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And Evening Chronicle

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• W. C. Dowd, 1865-1927 •

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Coming Events

Possible Thrust at Spain May Pay for American Oil

Now that the time of suspense has come to our war, and great offensives appear to be poised in many theaters, we find the perfect time to request silence of the armchair strategists who make themselves heard above the rising crescendo of battle. Now, when the destiny of nations may be gambled hourly upon some daring new stroke, we could use even the appearance of unity at home. This silence would be particularly golden just now in the case of Spain and the State Department's oil; here, criticism is ill-timed.

There has been an uproar over the revelation that Franco's Axis-loving Spain was receiving large shipments of U. S. oil while our own people suffered for lack of fuel—a sharp criticism of our Dollar Diplomacy, watered with appeasement. In normal times, true enough, there might be questions. Now, they serve no useful purpose. At any moment the Iberian Peninsula might erupt, and blaze with a new spreading of the war, and new military problems outdate the argument over our exported oil.

A New York reporter, back from Lisbon, said that he would not be surprised by a German invasion of Portugal this time, and that it was certain to come soon. In that case, an invading Hitler must also send troops into Spain, if only as protection for his rear. Whether or not Spain resisted, such an invasion would present the United Nations with the opportunity of launching a counter-blow by way of Gibraltar, aimed at opening a road into the Continent itself. In any event, such a move would result in Allied occupation of Morocco, perhaps the city of Algiers and the Azores as well.

The possibilities of flaring action in Spain and Portugal may have long since directed the course of our efforts in Tunisia. Perhaps we have hesitated to become too heavily engaged, so that we might be free to strike in a new direction when the time came. Perhaps, too, the hard fight by Rommel at Thala and increased German activity in Northern Tunisia were attempts by Hitler to clear the way for his move into Spain. The possibilities are great and exciting—and from a military standpoint, the importance of gaining time and carrying favor with Axis-inclined Spain outweighs any possible objection to the policy.

After all, residents of the Eastern seaboard would utter few complaints if they were convinced their suffering would help their men in the field. They may rest assured that, despite all other considerations, oil for Franco is purely and simply a military maneuver designed to make easier the coming days of our fighting men. It may be that the oil policy which appears as an outrage to some Americans, also is looked upon in the same way by Hitler.

Hankie-Head

Critic Brown Gets a Barrage Of Fire From His Brethren

Dr. Warren Brown, the Negro spokesman who heaped criticism upon the press of his race in a recent article for *Saturday Review of Literature* (and *Readers Digest*) is being savagely attacked by Negro groups from all parts of the country. This, apparently, is to be the answer of radical groups claiming to speak for the race to any suggestions of sanity by Negroes themselves. Brown has been branded as a "handkerchief head"—an Uncle Tom, or one who toadies to the white race.

A wild Chicago Negro paper, *The Defender*, opened the campaign, urging readers to send Brown bandannas through the mails, that all might see him as the object of scorn of his race. The campaign, of course, was conceived and carried out by the irresponsible Negro press attacked by Brown in his searching article.

Let it be said, in the midst of increasing criticism of the Negro question, that the gains on the "Negro question" that the gains on the "Negro question" already rapidly improving its position are foredoomed to failure so long as they are advanced by outside interests, and voiced through a rag-tag propaganda machine. It will be called a press, And, so long as the interests of the American Negro are expressed by leaders who frenziedly attack those of their own kind who dare to offer a word of self-criticism.

The campaign against Warren Brown

substantiates our belief that the time for consideration of wide gains by Negroes or any other group is not now. This war is being fought for freedom, true enough, but cannot be fought in the midst of many little wars for group privilege.

Offensive

Bombing Already Clears Way For Invasion Soon To Come

Let it not be forgotten that the great bombing raids continue to pound the Third Reich, and its vassal states by day and night. This offensive, though others threaten to open all across the world, continues as the most significant of them all. This is the time Hermann Goering promised would never come. Now, as the destruction once dealt to London is returned a hundred-fold, is the test of Germany and her people.

Soon, to be sure, land armies must blast into the huge fortress to bring freedom; but they could not quickly win their victory without the big bombers above who are daily and nightly softening the way. It cannot be said too often that in these times, now, the war is being won. With every crashing blow against industrial Germany, or against communications centers, or against the morale of the people themselves, victory comes the nearer. With the coming of round-the-clock tactics airmen could rejoice that their test was now being made; it would be seen if Germany could be bombed to its knees. But when the test finally came, something else was more important. The question is not whether bombing can finish Germany, but whether it can clear the way for invasion in March, the month of invasions. The die is being cast in the skies, now.

