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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1943

Retirement

A City Program Should Be Put Into Operation Soon

A report shows that a city retirement plan for Charlotte will cost the municipality \$75,000 in the first year of operation. The payments may become heavier for the first few years thereafter. Then, gradually, costs will decrease until we reach the point that the retirement program is almost carrying its own load. In the long run, the cost will be insignificant, as compared with the advantages of the system.

This retirement plan is an City Administrator Charles H. Bell has said, is indispensable. It is the other leg to match with a civil service program. It is the means by which City employees are given security, and in exchange the City is given higher efficiency, and more for the personal dollar.

The City is in splendid fiscal condition, and has long been so. We build a surplus, which is wise. We might also, in this period when transition is in sight, take the plunge into the retirement program. This is, in the eyes of experts in the field, the only satisfactory method of operating a municipal government over the years.

In this investment, Charlotte may correct inequalities now existing, offer a career in municipal employment to many men and women who are not now available, and put its program on a sound basis for the future. The opportunity is obvious. It is to be hoped that City Council action in the best interests of the community will give this program its complete approval.

The choice of method to be used is, we believe, of secondary importance. But there is one suggested agency—the Hill-United State retirement system, provided for by the legislature—which is available. Charlotte should be the first sizable city to take advantage of that offer.

Weird Battle

Schweinfurt Brought Terrible New Day To Combat in the Air

In the air over Schweinfurt last week, while the big American planes were coming in, and many young Americans were meeting death, aerial history was made. There was not only death and destruction, with 60 Flying Fortress going down; there was a terrible collapse of the air combat of tomorrow, a weird glance at the next war.

This is a deadly new phase for air war, one which has not been discussed in the communique (though every item discussed here has been couched in dispatches, slyly hidden). The sight must have been incredible, even to the boys who had often been on the run over Germany before. Up through the smoke came the heavy new Nazi fighters, two-engine and swift, carrying rocket guns. The Germans claimed those guns were responsible for knocking out the record number of bombers.

First, the single-engine planes had come up, in several waves, battering at the Forts. Behind them the bigger fighters, with their deadly rockets. For the first time, the Nazis used their artificial fog, a new device akin to the smoke screen. The Germans claimed that caused many Fortresses to collide in the air. It is a picture to stir the imagination, but there was death on every hand. The debut of the American B-29 was launched on a day of terror.

When it was done, the U. S. command announced that the price was not too heavy, that the destruction of the Nazi ballbearing works was satisfaction enough, and that the raid was worth the invasion of an Army. Soon, however, there was more ominous talk in Washington. General Arnold made the public statement that he did not understand the fierce German resistance. He said the enemy could not have put up such a fight, unless they had a secret scoring.

That evidently was an official U. S. secret, though an oblique one, at the internal security afforded by the British. It may well have said that there was a leak in England, and that the Nazis were ready and waiting for the big fighters when they came over Schweinfurt. That was proof enough that the General meant serious business, that the destruction of that news was not a bad joke, but for the future.

Of Courage

Our Bomber Crews Show It, Flying Forward To Death

Reports from England are that, despite cruel losses, the morale of bomber crews of the Eighth Air Force is still splendid. The young men know well that they ride toward death, but there has been no flinching. They know that they are accomplishing their task, and saving the lives of thousands who will come after them. They fly unafraid. The loss in one raid of 593 trained men and 530 millions in equipment is shocking, but it is considered light by officers and men alike.

There is the realization that the German air force is being cut down past the point of replacement, that the 1200-per-month rate of American bomber production will replace all losses, and that there are plenty of trained crews ready to step in for those who perish. Systematically, as these boys die or float down to capture, key German factories, refineries and airfields are being destroyed. Slowly, the Nazi potential of resistance goes down.

And, as the enemy air force is weakened, there is the prospect of an earlier invasion. The high command, that its objectives are being won. So do the young men, though they die.

In this war there is no finer example of gallantry in fighting men than in those thousands of boys who fly the loads to Germany. The growing Eighth Air Force serves as a model for any combat unit, anywhere. Facing almost certain death or capture in the 20 missions all the men are required to make before being given leave and sent home, the crews remain steadfast to duty. Men who have watched them, living and fighting, have returned with almost lyrical words of admiration. To these few, the world of freedom owes a great debt. They, alone, are taking the war into the heart of the enemy's country.

The Suspects

A Senate Group Will Bear Watching By Every American

Keep an eye, now, on the Senate of the United States, where there is a small revolution against the people underway. Small, but still big, enough to hold an ominous threat for the future. Our future. Remember the names:

Wheeler.
Nye.
Vandenberg.
George.
Connally.

