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And Evening Chronicle

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No Remedy

Seizure of Railroads Not Enough Just Now

We still look unhappily upon the signs of greed which are everywhere in the land. They do not change, though they have multiplied. The same forces at work during the' coal strikes have brought trouble to the railroads, and to the steel industry. Government seizure of railroads follows the granting of pay raises to rail brotherhoods, and the President explains that he cannot afford to take the chance of interrupting the flow of war goods, in the eleventh hour before the grand offensive.

But he does not make mention of the salient fact of the new strike wave. He does not say for himself and for the people that he knows full well these strikes were born in the settlement with John L. Lewis and the coal miners. It is an obvious fact, however, that the success of Lewis and his UMW made these strikes of today inevitable—and made them inevitably successful as well.

Greed will continue to motivate workmen, even those already enjoying high-pay brackets. The time is not far off when there will be strikes in aircraft plants, and in many other war-vital industries. For Labor has not been slow to take the cue from Lewis. It is perfectly clear that the Government, on its present policy, can be defeated simply by means of strikes and strike-threats. The grievous error was made when the Government took over the coal mines, and even then failed to exert authority in the battle against inflation.

What should have been done in the coal mines should be done now in the case of railroads and steel plants. Workers should be inducted into the Army, mustered out to work at their old jobs as regular Army men. There is no means of compelling striking workers by taking over industries—unless full authority is brought to bear. If it sounds brave and fearless that the U. S. Government has seized the railroads, remember that this same move was made in the coal mines, but that it came to naught. The Administration is still sowing trouble for the future. Its labor policy is still a pitiful thing.

The End

Both Eisenhower And Hirohito Can See It

There have been, in this war, more waves and counter-waves of optimism and pessimism than in any conflict of man. These sweeping tides of public opinion have, in fact, become liabilities and assets of war as never before, and have worked their magic on men and women at home as well as fighting men on the fronts. Now there comes a new swing of deep feeling which is not to be classed with those waves. This time, our far-seeing leaders behold the end of the war in sight. There are several signs, and they are not to be dismissed as sheer optimism.

There is the prediction of so realistic a military man as General Eisenhower, saying that the war with Germany will be won in 1944. That, and no more. He does not qualify the statement at all, but speaks only for the full cooperation of Americans and British back home. From his great knowledge of the weapons and men already thrown against Germany, and the plans of attack soon to be put into motion, he feels that he can mark Germany for defeat next year.

He does not evade the issue by refusing to set any specific date, and another man in high position back home adds his opinion. Vice President Henry Wallace sees that Germany will be defeated within a "few months" after our land invasion is launched, and that the overwhelming power of our collected armies and air forces will bring the enemy to his knees quickly.

There is more news from the Pacific, from a particularly unknown source, that the situation looms exceedingly grave for Japan, Emperor Hirohito, exalted war criminal, tells his people that the war situation is very serious. His advisers, loath to tell him good news, have had no choice but to inform him of Jap losses in the war of attrition, and the great gains of young American offensives. With his words in echo, Japan takes the last step to gird herself for the end, taking over all industry remaining outside government control. For the enemy, things look bad in both huge theaters.

In Europe, our best informed leaders see the end, and know how it will come. In the Pacific, our arch-enemy sees fit to warn his people that things go badly in the fighting areas. These are not expressed opinions, but reports on reality. The American public must accept them as such, and realize as an adult nation that the victories which now loom near may be bought only at a cruel cost, and that this is no time to relax in the rational effort toward victory.

Scharnhorst

Her Death Points Way For That of Germany

The violent end of the Scharnhorst followed the grim tradition of German battleships, which always seemed doomed to death under enemy shells—or scuttling by their own crews. In the fierce engagement off of Norway, one of the few remaining remnants of Nazi sea power was lost, but that is not all.

The Scharnhorst was doubtless risked in the open sea because Germany was making a final desperate effort to choke off the flow of supplies to Russia, that she might be able to relax some of the terrific pressure from the Eastern front. Already reeling under savage air blows in the West, and shivering in apprehension of the grand offensive soon to come, the enemy was taking the only course left to her in sending her carefully hoarded battleship strength to sea.

As a landmark of the war this death of a battleship will not seem so important as the death of the Graf Spee or the Bismarck, for mounting Allied power has made the final outcome inevitable now, and there is less drama in the striking down of the Scharnhorst, almost the last of her kind. But there is surely drama in the final stand of the ship which has brought anxiety and embarrassment to Britain, queen of the waves.

