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And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1943

Out Of Bondage

Equitable Freight Rates Promise
New Day for Southern Industry

The industrial East has been the Mother Country. The South and West have been the colonies. The colonies have furnished the Mother Country with raw material. The Mother Country has been exploiting the colonies by selling them manufactured necessities at artificially controlled prices. The industrial East has been the principal source of both capital and organization to develop the South and West. Under such conditions, it has been natural enough that the South and West have been developed in the way which would contribute the most to the domination of the industrial East. Wherever it has entered into Eastern industrial domination, the competitive energy of the South and West has been stifled. Local independent capital in the South and West has been gradually disappearing. Local independent enterprise has been under a constant handicap.

The words are those of Thurman Arnold, Assistant Attorney General of the United States, and he was thinking of freight rates, the deadly device by which the industrial South has been held, nose down, by the East. And the expression of the economic theory evidently reflects the sentiment of the administration, for the fight for equitable freight rates is now reaching its climax, and victory appears certain for the South.

The ancient rate schedule, in effect an embargo against manufactured goods of the Southern area, came up for a new battle last year when the distribution of war contracts was hampered by the Southern handicaps. While the Official Territory received 55 per cent of war contracts, the South got only a shade over seven per cent. The rates, apparently fixed for posterity by the Interstate Commerce Commission in 1925, are in for a change.

It is late, but the coming of equitable rate structure at this time can be of more benefit to the South than ever before. An expanded industry, for war and peace, will profit greatly from the death of a system which exacted higher freight rates on a haul from Atlanta to Louisville than one from New York to Louisville is to be celebrated joyously as a second emancipation.

The Citizen

Leon Hen settles Down:
The Record Shows It's Best

The fat little man who stood in the long queue in the Miami railway board office was just another fat little man shuffling forward, he finally stepped out of line to ask permission to use the telephone. Nothing doing, the young lady said. Too busy. And the meek citizen went back into the line, giving no sign that he was Leon Henderson, The Man Who Was Too Tough.

This Leon Hen, who with his purple language, big cigars, bicycle riding and brazen carelessness had overruled the power of life and death over America's rationed millions. Now he's simply a man who stands in line, a Miller and not an Administrator. And while he's resting in Florida, Leon Henderson may reflect on the chances to come back, to squeeze himself into the New Deal parade again; he's probably completed his profane estimate of the men who divorced him from OPA.

In Leon's mind must be the words of the President: "When you are able to return to work, I shall certainly want your assistance in some other capacity." The President had written those words to many another New Deal outcast, and Leon has had reason to wonder, just from looking at the record. For the number of New Dealers who haven't come back is legion.

There was General Thompson Johnson, a hot-blooded outcast and impulsive Administrator of the Henderson stripe. When he left NRA, the President was kind, but the General drifted toward the opposition, found his place and stayed there. Dean Acheson, who resigned as Undersecretary of the Treasury, and Lewis Douglas, who repeated as Director of the Budget, left because they couldn't go along with the President on his spending for recovery policy. Both are back now, but in divisions in the State surplus could bring light to Morgenthau's night without a change of administration. That the campaign for humanity might not fall just at its climax we urge the earnest hope.

There are also Raymond Moley, Jim Fawcett and Harry Woodring, who left to some enemies, and Thomas Cordell, George Pack and Joseph Kennedy.

all the original Brain Trust only Justice Sam Rownman and Justice Felix Frankfurter remain close to the President. Closest of all is Harry Hopkins, but he was not a charter member, and he has been moved around himself.

New Warfare

Mac Arthur's Message Was Heavy
But His Heart Was Light

The high-octane rhetoric so dear to the heart of General Douglas MacArthur rolled back home across the Pacific yesterday, and for all its heavy verbiage, the message was clear. The General was exhorting a new and of the American-style, which had butchered the Jap in Papua, and bore the promise of doom for Japan throughout the Pacific.

In this new warfare, he said, strokes were "swift and massive," calling for the "indissoluble union" of all forces. In the end, their application would bring victory, "through new and broadened strategic and tactical conceptions." It's a safe bet that the enemy will never know what he was talking about, for even the most adept of English-speaking Japs would bog down there. Nothing, even for most Americans, to put the finger on.

