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And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1943

Behind-Scenes

State Department Abets Pacific Lend-Lease War

Now that the excitement over Admiral Standley's trumpeting from Russia has subsided somewhat, it is possible to look back at the affair, and wonder at the jumpy nerves of the State Department. By marshalling considerable incidental intelligence, it is possible to assemble a pattern and to get a much closer look at the relations between Russia, Japan and the United States.

The scattered reports on Lend-Lease as a weapon of war included these:

1. Edward Steinitz disclosed that big shipments were being made by air and water from Pacific ports. 2. Pres. Roosevelt, signing the Lend-Lease renewal, said, in part: "Lend-Lease is helping to force the unity that will be required to make a just and lasting peace." His strong words pictured Lend-Lease as a real weapon of war and peace. 3. Further disclosure on Lend-Lease shipments in the Pacific has it that Japan probably knows all about U. S. shipments past her doors to Russia, and has deliberately refused to interfere with them.

In it any wonder, under the circumstances, that the State Department jumped sky-high when Admiral Standley slipped up behind and blasted forth with his charges? Is there any doubt that Washington is indirectly playing father to the Japanese non-aggression pact by shipping goods through the Pacific? This is practical diplomacy in wartime.

If shipping goods to Russia past the enemy's ports unmolested is reminiscent of pre-war shipments of oil and scrap iron to Japan, it is a foreboding omen. This time, the policy which sounds like appeasement is buying real value. Lend-Lease through the Pacific is the way to eventual victory.

Too Little

Library Appropriation Not Enough To Help the State

The mental health of a populace is not one of your dramatic problems. When educational facilities are lacking to supplement the school system, there is no great upsurge. A great many citizens may stand blank of mind and open of mouth before their fellows, but such as these bring forth no crisis. The destiny of a people may be directly traced to its means of offering knowledge to the public, but few men of any society concern themselves with this. Such facilities are libraries. In North Carolina as in every other state they offer a priceless means of bridging gaps in the educational system. But here they lack public attention.

The General Assembly, providing for libraries, appropriated \$125,000 per year for the biennium—an increase of \$25,000 a year. But the increase was so slight, with needs so great, that the libraries of the State will scarcely notice the difference. North Carolina stands forty-third in the matter of per capita expenditures for public library services, and forty-fourth in the number of volumes per capita. Twenty-three per cent of the population is without library service—well over 800,000 people. The state rank in library service will not be advanced by the Assembly's appropriation, and in the years to come it must be greatly increased. North Carolina is surrounded by states with surer records, but ours is poor enough. There is the feeling among library workers of the State that these institutions will be unable to fulfill their educational obligation. They make the point that, in a day when ideas are thought to be man's most powerful guiding force, it is all-important that the libraries should offer ever-greater service.

The Beginning

Senate Committee Gets Jump On Peace With League Plan

The people of the United States will do well to keep a sharp eye on the progress of the Senate resolution for the formation of a bigger, stronger League of Nations after victory. That paper the Senators carried to the White House Sunday may well come to be the most important piece of paper of our generation. It may be, perhaps, even more vital to the future welfare of the world than the peace which is to precede it. If that paper is not written now, or is not wisely amended,

then the third world war is in the making. That resolution means the casting of the die.

For the United States must take the lead in the building of a tougher post-war League to guard against international gangsterism and safeguard the peaceful democracies. And the U. S. lead will be sung by the Senate, as the peace-making, policy-directing body. That the initiative in the attempt to outline a new League in advance came from the Senate, and not from the Executive, is an encouraging sign. It is of less importance, just now, that the President approved it only tentatively, and that Senator Connally was not satisfied with the first draft. This paper's very existence is reason enough for rejoicing.

This time, the nation has long ago determined, there must be an intelligent effort to keep the peace; this time we may fall again as another generation failed, but there must be at least an effort with a chance of success. Most Americans believe such an effort will entail the establishment of an extremely powerful international police force, probably to be dominated by U. S. and British troops. Most of them probably believe that Germany, Italy and Japan must be literally torn asunder, deprived of power for future aggression, and watched like criminals forever—and not for just a few years.