In 1940, she was hit by the Renown, but survived to destroy the carrier, Glorious. Two years later, she brought a blush to the Royal Navy by her sensational escape through the Channel into the North Sea. She was a warship in her day, but like most German vessels of history, did not pay for her keep. She lies in her cold grave as a very symbol of German ruin soon to come, and in no uncertain fashion points to the end of the Nazi nation.

Inspection

F. Walker Must Know He Can't Sway Dixie

Somehow, the report that the Democratic Party is going to send Chairman Frank Walker into the South early next year brings a smile. It is denied that the Party straw boss has in mind quelling the Dixie revolt by appearing at Jackson Day dinners and showing himself in political strongholds, but the idea persists that he will attempt just that.

If he comes our way to inspect the field closely in hopes of staving off the formation of a third party, then his journey will be in vain; no such movement is in prospect, despite recent Senatorial outbursts by Josiah Bailey and company. There is surely a stirring of rebellion in the South, but that is also very noticeable in other parts of the nation.

The South is still safe for the Party, we venture, despite the fact that many thousands of Southerners are ready to vote for Willkie. We hazard the further guess that Dixie's wishes are not that a Republican Congress take over the reins for the making of peace, in spite of certain fuming against the Administration.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

YOUNG Nelson Rockefeller is a son and heir of the wealthiest man in the USA. His fathers fortune is tied up in various Standard Oil companies. One of these has had extremely rough treatment at the hands of Bolivia, which canceled outright its concession in that country. Yet, in the present Bolivian revolution, young Rockefeller, as U. S. Coordinator of Latin American Relations, has taken a stand in favor of the revolutionary Government, despite the fact that a member of the new Bolivian Cabinet, Carlos Montenegro, is author of "Standard Oil's Gold Against Bolivia's Justice."

Rockefeller takes this position despite the further fact that the State Department frowns on the new Bolivian Government; also despite the fact that the revolutionaries, according to their statements, are revolting against the tin barons of Bolivia who ordinarily would have a lot in common with Standard Oil millions. Inside the Diplomatic Corps, the Bolivian revolution is considered one of the most significant in years and of deep-rooted interest to the American public. There are two reasons:

1. The Bolivian revolt may be the forerunner of others in other Latin American countries.

2. The U. S. Goermnent is split—the State Department taking an unfavorable position; the Rockefeller office and Vice President Wallace taking a favorable one. This is the first time the State Department has found itself with another Government agency to countercheck its moves.

Tin Barons

The State Department claims that a gang of self-seeking anti-American opportunists have seized power in Bolivia. But the Rockefeller-Wallace group claim that this is a deep-rooted social economic uprising which springs from the manner in which Bolivian tin miners have been ground down by the big tin barons.

When Vice-President Wallace was in charge of the Bureau of Economic Warfare and the purchase of strategic war materials such as tin, he argued that the United States had a right to make sure that a certain percentage of the high price the USA was paying for tin was passed on to Bolivian workers, not pocketed by the tin barons. He was not very successful. Last year, a Bolivian tin strike culminated in a disastrous shooting of many tin miners by Government troops. And though President Penaranda was invited to Washington and pampered in the White House, he has just been kicked out by a revolution springing from the tin workers.

Similar systems of peonage exist in other Latin American countries, especially Peru, Ecuador and Paraguay, where there is a wide gap between peon labor and dictator Presidents. Diplomats are now wondering whether there has been too much U. S. coddling of Presidents at the top rather than reaching the masses below; and whether the good-will visits of Latin dignitaries to the White House may have been for nought.

The public doesn't know it, but it is in the secret, executive sessions of the Senate Finance Committee that Senators really take down their hair and do a little business and their friends of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. For several weeks, the Finance Committee held public hearings on the tax bill, with the record printed for everyone to read. Then they went into private session. As soon as the public was excluded, Senator Taft of Ohio produced a two-page letter from one of his big constituents, Warner & Swasey, machine-tool makers, of Cleveland.

In the letter, Warner & Swasey complained bitterly about the policy of renegotiation—in other words, scaling down excessive profits from cost-plus war contracts. These contracts had to be let in a terrific rush, many of them without either side knowing what costs would be. Hence, both the Army and Navy, together with many patriotic business leaders, have later scaled profits downward on the theory that industry should not profit from the war. However, Warner & Swasey told of the terrible injustice done to them by the Army and Navy in taking away their profits. Taft not only read the letter but added some vigorous words of his own about the Army and Navy.