Deduction

Withholding Tax Brings Only Partial Relief to Taxpayer

Now it appears that Congress, unwilling to go whole hog in tax reform despite the loud pleas of the oppressed populace, is going to let us off at a cut-rate, 50 per cent, well-watered "Rumini Sort of a Junior Edition of the Forgiving a dime," one step short of the simple statement of slipping a garnish notice in each pay envelope. The 20 per cent withholding tax, at least embodying the principle of Beardley Ruml's plan, is a great boon to Americans, but is going to be a little late for most of them.

Though this has been a year when money poured freely and incomes shot higher than ever, the great bulk of tax to make easier the coming days of our fighting men. It may be that the oil policy which appears as an outrage to some Americans, also is looked upon in the same way by Hitler.

Under the present program (and it appears almost certain of passage about as it stands) taxpayers must pay at least their March and June installments, and may finish up the debt with weekly or monthly salary deductions beginning July 1. At the end of the year, settlement and adjustment may be made, and the bill will be paid for 1942. Later, Chairman Bob Doughton says, something will be done about bringing the Government's customers up to date. The claim that some 70 per cent of the nation's taxpayers will go on current basis in July is, of course, not quite true. We will only be headed in that direction.

To citizens who have stubbornly and hopefully waited and refused to pay their taxes in advance, this should be a relief. The least we can get away with is a quarterly payment, on March 15. That must be followed in June with an identical payment. And after July, Uncle Sam will do the job himself, with an over-all withholding tax to include Victory Tax. And it must be forgotten that even this measure does not complete the Congressional tax job. The President has called for new revenues for war, and the little man must pay.

In the indoor games department, the return of jigsaw puzzles of well-known paintings is reported. This is where you put the parts together to show Whittier's mother crossing the Delaware.

Rickenbacker's Influence

He Divides Americans At Home

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON. CAPTAIN RICKENBACKER'S speeches are of an astory nature. Far from contributing to the morale of workers in war plants, they are riling them exceedingly. Their effect is to divide the nation three ways—into workers versus other classes, and into soldiers versus civilians. Such division is dangerous. It gives rise to suspicion and distrust, and puts the Army apart from the population into a separate class.

Our war effort is inadequate. The realities of the war have not yet come home to the American people, perhaps because it is so far away. But to put the blame on one section of the population is the best way to incite that section to answer by putting the blame on another. So instead of consolidating and enhancing the effort, we create disunity and fear.

Captain Rickenbacker, who is doing this—I am sure unconsciously—is the President of an aviation corporation. As such he has no mandate to speak for anybody except his corporation. He claims that he speaks for himself alone. But this is not the content of his speeches. He pretends to speak for the soldiers at the front. And he is organizing an American Legion in absentia. While the men are fighting in Africa and the Pacific, he is organizing their lives for them upon their return. He is planning that they shall be used to break the trade union system.

The President is also doing some planning for the returned soldiers. He believes that the soldiers are concerned with social security after this war, and with an economic system that assures full employment. He is trying, meanwhile, to keep labor organization intact and strong until they return. Captain Rickenbacker is proposing a subversion of

this system, that would work out wholly in the interests of the managerial and owning groups, which, by the nature of the war have become more concentrated and powerful.

I have been told that there are 1,000,000 trade union members in the American Army. It is certain that the Army, as a whole, is composed of workers, for they are the most numerous part of our population. The men in the bell-holes doing the fighting are not largely corporation executives. They are mostly the sons of American workers. It is questionable whether they are becoming more and more rugged individualists. I sincerely hope not, for the sake of the war. Modern war is fought by teamwork. The picture presented by Captain Rickenbacker of the lone eagle aloft and fighting on his own up there, is bunkum. The pilot who fights on his own gets court-martialed. He is up there as part of a plan and part of a team.

What I guess is changing in the soldier's is a growing conviction that the individualism of every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost is not going to work any more. He is getting a sense of common discipline—discipline in behalf of a community, the nation, and in behalf of a community of nations. Certainly when he comes back to the nation which he has risked his life to protect, he will demand a share in the wealth of that nation. And nothing he has learned in his life at the front will convince him that he can get that share by "rugged individualism." And he certainly won't get it if he is aligned against the workers who were kept home.