There is a tendency in Washington, expressed by the President, to be wary of specific proposals and state the U. S. position to the United Nations only in generalities. So far as that goes, all right; but let ally and enemy alike understand that this time the United States will not only enter the League of Nations—it will forever remain as the most dynamic power, and an eternal source of support. This time the opportunity must not be muffed. World War Three looms ahead plainly enough despite all such attempts. Our guarantees must be as forceful as possible. The Senate committee has begun well.

One Answer

Russians Slow Down; An Invasion Could Save Them

The slowdown of the Russian offensives or the recovery of the Nazi divisions around Kharkov, holds grave threats for the favorable course of our war. That the Germans, under their generals now, and not under Adolph the amateur, are faring so well as to be able to retake a vital strong point in the middle of a line of battle is ominous. The seizure of Kharkov, if proven to be true, may well mean the initiative when they desire.

Such a turning of the tide at a time when the Red Armies are exhausted and the bulk of Russian power has been thrown at the enemy may mean that the Nazi aim of destroying the Russian Army is again on the German schedule. With such a point as Kharkov to spring the new drive from the weather clears, the Nazi generals are suddenly in a strong position, despite their cruel losses of past months.

The changing fortunes of war as seen in that one battle are a warning to the United Nations that the time for striking is now; that Hitler must not be allowed to strike again at Russia. On the Continent, somewhere, perhaps in many places, British-American Armies will strike. Whatever the cost, they must strike soon, both to forestall another German drive, and to capitalize on the destruction being sown from the skies. To guarantee that we will not lose the past months' work, the often-expressed fears, invasion must come soon. It is the one way to neutralize the news from Kharkov.

In our revised dream of a post-war world we see Clare Luce in the role of Pauline Revere, and three lanterns ready to hang in the steeple. If the British come by air.

If things get tougher, there is talk of merging some of our universities for the duration, though even this may not always bring together a dependable backfield.

Washington, keeping inflation within bounds, is somehow reminding of the committee which used to see that Houdini was securely nailed in the dry-goods box.

Future Prime Minister

Welcome To America, Anthony Eden

By Dorothy Thompson

IN WELCOMING the British Foreign Secretary to our shores we probably are welcoming a future Prime Minister of Great Britain. The confidence of the British people in Anthony Eden has grown greatly since his first visit here in 1938. This is due to the fact that Mr. Eden was right, when he said that the British people were not ready to go to war with Germany. He was right, and that when burdened with tremendous responsibilities he became steady and strong.

When Mr. Eden first visited us in 1938, the American public thought of him as "the best-dressed man in England." One might say that one saw clothes—the clothes of the country that for generations has decided "what the well-dressed man will wear." One saw Eden College and "the old school tie." One saw a man of great charm, almost, some people thought, too much charm. These have been Mr. Eden's handicaps in this rough, harsh, fighting world.

These impressions recede into the background when one sees him today. Mr. Eden is the youngest Foreign Secretary that England has known in modern times, but the impression he now makes is neither of elegance nor youth. One sees a man—a strong and obstinate man. The charm is native and inextinguishable. Quiet intensity of purpose overshadows it. The character that was always in him is now obvious. He is not a "changed" man. But he has developed enormously, more obviously than any statesman whom I can call to mind.

Character is not simply an inherited gift. It is earned and developed by suffering, fear, frustration, resignations without embitterment and without ever losing faith or losing sight of a purpose. It is developed under heavy responsibility.

WASHINGTON
Mr. Eden has it. And in a show-down character counts more than the English than any other single quality. This is the source of Mr. Eden's popularity. People know they can depend on him.

Mr. Eden is also almost the sole representative amongst British statesmen of the "lost generation." . . . that generation of young men who fought in the first lines of the last war and had their ranks so terribly decimated. Britain, like France, has had to depend for the most part on leaders from a previous generation—men over 60—on young men who have come up since the last war. This is one of the tragedies of Europe, and this has been the generations account for much that has happened in Europe. Mr. Eden belongs to that generation who won the last war and saw what they fought for lost. They may depend upon it that they will not see that happen again, he can help it. He owes a debt to comrades whose bones are dust.