In this off-the-record session, the War Department had no chance to reply. And the Senate Finance Committee did not seem interested in getting the other side of the story. However, this column is glad to print the other side of the story, taken from War Department records.

The Army's version is that Warner & Swasey made a tidy profit on the contract in question, and that the company's complaint is based on the fact that it made even more on other Government contracts. The Army also says that Warner & Swasey, in its letter to Senator Taft, failed to mention that it had received a letter from the Ordnance Department commending it for its patriotic cooperation in the matter of profits. The Army also says that Warner & Swasey, after the war, asked for a renewal of the contract on which it had been hit by renegotiation, and that the company offered full cooperation in the matter of renegotiation.

"Sure, Inflation Control Is Swell—For Him!"

—By Dorman Smith

What Do We Know?

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK,

OUR first duty to the world we live in is to know what is going on in it. And on this score we have failed dismally in respect to the Partisans of Yugoslavia. The plain truth is that we are coming into that story late in the last chapter. The movement happened, and we did not know it was happening. It grew, and we did not know it was growing.

We have been taken by surprise. The movement was so little, for so long, and now suddenly it is so big. It was a mere speck on the American consciousness for two years; it was a tiny band of bandits; now we rub our eyes and describe an army of heroes. It was nothing, now it is everything; it was our danger, now we call it our hope; it was the center of disunity, and now we find in it the promise of unity. Yesterday we condemned it without reserve; today we add it with eagerness.

I say these surprises are bad for us; that they reveal somewhere in us a blind spot, and that blind spots are bad for us.

The question I place before the house is not whether one should love the Partisans or hate them; it is the technical question of why we did not know more about them. It is perhaps a great thing that we are "hey" now; that we understand at last how the Partisans are holding down more Germans in Yugoslavia than the Allies are engaging in Italy; that British and American air forces are therefore actually carrying out missions ordered by Tito far away. Yet it would have been a greater thing if we had been hey from the beginning; if, granting the importance of this movement, we had shared in it from the start, instead of only falling upon it with joyous shouts and the cry brother, brother, now that it is complete.

So we come back to the question of knowing the world we live in. And if fear of realism, fear of Communism, kept us, not only from helping the Partisans in the earlier stage, which is a separate question, but even from seeing them, even from knowing the bare facts of who and what and how big they were, then we must, with some sense of danger, examine into this matter of our partial vision of the world.

For if we are going to shape popular movements, as we fondly tell ourselves we shall, then we must see them; and if our fears keep us from seeing them, we are not likely to shape them. To look at the world with one eye closed, or over the shoulder furtively, in perpetual agitation, rather than to look at it square and clean and straight, can be good for none of us, no matter what his politics.

Even those who dislike movements in which Communists participate should have had a special interest in knowing all about the Partisans, in seeing them with precision and accuracy; yet they were the blindest of all, they were the most convinced that the Partisans were a little band of traitors and thieves. They locked fear to themselves and imagined they were studying Yugoslavia; it was in their mirrors they discovered that Mihailovitch was the popular leader of Balkan resistance.

So I move that next time we look at what is happening, and not try to study the world by its dim reflection in our secret hearts. There was a queen once who decided, on the basis of just such a study, that the poor were stubborn for not eating cake. Her tragedy is not that she went down, but that she never knew what hit her.

Inspection Of The Army

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON

IT is not mere Monday-morning quarterbacking for the Truman Committee to be scrutinizing the Army's expensive oil project in western Canada. In wartime the Army and Navy are given almost unlimited funds and discretion. A post-mortem is the only way we have of holding Army and Navy officers to accountability. Therefore it is good democratic practice that Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell be required to explain about this $134,000,000 Canol project into which the Army rushed with scanty inquiry during the dark days of April, 1942.

At the same time investigations should make allowance for the urgency of the time hasty expenditures were undertaken. War expenditures made in our frantic mood after Pearl Harbor cannot be judged on the same basis that we would judge enterprises undertaken in calmer days. The Truman Committee was set to crucify Somervell on this oil project, but after hearing his secret testimony the committee report which was ready for publication has been delayed until after New Year.

Not only in this much disputed Canol project but in many other expenditures, such as the overbuilding of small-arms ammunition capacity and aluminum capacity, we must remember that we have been in a race with time.