Captain Rickenbacker's complaints are all class conscious. He objects to workers profiting on the war, but there is profiteering on this war, in many places. One difficulty in putting a ceiling on wages is that the workers know perfectly

well that in many war industries the executives have upped their salaries enormously. Captain Rickenbacker does not believe in restrictions on these salaries because he says that it destroys incentive and initiative. Is incentive only to be found in executives?

Workers are saving money as they have never done before. They are investing in war bonds; in insurance policies and in homes. They are moving out of the proletariat, and approaching a middle-class standard. And they are the families of men at the front. That is a long view of the stability of a democratic society, is this not a good thing? Why is Captain Rickenbacker afraid of this development? It is assuring his own position.

Captain Rickenbacker's plans for a new world are in sharpest contrast to the situation in Britain, where the Beveridge report finds strongest support among "the men in battle dress."

We would do well to learn from Britain about how to deal with absenteeism. The problem requires, not agitation, but conscientious study, and the designing of social and psychological measures to remedy it.

British Ordnance factories keep continually in touch with the workers and their complaints through shop councils—for which trade unions are essential; they have vastly improved the quality of personnel management; increased morale through collective hot lunches, shifts in the burdens of monotonous and demanding work, exercises in relaxation, and the creation of an affectionate sense of community.

There is no indication from any of Captain Rickenbacker's speeches that he has ever taken the time thoroughly to familiarize himself with the social and psychological aspects of the problem or with experience.

Nostalgia

—By Herblock



We Begin To Move

The United Nations Unite

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON. THE first rudimentary machinery of the United Nations apparently is about to come into existence. We learn from the significant Toronto address of Sumner Welles, Undersecretary of State, that the United Nations are about to undertake discussions with other members of the United Nations.

Secretary Welles, like many others, feels that it is dangerous to delay in creating machinery through which the United Nations can work after the war. The start toward that, as indicated in his Toronto address is to be a most tentative and modest one.

The proposal in hand now is that the United Nations should set up machinery for the purpose of assembling and studying all international aspects of the problem of freedom from want. In this proposed study of how to achieve freedom from want, questions of re-employment after the war, of trade relations, gold and currency problems, and international investment should be examined.

Evidently this is what President Roosevelt had in mind the other day when he told his press conference that he was going to call a meeting of the United Nations conference was under consideration to discuss plans for post-war international food supply problem, and to prevent famine and suffering. Now it appears that the program actually is broader than that of food supply alone.

By Tom Jimison In Richmond County Journal

AN Army private walked into the lobby of the Clift Hotel a few nights ago and asked for a room.

"I'm sorry," said the clerk, "but all there is left is one large double room with twin beds."

The disappointed private was about to try some other place, when the clerk said: "Wait a minute. With him was a bellboy carrying several pieces of heavy luggage."

"May I have a room, please?" he asked the clerk.

The clerk repeated that the hotel was full, except for the double room.

The Colonel glanced along the desk and noticed the private just as he was turning to go. He hesitated a moment. Then he said:

"How about you, son? Have you got a place to sleep?"

The private snapped to attention, "No, sir," he answered.

"Will you double up with me?" asked the Colonel. "I would be very happy to sir," replied the private.

The Colonel signed the register, motioned to the private and together the two, the officer and the soldier, walked toward the elevator. The Colonel smiling to himself, asked the private: "Is this your first time in the hotel?" "Yes, sir," he replied. "I'm glad to hear that. I'll share my foxhole with you. In Guadalupe, I'm glad I got the chance to share something with him, even if it's only a room for a night, in San Francisco."

The above was clipped from an exchange where it was run under the title, "A Human Interest Story." I have read it carefully, and to

Secretary Welles has long been pressing for some kind of a start, toward giving enduring structure to the United Nations. At Toronto he voiced again the thought that he and many others have expressed repeatedly, when he said that there would be "utter disaster" if we came to the end of the war without providing some means by which the nations could collaborate in "recovery policies" and in assuming joint responsibility for preserving peace.

There had been hopes that something more substantial and more extensive might be developed soon, something in the nature of an executive body for the United Nations. Such an organization should have been in existence to take over the civilian side of the North African affair. But that has not materialized, and there is no sign of such a development soon.

The project for putting a United Nations group to work studying the problem of freedom from want is a step toward the end in mind. It isn't a very aggressive step. In fact it is just barely perceptible progress because it is no very great achievement to persuade nations to appoint representatives to meet together and discuss how they can provide employment after the war, or how the world can be fed, how international investment might be developed. It is in fact a discussion of how the resources of the United Nations might be used in helping to restore the wounds of the world after the war.