In 1934, when he was 35 years old, he became the youngest member of the British Government. In subsequent years he became acquainted personally with all the leaders of Europe. He was the first British statesman to visit Stalin. As a consequence, he became the leading advocate in the British Cabinet of the League and collective security. He was fighting for peace—not by appeasement, but by closing the ranks of those who desired peace. Early in 1938—the date was Feb. 26—when he saw that his policy was lost, he resigned from the Cabinet. His resignation opened the way for British tolerance of the Austrian annexation by Hitler, and for much later, the hysterical welcoming of Chamberlain and Daladier back from Munich, with "peace for our times," his was one strong, dis-

senting voice. He changed the phrase to "Peace for Six Months."

His hour struck again, not six months, but a year later. Eden, arriving in Washington, is meeting other strong characters who have developed through other careers. The major ambassadors of the leading United Nations in Washington are more than ordinary career diplomats. Mr. T. V. Soong, who is sort of Ambassador at large for the Republic of China, is China's Foreign Minister. Mr. Litvinov, Foreign Minister during most of the history of the Soviet Union, is Russia's outstanding advocate of reconciliation with the Western democracies and collective security. As a matter of fact, his temporary resignation from Soviet affairs and subsequent reinstatement almost parallels Eden's career, and the two were inter-related.

It may be expected that other personalities representative of the smaller United Nations will join this illustrious gathering. We should not, however, look for sensational headlines from this conference. It is not meeting to make dramatic decisions. It is a sober exploratory conference over problems of postwar political and economic reconstruction. It is a spade-work for the future.

Such conferences are becoming a normal part of the war. They are part of the process of creating the climate in which honest differences can be ironed out. None of the leading men at this conference has any reason to distrust another. Mr. Eden, for all the traditionalism of his members, definitely belongs to that new Britain that discards the evolutionary spiral of history, and, far from opposing it, affirms it and assists to direct it.

Relativity

—By Dorman Smith



Attention, People Security Is For You

By Samuel Crafton

NEW YORK
The occultists are going to have a holiday with the new social security plan. ("One newspaper, to my knowledge, was on the streets within four hours after the plan was announced, proclaiming it to be a scheme for Government control of industry.") The American plan is a youth-to-old-age plan, emitting the fascinating events which occur at both extremes of the life-process.

So, I shall devote my initial notes on the subject, if I may, to de-obscuring it.

First, the American plan is not a "radical-to-the-grave" social security scheme, though it is already being called that. Unlike the English (Beveridge) plan, it provides neither for maternity benefits nor for funeral expenses.

Second, the American security plan is not one plan at all, but two separate plans, heretofore referred to as Plan A and Plan B.

Plan A is a plan for post-war demobilization. This is the plan which has been described as a bid for Government "control" of industry. Actually, if you read the fine print, you discover it is not a plan to have the Government take control of factories, but a plan to enable the Government to get rid of war factories which it owns right now, this minute. It is a plan to get the Government out of private industry, to describe that as a plan to put the Government in business is obscuring, sure enough.

Plan A proposes that some of the factories are to be sold to private enterprise, as quickly as possible. To encourage competition, they are not to be sold to the largest units already operating in each field. They are to be placed in as many hands as possible. Is that hateful?

In some basic fields, such as production of aluminum and other metals, shipbuilding, etc., corporations are to be formed to run the war-built plants with the Government owning some of the stock. That

does not mean the Government will enter into these business fields. It is in them now. It means turning publicly-owned properties over to corporate management without selling out the Government interest for pennies.

Well, you may like this, or you may not like it, but remember that all this is in Plan A, and there is no point in carrying a hate against part of Plan A over into Plan B, which is entirely separate and is concerned with social security.

(At this point I have the most helpless feeling, that I haven't been able to indicate even the chapter heads of Plan A. Its noble arguments against dumping ex-soldiers on the streets; its concept of dismissal pay for workers whose war jobs end; its proposals to assist business in converting back to peace production; its concern with vocational re-education; its proposals for special tax-exempt corporate reserves, to be built now, for peace-conversion expenditure later. And if I have the feeling that all this rounds out, this thoughtless is hard to communicate, what feeling must the authors of the plan have, as they watch it being batted around in five-letter headline words? Will the whole country be able to peer beneath the digests of the digests of the plan? It is like a national intelligence test, grim and unrelenting. What is what makes it a holiday for occultists.)