In the Spring of 1942 the Japs were driving everywhere. They had taken most of the western Pacific. This Canol project, for instance, was decided upon just after Bataan fell. Dutch East Indies oil was gone. Our tanker situation was desperate. That very week the German submarine campaign forced us to suspend tanker traffic along the Atlantic Coast. It was a question how soon the Japs might interfere with our traffic along the West Coast.

Not until we won the battle of Midway a few weeks later did we feel safe about holding the Hawaiian Islands. There was little time. Regardless of cost, regardless of possible mistakes, we had to move with haste in all directions. In that period many things were done that at any other time would be without excuse. The Canol oil project may have been one of these.

On the other hand we may have lucked into something there. Gen. Somervell says an enormous oil field has been discovered through that operation, the biggest strike in fifteen years and second only to the East Texas field. There has been some hesitation about disclosing this during current negotiations with Canada over postwar rights in the project. Some possible uses for that oil in the event of certain military developments are in the minds of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Secret considerations make it impossible to discuss publicly the potential military value of an oil development in the western Canadian area.

"It used to be the tires he wore out, but now look what's happening since he got big enough to wear my shoes!"

Labor Is Unwise

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON

WITHOUT going into the details of the steel and railroad disputes, which are threatening strikes, one may comment upon developments which, in the long run, are likely to work out badly for labor. It is impossible for any group of war workers to claim that they are badly off at this moment. One merely has to observe American life at this holiday season. Never has there been such buying. The department stores from one end of the country to the other are practically sold out.

One cannot attribute this to inflation, for inflation is not an increase of sold goods, but an increase in prices. The buying is in all quarters, but what counts in bulk and turnover is never the rich but the masses of the people. If depressions occur not because of the poverty of the rich but because of lack of purchasing power by the workers, the reverse is also true—buying booms are caused by workers' prosperity.

As one wishes to see a high standard of living maintained and improved by American workers over the next decades, one may question whether they are not now preparing their own undoing. For there is a growing anti-labor sentiment among the men in the fighting forces. A high percentage of these are workers, but their conviction is that they themselves have broken with the bargaining tradition for the duration. For those of them who have gone through the terrible campaigns in the South Pacific, North Africa, Sicily, and Italy, America is a paradise, in comparison with their own way of life, and in comparison with the standard of living of all the people they see around them—and this is true whether they are fighting in Italy or stationed in Britain.

A long letter that came to my hand recently from Italy, written by a CIC member in good standing, is not at all untypical. He says, "All of us here were mad enough about John L. Lewis and the coal strikes, even though recognizing that gainers have, in the past, been underpaid and engaged in hard and dangerous work. But the currently threatened railroad transportation strike is the last straw. Is it proposed that we fight the war without food and ammunition? The railroaders, we read, are desperately unhappy about their 84 cents an hour? Why? Because shipworkers get $1.32. Will they get mad next because a surgeon earns more than 84 cents to perform an hour's operation?

"They are also plagued by 'long hours' and 'sub-standard living conditions.' Our hearts bleed for them. However, since all strikers apparently get whatever they want, we, as an unofficial soldiers' union, submit the following contract:

"One dollar and 38 cents an hour for a 48-hour week. Time and half overtime. We submit that besides the occupational diseases of soldiery, such as death, maiming, shock insanity, and chronic malaria, we have outrageous hours, on call 24 hours a day, never knowing in advance what is free time, war at night and in foul weather, and in combat, lucky to get three or four hours sleep a night.

Dread Cancer

Editors, THE NEWS:

Permit me to refer to your trenchant editorial re Lippard, Oct. 13th, current:

"There are men Mecklenburg who are willing to bet that the Lippards will never serve on the roads. If these men are right, our court system needs a thorough overhauling."

Hooker, "Ecclesiastical Polity": 'Of law there can be no less acknowledged than that her seat is in the bosom of God; her voice the harmony of the world."

This is fearfully true, but the converse is fearfully true, also, that the growing degradation and prostitution of our law and justice must have its seat in the bosom of the Devil, whose voice is the disharmony and ruin of the world. The Empires of the East vanished because justice was bought and sold and even the very land itself seemed to be cursed.

I wonder if the mass of our people understand the implications of what follows?

1. Former Chief Justice Hughes: "The administration of criminal justice in our country is a disgrace to civilization."

2. Hiram C. Todd, special prosecutor in the infamous Druckman case (New York City), one of the most shocking in our history: "I cannot see that any one man or group can break the alliance between crime and politics in our movement. You must have an honest judiciary, and under our system of selecting judges this is almost impossible." The recent Aurelio case is to the point.