That's a beginning. A beginning, however modest, it is to be welcomed, and we are fighting for it and it is time that the journey was begun.

There are too many cynics in this country anyway; too many people who look up to rank and power and wealth. What good is it whether a man be a Colonel or a private, a prince or a pauper, a millionaire or a mendicant. Congressmen or a cook, where he is stuck with titles and hung round with strings, or is clad in numbing and loathing? A man's worth is measured by his character and his service to humanity. It is still true that "worth makes the man, and want of it the fellow."

The story is told as though a Colonel considers himself at least sort of a god almighty. "The officer and the soldier," says the tale. "Thunderation, isn't a Colonel in the Army a soldier also?" We had always heard that the soldier was made from soldiers, from the best of 'em. We still think so. We are of the opinion that the so-called incident never the while the soldier was fed, how international investment might be developed. It is in fact a discussion of how the resources of the United Nations might be used in helping to restore the wounds of the world after the war.

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Trojan Horse

By Samuel Grafton

Two Europes?

NEW YORK

WE do not accept Hitler's challenge that he intends to exterminate the Jews of Europe, we shall be accepting Hitler's theory that the Jews are "different," that they are a separate "problem," not linked with the whole European problem.

If we accept that theory, accept it silently and numbly by inaction, Hitler will be permitted to demonstrate that there is no way to stop him from murdering 4,000,000 persons in cold blood in 1943. He will be permitted to stage that demonstration during a year in which the French and Belgian radios in London are calling on their people to rise in revolutionary action. But to all would-be revolutionaries, Hitler will be able to show the actuality or the photographs of 4,000,000 dead faces.

During a year in which the people of Europe are asked to break Hitler's power, he will be able to stage the most staggering demonstration of unmitigated individual power in the entire history of murder.

Conversely, to stop him, by any means, will be a demonstration by us that our power reaches within Europe, and limits and confines Hitler's power. To protect the Jews of Europe from death is the only possible guarantee, at this moment, to the people of Europe that we can protect them from death. If we ought to be moved only by these considerations, and not by consideration for the Jews, I say we should be moved by consideration for the Jews. The real point is that the two points are one point.

Oppression is oppression, death is death, massacre is massacre. To confess our inability to keep from allowing the remaining two-thirds of European Jews, the last 4,000,000, is to confess our inability to halt oppression, death and massacre. Those who would attempt to invite revolution against a tyrant cannot afford this confession of weakness before him.

To let Hitler's challenge pass is to set up the theory that, in one area of European action, revolution, uprising and overthrow are possible. While in another area of European action, there is no way to stop oppression, massacre, extermination. It is a mad theory. Yet it is the theory the West will declare to the world if it calls upon the people of Europe to rise without showing ability to stop Hitler's murder of millions.

Only the most naive student of revolution, only the most romantic amateur of that science, could know the profoundly anti-revolutionary impact of 4,000,000 murders. The unthoughtful murder of 4,000,000 can kill revolution in the hearts of 50,000,000. The theory that Hitler is merely venting pent-up rage by exterminating the Jews is feeble and superficial. He is putting on a demonstration of power. That is the way terror conducts its parade, for all the people to see.

The "Jewish issue" is only a kind of plea in avoidance, which permits Hitler both to murder and to hold himself blameless of murder. To establish the "Jewish issue" lets Hitler kill some French men, frighten other Frenchmen, and also to tell Frenchmen that he has killed no real Frenchmen at all. The method gives him some opponents, some terrified opponents, and some uncommitted supporters, and all of these are useful to the great master of oppression.

There is only one Europe. If death is unchecked in one street in Europe, it is unchecked in all of Europe. Would-be revolutionaries will understand. Hitler means them to understand. For us to acquiesce in these deaths is for us to acquiesce in Hitler's mastery.

Conversely, to fight back, to contest this ground, to halt even some of these killings, by retaliation from the air, by mobilization of Protestants and Catholics, moral condemnation, by refusing to accept all refugees, is to give heart to all Europe. To save a dozen Jews will set ten thousand revolutionaries free to fight.

Visitin' Around

Has He Been Lookin' At These Tomatoes On Th' Cover Of The Need Catalogue?

(Atlanta Item, Nov. 19, 1942, Atlanta News-South)

Walter Atkins, a well known farmer of Atkins Shop is talking very favorably of going ahead with his farm work, as the sun is bringing out a green carpet of grass on the ground, and the birds are singing easily.

Side Glances



"I'll help me figure my income tax if you can explain which of those checks to your relatives are bad debts and which are gifts!"