Now about Plan B. The major feature of Plan B (again, I am skipping like crazy) is an extension of unemployment insurance. The point to be remembered is that this feature is self-canceling. It is a plan to be built now, for peace-conversion expenditure later. And if I have the feeling that all this rounds out, this thoughtless is hard to communicate, what feeling must the authors of the plan have, as they watch it being batted around in five-letter headline words? Will the whole country be able to peer beneath the digests of the digests of the plan? It is like a national intelligence test, grim and unrelenting. What is what makes it a holiday for occultists.)

Instead of giving the future unemployment speeches about the fourth freedom, it says how about \$12.65 a week, whatever. What a nice, fresh breeze. And it's growing lighter, isn't it?

M. Jeffers.

Every thinking American must realize that our belt tightening process has just begun. Luxuries will disappear from the American scene, and after these marginal things which are useful in peacetime but serve no great purpose in the "grim business" of war.

Manpower Director Paul V. McNutt.

Americans must continue to mobilize her resources, striking power and talent, not in using it without scruple in the service of freedom, but in the defense of the individual rights of human personality. —The Rev. Edmund Welch of Georgetown, U. S.

Elementary

U. S. & England

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
AS THE British and ourselves sit down to talk it over—especially through Anthony Eden and Cordell Hull—we should do so on one ring in our ears. If the British and ourselves can't get along together, then the idea of any real co-operation among nations must be given up as a hopeless dream.

If two such reasonable and civilized men as the British Foreign Minister and our Secretary of State personifying the spirit of mutual accommodation cannot find themselves in basic agreement, how can men could do it? If our two nations can't do it, how can we find any other nations to work with? Our security and Britain's security demand a close Anglo-American understanding.

Two wars in our time have demonstrated to Great Britain that she is not strong enough alone to protect her interests. She has had to have the help of the United States in both instances. No other nation can serve as a substitute for us in this regard. Because Britain is an island power, depending upon trade and activities all over the world, she must have naval and air strength spread around to protect those interests. We are the only power with such a spread, the only nation that will have the strength in the Pacific.

On our side, it is clear that we cannot protect ourselves in the Atlantic without the help of Great Britain. That forward base must be in friendly hands. We must have the appetite shore of the Atlantic in friendly hands. This war has shown the necessity that further development of the British Empire in the Atlantic will make the case even stronger. If the Nazis were now in Dakar, in Liberia, on the Gold Coast, and if the Nazis were in control of the Atlantic islands, or if they were only in England, the submarine threat as we have known it in the last year would be multiplied many fold and our trouble would not be limited to sinking of merchantmen, with almost no loss of our own importance of the British Isles to our military security is elementary in all of our military planning, but politically it is not as clear as that, for instance, the importance of the Panama Canal is.

All of that is on the basis that there won't be any real United Nations organization, and that it will be all chance standing on its own and protecting its front and rear by alliances and whatever other methods seem necessary.

If there is to be a real United Nations, then the collaboration of the United States and Great Britain as the two largest democratic forces in it is essential. For if these two nations, alike in language, alike in political outlook, so closely related by blood and history, cannot sit together, any United Nations organization is doomed to fatal division inside, and its democratic future would be so seriously endangered, vision inside, and its democratic future would be so seriously endangered.

After the last war Germany played France and England against each other and was able to work herself back to threaten the whole Western world. If we do not continue our joint efforts, our staff, our other joint committees through which our efforts are pooled, we shall be inviting some day to see the same power to be used to extend its power. We shall have severe competition with Great Britain in shipping after the war. While our private ships will be good for little except as standby reserves, others of our wartime ships will be competitive ships. Our commercial airplanes will compete with British air interests. We shall compete with many foreign markets. The Ottawa agreements are not acceptable to America's interest.

But this competition cannot be allowed to force the two countries apart so that each will stand isolated and in potential danger. That would weaken our situation, whether there is to be a real United Nations or nothing of that kind. The jungle has to go. We have to compete—as we do here in the American way—without allowing our competition to destroy our strength and security.

Visitin' Around

Nah, Nah, You're Just Bein' Havin' Too Much Propaganda (King's Rock item, Lenox News-Topic)

Yeh, But Who's The Nurse? (Cottrell Hill item, Lenox News-Topic) Miss Jessie Lee has gone to Lincoln to take training for a nurse.

Side Glances



Since you quit serving meals out of cans, I'm reminded of our early married days—I'm finding out all over again what a good cook you are!