3 Governor Dewey, New York Times, Nov. 29, 1941: charges the judiciary controlled by two or three men who select and elect judges . . . politics still dominate General Sessions, the Supreme Court benches and others."

4. David C. Lewis, Municipal Justice, 7th District, New York City, rejected and defeated by Tammany because he refused to promise "to consult" certain Tammany cases with that organization. He refused to sell his soul, defeat followed.

5. Professor William McDougal who died in Durham, N. C. a few years ago: "As I watch the American nation speed gaily with invincible optimism down the road to destruction I seem to be contemplating the greatest tragedy in the history of mankind."

6. Professor Williams spoke of "The danger of moral flatuancy born of exclusive worship of the Bitch-goddess success."

Who may gainsay the witness of these men?

We have a Grand Jury 90,000,000 strong anxious to know the truth. Who will give that Grand Jury the truth as a means of solving our problem?

Having in mind the New York Times' widespread exposure of the failure to teach American history in our schools and colleges, it is pertinent to inquire how many of our people are familiar with American Traditions, American Ideals and America's destiny.

Mr. Elmer Davis, Chief, O.W.I., "The Democracies have a good story to tell and they ought to tell it." By all means.

Is exposure alone sufficient? In our danger fundamental, due to any weakness in our form of government? Our best men will not run around hat in hand asking for votes; the second rate will and do. I do not mean for a moment that this class is tricky and dishonest, but they lower the tone of public service. With an annual crime bill of 15 billions; our immense debt and the permanent increased cost of a much greater army, navy and air service, we need something drastic to awaken us to our shortcomings. They will not heal themselves.

J. W. HAMILTON.

Charlotte.

Notes

Continued from page one

Clay is the son of Lucius D. Clay, chief of the Army's Services of Supply and is his top aide. He is a West Point graduate and has served with Army engineers in the Philippines and Panama. He is a veteran of 22 years in the Army, and has been in the reserve for two years.

Jock's greatest aversions are cigarette smoke and liquor. The fliers tease him by blowing smoke in his face but he gets even when he gets to perch on a shoulder. He gives back as a little nip—just enough to let them know he doesn't want any more nonsense.

"We used to give him water from a spoon," said Clark, "but one day someone put brandy in it. Jock would never touch a spoon after that. Now he drinks out of a glass."

Lift Strict Air Rules

Drastic war-time restrictions on civilian local flying into and out of non-military airports largely were eliminated by a Civil Aeronautics Administration order announced here today by M. D. Clinton, senior CAA inspector for the Carolinas.

Cross-country flights still are subject to limited regulation, and civilian flights into areas over military defense areas remain subject to practically unchanged regulations.

Mr. Clinton said civilian airports are released from the requirement that constant armed guard be maintained. Also, airport managers are required only to ensure themselves that a flier has his American citizenship papers and pilot license—and these fliers may fly without regulation in the vicinity of their home ports. However civilian pilots on cross-country trips must be recorded by each airport at which a landing is made en route.

At the Douglas municipal airport near Charlotte, operated by the Morris Field Army Air Base, planes landing and taking off there are required to possess two-way radio sets and the pilots must comply with orders from the Army's control tower there, Mr. Clinton said. Like regulations apply to airports under military control anywhere in the United States, he added.

The CAA still requires that any civilian airport must meet minimum physical requirements before it will be designated officially for use by the public. This was described as a "safety measure".

Red Cross To Get Building

The new Red Cross Building which will serve the hospital at Camp Sutton is nearing completion, and will be ready for a formal opening and dedication some time the early part of January, Phil Wulfie, chairman of the Camp and Hospital Council of the American Red Cross, said today.

"We're working now," said Mr. Wulfie, "to give the building a warm, home-like atmosphere. We are buying a few pieces, electric refrigerator, electric stove, venetian blinds, drapes, and scatter rugs. We want the center to be everything a sick boy needs to boost his morale."

The building, which has been under way since Fall, includes a nice-sized auditorium, stage, offices for the Red Cross personnel, and guest rooms for parents of seriously ill soldiers.

National Red Cross and military officials are expected to be present for the opening.

"Why, certainly, I read that book on 'Home Repairs' you gave me—I found out the cheapest method is to call an expert!"