But when he broke down into details, and abandoned the glory-words, the light shone. In New Guinea, it seems, the history-making movement of entire U. S. segments into battle by air, complete aerial supply for all services, and quiet shifting of the balance of power all fitted into a pattern for the future. Any offensive action now taken against Japan will not burden American manpower and weapons with the gigantic task of storming through the Pacific by island.

What the General has in mind is swooping down upon Jap-controlled bases by air, with great armadas bearing men, weapons and supplies for widely separated campaigns. He sees a way, supported by naval power, to level great areas with a single stroke. This, he offers, is the American wrinkle of modern warfare. It is the Crete campaign on a vaster scale, the answer for victory over Japan. Through the explanation, MacArthur radiated confidence. He seems to have caught the spirit of Admiral Halsey, of victory in '43.

No Change

Reports From Morgenthau Say
The Same Old Misery Prevails

The State knows well enough that The Night of Morgenthau is still black and bleak, and that the revelations of Tom Morgenthau have not brought about final action in behalf of the inmates of the State Hospital. But it had taken for granted, after Governor Broughton's swift reforms, that the atmosphere of Morgenthau, about hope for these many years, had changed. It has not, apparently, changed at all.

Reports have come to The News recently from a nurse and a discharged patient, that life moves on as always within the walls, that despite improvements, there is still misery for the afflicted. Now, we are told, there is milk on the tables, and fresh vegetables; but the old evils remain.

The reports exist, and we are inclined to accept them at face value, that there is still a lack of medical attention; the discharged patient went to bed on her return home; a cold, unattended for a long while in the hospital, required medical attention.

From the nurse come more disturbing reports. The quality of the personnel, especially nurses, was new lower than ever, that the possible because of wartime conditions. And patients still fear to speak, for the atmosphere is unchanged, and the patients are still not patients at all, only inmates.

The reality, the deplorable conditions to be expected so long as the present administration is in charge at Morgenthau. As we have held often before, money is not the answer to the hospital problem. But in the divisions in the State surplus could bring light to Morgenthau's night without a change of administration. That the campaign for humanity might not fall just at its climax we urge the earnest hope.

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Trouble In Africa

The Nazis Fled To A Mighty Fortress

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON
The brilliant exploits of General Montgomery's Eighth British Army must not deflect our attention from the overall military picture in North Africa.

General Montgomery's campaign will remain forever amongst the great military movements of history. The British Eighth Army has advanced over a thousand miles as the blitz, over thirteen hundred miles by road, or nearly twice the distance from Berlin to Moscow, Kansas City to New York, or Berlin to Ankara. Its advance has liquidated Mussolini's new Roman Empire.

But in the last part of this movement, the Rommel Army has not been retreating under pressure but racing for a goal, and it has reached that goal with losses, but intact. It is establishing itself in Tunisia, behind the Mareth Line, which is the old French defense line against Italian Libya. It is a very strong position, and one easily supplied from Sicily via Tunis, Bizerte, and other Tunisian ports.

It will take some time for General Montgomery to prepare an assault on this line. And meanwhile Rommel is making contact with the army of General von Arnim in Tunisia, which is being rapidly reinforced not from the strategic reserves of Hitler, but from German troops that are, and have been for a long time, in Italy anywhere.

Had it been possible for the American Army, either to smash the von Arnim Army in Tunisia, or to reach the Mareth line first and thus to trap Rommel's retreat, the Montgomery move would have been a complete victory. But this has not been achieved. On a large scale the Germans are making a move to encircle us, instead of we them, by holding Tunisia, using Spain and Spanish Morocco as the opposite corner stone, and cutting off our supplies by submarines.

The American public must be prepared for the realization that there is no easy way of getting out of this situation. One of the decisive battles of this war has got to be fought. And the fact that we were numerically superior at the outset, and have nevertheless failed to prevent the German coup, must be acknowledged.

Montgomery's troops have gone through the trial by fire of two years' bitter warfare. They suffered defeat before becoming a match for Rommel's Army, which has had still longer experience. Our troops are green. They are universally admitted to be as tough fighting material as exists in the world. But neither training, nor morale, nor courage is a substitute for military experience. We have seen that everywhere, in Russia, for instance. The art and science of war has to be learned, eventually, in war.