These are the leaders. They may well become our enemies, well-meaning enemies. But enemies, personal enemies to the United States, where there is a small revolution against the people underway. Small, but still big, enough to hold an ominous threat for the future. Our future. Remember the names:

As rage develops in debate over post-war aims and the course of action for this nation, which closely this little group. It is almost a big group, right now, as that band of "wild" men who defeated Wilson and brought on this second World War. And it is sure to grow. Do not forget that the House is expected to go Republican next Fall, and that the Senate is likely to have only a narrow Democratic majority. And the Republicans will fly toward the philosophy of that little group as moving to a light.

These men will bear watching. Your watching. Though hundreds of thousands of young Americans may die in battle for victory, they may still be defeated in the Senate and that it is the duty of all Americans to see that that tragedy does not come to pass.

What looked for a while yesterday

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

THIS present fight over whether the Senate shall pass a million-dollar resolution committing the country to dipping its toe vaguely into foreign operation for world peace, or shall come out with a bold, unshaken statement that we are willing to use a police force if necessary to prevent war, is the most important Senate debate in twenty years. It rivals the historic battle between Woodrow Wilson and the little band of "wild" Senators which defeated the League of Nations. The entire world is watching it.

On one side is a younger group of Senators, most of them veterans of the last war, a mixture of Republicans and Democrats who may differ on domestic matters, but are firmly united, regardless of party lines, that there must be no more war. On the other side are older men, some of them still living in the days of pre-1914 isolation. There is Hiram Johnson of California, who helped defeat Woodrow Wilson and who, shaking his white head bitterly, told the Senate:

"I am going to die. But I am going to die fighting Joe Stalin."

Then there are such unrepentant isolationists as Wheeler of Montana and Nye of North Dakota, plus Vandenberg of Michigan, who still wants to be an isolationist though terribly worried over the non-isolationist position of both Michigan business and Michigan labor. Finally, there are honest conservatives like George of Georgia and Connally of Texas, all older men whose international background got firmly fixed in the halcyon days before 1914.

The philosophy of the young "co-operators" boils down to this: It is much better to have the hand of U. S. co-operation for peace now, before the war is over, than after the armistice. They remember the bitter disappointment, the act-back to world peace after the last war.

Ball Rolling

It was Senator Joe Ball, Republican of Minnesota, who started the ball rolling. Last week he invited ten Senators to his office, pointed to the vague imbecilities of the Senate resolution on world co-operation which oligarchs were sending to the Senate floor.

Senator Pepper of Florida immediately said he considered the "elder" resolution a clever dodge by the isolationists. Hill of Alabama, Maybank of South Carolina, Bridges of New Hampshire, Hales of New Mexico, Ferguson of Michigan, plus several others, agreed. Next morning six of them met again in Ball's office, drafted a new resolution authorizing a police force for suppression of "unfriendly" aggression, putting teeth into the means for keeping world peace. Senate oligarchs and isolationists would be wild for permanent peace machinery now than let wild oligarchs block peace machinery after the war.

Empty Embassy

Argentina's new Ambassador Adrian Escobar will have a barren welcome when he arrives at the Argentine Embassy in Washington. There will be no pictures on the wall, no rugs on the floor, and no beds to sleep in. Escobar, newly appointed Ambassador to succeed pro-American Dr. Felipe A. Esquirol, doesn't know this, and probably won't learn it until he arrives to take over the Embassy and to woo American favor, which has grown so cold toward Argentina.

The Embassy is being emptied by Ambassador Esquirol in the slow process of removing his own belongings. The building belongs to the Argentine Government—but that is about all. Over the period of his twelve-year term as Ambassador, Dr. Esquirol and his charming American wife have accumulated a rare collection of household goods, which have made the Embassy one of the finest residences in town.

But when Esquirol, a devoted friend of this country, learned he was to be recalled, he ordered his stuff stored until he knew what his next post would be. Thus when Escobar arrives, he will find little to greet him except the bust of San Martin, historic Argentine hero, in the front hall.



Now For The Knockout

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON

WE are bound to have bad days in the war, as we did last week when we lost 60 Fortresses on the Schweinfurt mission that destroyed half of Germany's ball-bearing capacity. Fortunately, our Air Force Command is not discouraged by the losses, but sees rather the greater damage to Germany. We are moving forward with preparations for new and heavier blows.

Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the Army Air Forces, says that regardless of losses, he intends to continue to enlarge the Eighth Air Force. He will expand the daylight attack on Germany from the west. At the same time, Allied Headquarters are planning to start a new campaign of long-range bombing campaign into Germany from bases in Italy which will be 500 miles nearer to Germany than our North African bases. Germany now must try to defend herself from the heaviest kind of air attack from two directions.

This Germany will soon see that occasional heavy losses, severe as they may sometimes be, are not enough to reduce the overall strength of the Luftwaffe. It will come at us with some new device, although our Schweinfurt losses were caused not by new weapons, for the rocket shell had been used on us before, but by new tactics, by a new football play, so to speak. Such tricks are good ones. Now we know the play used over Schweinfurt and how to break it up.

