location equipment, Springfield, 25-pounder guns, some 2,000,000 clay pigeons for target practice, de-aerating equipment for our ships, repairs of battle damage to American naval vessels, and bunker oil and other supplies for our naval ships when in British ports.

We've received drawings, specifications and production data for many secret devices, such as radio-locator equipment for anti-aircraft defenses. The British also have arranged for thousands of the civilian and military labor available for military work and services in the United Kingdom is being employed by the American Army. We also are getting hospitals, barracks, officers' accommodations, air fields, repair depots and their maintenance. We

received 15,000 bicycles for personnel transport on air fields. The British, as reciprocal aid, sent The Stars and Stripes and Yank, and recently they supplied Christmas cards to American caissons. They have also supplied steam rollers, pile drivers, cranes, ranges, and much minor equipment like potato peelers.

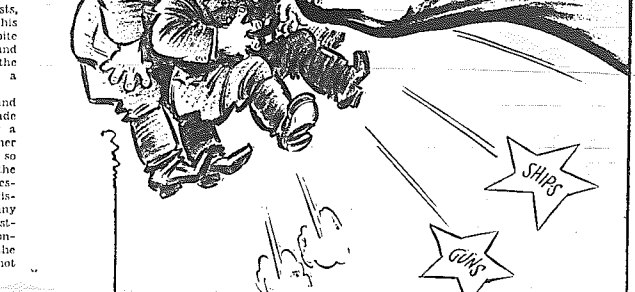
The Office of War Information made a compilation of the foregoing items, and it adds that in West Africa the United Kingdom has contributed substantial sums for airport and harbor installations available for use by American forces and Pan-American Airways.

Australia is supplying large quantities of food and clothing to American forces there, a program that American authorities estimate may amount to \$100,000,000, which is a considerable figure in view of the size of Australia's population.

New Zealand is giving our Navy and Marine Corps relatively large supplies, including camps, warehouses, hospitals, miscellaneous buildings and construction projects, at the expense of leaving last winter's earthquake damage in Wellington unrepaired. All supplies, equipment and facilities which New Zealand had built in the Fiji Islands were turned over to our forces. New Zealand is running short of food because of the quantities of Lend-Lease food sent to our troops there. At one time New Zealand had to suspend its program of milk for school children because of the requirements of American forces for Lend-Lease milk.

We get some reciprocal aid from China, India and the Fighting French in New Caledonia. Russia has no reciprocal aid to spare, and we have not requested reciprocal aid from some South American countries. We hope to get some from the "central" resources of Belgium and the Netherlands.

Although the traffic is heavier outgoing than incoming, we are receiving some real and important reciprocal benefits—and from people most of whom have been at war for more than three years, and who have felt the rigors of war which are just beginning for us.



We're Taking A Collection

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON

A PERIOD of complaint about Lend-Lease is inevitable when you have a budget that makes a midget out of all previous ones, high taxes that are going higher, and grocery stores just fresh out of everything.

In times of denial, people are disposed to complain irritably. Those who don't make \$25,000 a year complain about those who do. People who have to walk complain about the lucky ones who ride in Government automobiles. When there is no butter at the store, you naturally complain about butter going to the factories.

We are sending far more materials out on Lend-Lease than will ever come back. Yet Lend-Lease is not entirely one-way traffic. Our forces in a number of foreign overseas are receiving substantial benefits of Lend-Lease aid from foreign countries. In fact we have had some Lend-Lease aid sent to us over here. The British sent us aircraft guns for use on the East Coast and barrage balloons for the West Coast.

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Platform Of The People

A Pay-As-You-Go Plan

Editors, The News: There is a lot of talk going on about a pay-as-you-go tax plan. It seems to me that the same plan I have mentioned in my columns under the Platform of The People in your paper would be the simplest and best way to do it.

Let Congress enact a law setting up a savings account number like the Social Security number for each worker. Let the employer deduct fifteen per cent of all wages and give the money over to the savings account number — on March 15, 1941. Let everyone who has to pay an income tax do the same way they would this year, and the amount of taxes would be taken out of the savings account.

The balance, if any, could be credited back to them, and paid in twelve monthly installments after the war is over. Those who owe no tax at all would have their money credited back in the same way.

This plan would give the Government use of the fifteen per cent of all income during the war. You can readily see that this would give us use of a lot more money than the income tax will bring in.

Bible Thought

He who has a good mother, or a daughter, far more than the millionaire who has not. Show your appreciation while you still have them, for you will not know when you will find. In the price of her is far above rubies.—Proverbs 31:10.

What's Wrong With Christian Peace?

Editors, The News: When someone advocates the principles of Christianity into the ideas of peace proposals, so many people immediately think of it as another front. It is not to be thought of in that light. It is the fundamental laws on which democracy is based on the constitution—practiced or lived up to by a people who knew it paid dividends for their brothers' sinner. What they built is evidenced by the fact that the youngest of nations are the hope of the world today in many reports. We are individuals, but personal selfishness and anti-interest in our fellow man. We have come a long way from the course laid down a century and a half ago and kept for a long time. It was a good idea, but it was not new one—but we know from experience works.

When we appreciate from whence all blessings flow, then will we be able to see what they saw who formed the constitution and what we need to keep it in place. If this is a front, it is not a new one—but we know from experience works.

—F. W. WARD, Charlotte.

Appreciation

Editors, The News: At the meeting of our Board of Directors recently, I was pleased to compliment The News on the splendid co-operation given to the community by your recent Christmas promotion.

A great deal of the success of the promotion was due to your help, and we really do appreciate it.

—AL BECHTOLD, Exec. Secretary, Merchants Association, Charlotte.