These facts no doubt prompted Mr. Hull's recent remark that he wished the Americans would keep their minds fixed for two minutes a day on the military situation. Nevertheless, political speculations and political moves have a direct bearing on the military situation, and must be judged from that viewpoint.

There is some reason to believe that our political moves in North Africa are being made with a view of appealing General Franco. It is true that Franco has considerable forces in Spanish Morocco and that their presence is demobilizing an American Army group on that frontier, neutralizing nearly half our forces in North Africa.

But that is not the whole story. The political set-up created partly to reassure Franco is hampering the rear of our fighting front in Tunisia. There is reason to believe that among the old Vichyites, with whom we are playing, are in-

formers of the Germans, and the lack of a clear situation creates unease amongst troops and population.

Also one wonders whether the Spanish menace is not vastly overrated. The Spanish Moroccan Army has no supply lines, and an army without supply lines is a bluff. The latent threat that the Germans might invade Spain has been dispelled by events in Russia. Hitler's situation there is such that he must keep all his reserves—and doubt whether they are sufficient—to stem the Russian flood and prepare for a new offensive in the spring. He cannot risk any of them on a new adventure in so remote a field of operations.

Militarily spoken, Spain is a vacuum. That it is a menace to our flank is a bluff. On the contrary, our armies would be a menace to Spain—that is to say to the open flank of the German Armies in Western Europe. If we were not politically determined to respect Spanish neutrality.

Under these conditions it is a question whether it is even shrewd to make any concessions to Franco or allow ourselves to be terrorized by him. It is a question whether a strong and clear political policy would not terrify Franco, instead of vice versa. A policy of compromise and wavering always gives an impression of weakness and creates uncertainties which breed a new wave of morale. Appearing ghosts never got anyone anywhere.

There are three ways by which we can smash the Axis in North Africa. By successful assaults, together with the British, on the Tunisian fortress; by driving Spain, politically, out of the picture; or, by solving the submarine problem, which is necessary anyhow, for our communications. Probably we will attempt all three, but we must achieve one.

The Flowers That Bloom in the Spring, Tra La,
Have Nothing To Do With the Case

—By Herblock



A New Conception

Russia Invented One

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK
CONTINUING on the subject of all-outness, it might be said that the Russian's greatest all-out demonstration is her invention of the Winter offensive. Until she pulled this one out of her hat, no one was in a position of questioning it. The Allies paused, too, thus letting the enemy set the shape and the style of the war.

Hitler's advance troops in Russia have not been beaten down by superior forces; they have been beaten down by a superior conception; by an enemy which addressed itself to the problem of fighting in snow and on ice, after refusing to accept any other Army's verdict on that problem.

The moral stamina required to engage in this struggle of conceptions is infinitely greater than that required for brave dying. It is easier, far, to die in defense of a factory than to give the incredible order that, on a certain Tuesday morning, the factory shall be picked up, stone and tool, and moved a thousand miles behind the mountains.

And so, after Hitler, in pursuit of his plan, moved into the factory regions of Russia during the Summer, he discovered suddenly that the factory regions were now somewhere else, and that he was fighting in Winter. He could have conceived the country he set out to conquer, but the Russians, obligingly, changed it into another country on him.

There is nothing dogmatic, or stolid, or they shall not pass about the present Russian offensive. It is, on the contrary, agile and, in a grim way, as light as a dance; the successive thrusts on six or more fronts, from Leningrad to the Caucasus; the immediate opening of a new front as soon as the Germans have at last organized with our Allies. They are fighting a continuous presentation of problems to the enemy, so that he is forever solving one and find two; none of these

characteristics of the Winter offensive can be related to our rather literary conception of peasant qualities.

As for Russian "love of village and home," the Russians started the world by burning village and home, as for devotion to soil, they fed the soil, wherever retreat was indicated. The great stand was at Stalingrad, so perhaps the explanation will have to be changed to read that the Russians fought so steel mills.