Whereas we have an occasional bad day, the Germans are taking defeat every day everywhere. Where can they turn for the slightest hope? Their daily experience now is defeat in Russia, defeat in Italy, and day and night air attacks in their homeland. Their Japanese ally is being driven back from island to island.

The Germans have only one chance to escape.

Russia's All Ready

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

IT BEGINS to look as if there will be almost nothing for the conferees to talk about at Moscow except the bare cure of what remains on the conference table is the question of the second front. Inevitably, over the week-end, had an agreement which promises every question except that of the second front is a deliberate one.

It was a mellow editorial, written almost in the mood of one humming snatches of a wordless song. It spoke joyfully of how well Russia and the United States are getting on in their joint action on food at Hot Springs, on relief and rehabilitation on Italy, on the Mediterranean. On that point, it was almost every word, including support for a Badoglio who deposed the king.

Clearly, Mr. Hull and Mr. Eden are being put in the position of being unable to bring anything home from Moscow unless they bring agreement on the issue of the second front with them to Moscow. Russia is, obviously, giving in on almost every word, including support for a Badoglio who deposed the king.

Side Glance



Everyday Counselor

By Rev. Herbert Spough

How many people are victims of fear of the future? How much happiness has been destroyed by that fear, how many lives rushed into premature graves, no one will ever know. Mrs. Charles Cowan in "Grimace in the Desert" tells how a friend once met a poor colored woman who earned a precarious living by hand labor; but who was a joyous triumphant Christian.

"Ah, Nancy," said a gloomy Christian friend to her one day, "it is hard to be a happy man; but I should think the thoughts of your future would sober you."

"Only suppose, for instance, you should have a spell of sickness, and be unable to work; or suppose your husband should die; or suppose..."

"Stop!" cried Nancy. "I never suppose. De Lord is my Shepherd, and I know that I shall not want; and, honey, she added to her gloomy friend, "if all them 'supposes' that's making you so miserable, you'd better give 'em all up and just trust de Lord."

She then reminds us that if we "feed on his faithfulness," the fear of all the "supposes" will be taken out of the Christian's life. "He will have for his path said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

The correspondent who referred me to this story added these additional Scripture reminders: "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."... God is faithful by whom we were called unto the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ... By My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

How many know from experience the truth of the lines of the hymn: "God never yet forsook in need. The Soul that trusted Him indeed."

For personal reply address The Everyday Counselor, The Little Church On The Lane, 232 Moravian Lane, Charlotte 4, N. C., enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Irrational

This Rationing

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON

OUR food rationing system is preposterous. Under the present rulings, each person is permitted sixteen points per week to cover meat, chicken, butter, and all cooking fats. Sixteen ration points will buy one chopped round steak and one quarter pound of butter. If you can get the butter.

If you decide to have a pound of cheese, you can then allow yourself in a week a quarter of a pound of steak. You can eat beef or oil to prepare them with.

However, if you but walk out and around the corner into a restaurant, you can eat yourself into a coma on the things that are so senseless you cannot buy. You can order an eight course meal. It is possible that without your leaving for it, a pat of butter will be placed before you. You may not touch it, but under the sanctions of the rationing system, you are eating it. You can start your meal with a meat and potato, with a full pound of it will be set in front of you, dripping with fat. You can start your meal with a meat and potato, with a full pound of it will be set in front of you, dripping with fat. You can start your meal with a meat and potato, with a full pound of it will be set in front of you, dripping with fat.

Within the week I have been in two Broadway restaurants, where I was handed menu cards listing each of them, over 200 items. On a plate of assorted cold cuts, I received twice as much as I could eat. Cold roast beef, cold roast beef, and hot roast beef. Frankfurters, also rationed, can be picked up between rolls on every other street corner along Broadway. Table d'hôte meals, consisting of four courses, with the price fixed by the rationing, so that people eat more than they want, because it is cheaper to take the whole list than to order a la carte.

If you buy more than your rationed share by patronizing the Black Market, you realize that you are acting in a most unparliamentary manner, that you are acting in a most unparliamentary manner, that you are acting in a most unparliamentary manner. But all that you would not dream of buying on a Black Market unlooked, you can purchase legitimately at a restaurant table.

Your sugar ration will not permit you to make many desserts at home. You feed the children on packaged puddings. Thirty million people eat in restaurants every day. There is certainly a rationing of including liquor. One theory behind rationing is that if you had where you can buy everything you cannot bake in your own kitchen, it would be a rationing of including liquor. One theory behind rationing is that if you had where you can buy everything you cannot bake in your own kitchen, it would be a rationing of including liquor. One theory behind rationing is that if you had where you can buy everything you cannot bake in your own kitchen, it would be a rationing of including liquor.

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