No, the Russians are doing well because they were willing to undergo the greatest torture known to the human mind, the torture of planning, the torture of creative thinking. It is, as I say, rather easier to die, as many nations have proved in this war. The Russians have given a special meaning to the phrase "all-out." Sacrifice is no longer proof of all-outness; dying is not proof of all-outness; the proofs of all-outness are purpose and plan.

It is not by enduring hunger alone that wars are won. The Germans near Stalingrad are taking less than the Russians, and should, by that scale, be winning. They will not win. Wars are won by the ability to conceive victory, and to make that conception above the enemy's conception; all-outness lies not in doing, bravely, whatever one must, but in doing, boldly, whatever one can.

I point only a modest moral. What shall we say of that little group of isolationists in our national legislature, who are steering us into a frat that, maybe we are going too far, maybe we are sending too many lives abroad, maybe we are spending too much money, maybe we are sending too many men to too many places, maybe we are becoming too involved with our Allies. They are fighting a continuous tooth and nail, and clinging desperately to old, little ones; the ones the enemy hopes we will cling to.

Vital Freedom

Critics Needed

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
IN military matters, civilians must certainly give the benefit of the doubt to Army and Navy policies. It is almost absurdity by some who do not believe one should ever raise a question.

Is there any reason why, as is being proposed in Congress, a responsible committee, such as the Senate Appropriations Committee, should not in closed sessions discuss with Army, Navy and Manpower officials the question of the size of the Army? That does not mean that the Senate Appropriations Committee could make a better decision than the Army. It only means that should be indicated, nor does it mean that Congress or any committee should ever try to.

This is a good illustration of the place that criticism and discussion have in a democracy. Perhaps differences of view exist among the Army, Navy, Maritime Commission, Manpower Commission and War Production Board as to how large an army we should try to organize. Undoubtedly the Army General Staff and the Joint Chiefs of Staff have discussed this from every conceivable aspect with many other agencies of the Government. Yet it is good insurance all around in double-check such decisions by thorough questioning before one of the responsible committees of Congress. At least it clears up civilian misapprehensions. At most it turns light on weak or doubtful decisions and encourages reconsideration.

For instance, some Senators were beginning to demagogue on the subject of sending rubber tires under Lend-Lease to other countries, including some in Latin America. The Senate Agriculture Committee called in Lend-Lease and Board of Economic Warfare officials to be questioned. When the facts were developed in executive session, the sound reasons for exporting some tires at this time became obvious to the Senators and they said nothing to criticize in the operations. That is the least that can come of a Congressional checkup.

The Navy made what production officials consider a late start on its escort program. There had been preconceived ideas about dealing with submarines. The late start now brings the escort-program into conflict with rubber and 100-octane-gasoline programs, both extremely urgent. Perhaps there had been some discussion about it, questioning earlier the Navy would have made up its mind earlier. Certainly we should have been further ahead on synthetic rubber if Congress had prodded executive officials to get serious about it.

Congress doesn't have to decide what the answers are to be. If it only asks the right questions, and forces executive officials and the military to double-check and stand examination, a useful purpose is served. An important by-product of this procedure is the educational value to the ones who are asking the questions. That is an advantage of democracy—it is a two-way process of education.

In some lay quarters there has been an unjustified impatience with criticism of the appointment of former Vichy pro-Axis Frenchmen to positions of importance in North Africa. The latest importation, of M. Peyroun to be governor of Algiers, is certainly a legitimate subject of questioning. It is not sufficient to throw questions with the statement that General Eisenhower urged it. If the full story ever comes out, and we know what some important and qualified people in the Government thought about it, the questions now being asked will appear very much to the point.

Something of the vitality of this country will die when we no longer have our Billy Mitchells, our Severskys, our Ziffs, our Wilkies, and the less conspicuous sources of criticism and suggestion that challenge, not our purposes, but our methods.

Visitin' Around

Eight-Dollar Cruises

(North Wilkesboro Hustlers)

Mr. E. C. Barlow, of Lexington, was in North Wilkesboro Monday afternoon on business and returned home and afternoon. He and several other passengers got left in Statesville, after arriving down on Wadesboro bus via Winston and Mocksville. They altogether hired a cab for \$8 and returned home to North Wilkesboro. Some were folks returning home from the Baltimore area including one soldier.

Side Glances

