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W. C. Dowd, Vice-President and Editor, on leave for the duration of the war

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An Error

Admittedly a Traitor, Max Stephan Should Be Killed

Perhaps, when the news of President Roosevelt's ultimatum has reached around the world there will be cries of happiness in the conquered countries. Perhaps, because Max Stephan has been spared his life by a kindly word from the great man, all men will know that this America is a truly wonderful nation, and that it is above any low, trifling meanness as concerns its little men who would destroy it.

Perhaps, as the world hears of the convicted traitor weeping in hysterical joy, his call, it will look upon America as of greater stature. Perhaps, but we do not think so.

It seems more likely to us that the enemies and half-enemies of this nation will take heart from this exhibition of generosity. For Max Stephan, it seems likely that they will be more willing, the enemies already within our borders, to launch their attacks against the people of the United States. They will know, these enemies who are unwilling as to whether there will be an attack. If apprehended, the generous Government of the United States will be disposed to deal lightly with them.

During the trial of Max Stephan the prosecution showed conclusively that the escaped Nazi, King, had no trouble finding his place of refuge. He went straight to the haven offered by Stephan, expecting and receiving aid. The President, in commencing the sentence of death passed upon him, set down plainly that Stephan was guilty. But the country thought he was guilty of second degree treason, and not of first degree treason.

We think it matters little whether Stephan lives or dies; but we think it important that this country make no showing of softness of heart. If treason is committed during wartime, then it is treason, and the punishment should be death. The President, Justice Frank Murphy and Chief Justice Harlan Stone, by the contrary, they took no care in which to press opinions for or against capital punishment. Max Stephan committed the great crime against the United States. No other nation in this world would have saved him from death.

The fact that Stephan willfully committed his deed of treason must be construed as a blow against the lives of American fighting men. For that, he should have paid the price of his life, and not merely his life imprisonment, which is very likely to be commuted after the war. This great nation has often made the error of dealing too lightly with its confessed enemies, in the mistaken belief that it is maintaining a high standard of decency for the watching world. This is an error on the part of Franklin Roosevelt.

Siren Voice

English Minister Mourns for Wrecked European Churches

"We hear, though faintly, the voice of the Rev. William King, once dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, as he bemoans the fate of the churches of God in Europe's wasted lands. The Dean preaches that the Allies will regret their acts of terrorism in bombing those Gothic edifices they should be left. The Reverend William says, to their spirits toward Heaven as in the days of yore.

He supposes that "if it is a matter of military necessity, there is no more to say. The Reverend King is not correct. Otherwise, he is dead wrong, and should not have mentioned the subject. The churches of England, from the days of Christopher Wren and in the forgotten days before, he is wrong. Of them, the Reverend has said nothing. He thinks of the cathedrals of Lubbeck, Cologne and Mainz, and even of the home of the great painter, Durer. His heart bleeds, even for the architectural gems which were the Hanseatic mansions of Italy. The beauty that is gone seems to the Reverend to have been uselessly and brutally destroyed. To him, it seems that these deeds of war are being done only in a spirit of revenge. He does not accept, apparently, the view that Germany, Italy and the conquered lands must be brought into submission by the great forces of the Allied nations.

The Reverend, apparently, does not seem to consider that, without the destruction of her means, his England would

First Things First

An Appeal To Reason

By Dorothy Thompson

THE essence of the whole problem of the First Things First of this nation lies in understanding how to put first things first. The first thing that involves every American is winning the war. The second thing is that the Government, that unity cannot be based on everybody being in continual agreement with the Government's policy. That has never existed amongst a free people.

The unity which we hope to create is based upon discipline, and good will. It implies that we accept stress in policy, at least in the short run, but that we look at the overall picture, rather than the details. It implies that we seek agreement, and make it in the light of the situation.

The conversion of a nation of 132,000,000 people, with all its industries, farms, mercantile establishments, employers' associations, trade unions, educational systems, public activities, and private activities, to a total-war footing, is a task of immeasurable difficulties, involving uncountable sacrifices, dislocations, shortages, and evils. There is no genius, with sufficient intelligence to foresee how a policy taken in one direction may produce a chain of events in a different direction, requiring new policies to meet new situations.

If we look at our country after nineteen months of war, we have no reason to regard our Government with distrust. None of us is satisfied with every detail of the picture. But this Government has mobilized, in a remarkably short time, the mightiest power on earth, and done so without establishing dictatorship. In spite of all the inconveniences, there has been no serious drop in the standard of living, and in some quarters the standard has actually risen.

In the whole world today, nobody eats as well as Americans. And although all individuals and organizations have been restricted in their activities, none have been restricted in their basic rights. Add to this that not a bomb has destroyed an American home and that unique amongst the peoples engaged in this war, we do not live under a constant terror, heralded by the demonic whine of the prophetic siren, and every living American has a reason for humility and gratitude.

When we look back, also, upon the state of our cause two years ago, upon the might of the enemy, his uninterrupted expansion, his apprehensions and malaise, that filled every conscious mind, and consider how, in these few months, tides have changed, we have again a good reason to be grateful.

Dear Herr Goering: In Reply to Yours of Recent Date



When the time comes that the Republican Nationalist Revival Committee takes over these United States, good citizens must flee the borders. For ourselves, we will be anxious to go back to leave. For the RNSRC, Heaven help us, advances Chicago's Colonel Bertie McCormack as President of the Republic. Long live The Chicago Tribune, self-confessed greatest newspaper on earth, and last, but not least, the most incredible candidate ever advanced for any office, anywhere.

Platform of The People

Lonesome Boy In Africa

Editor, The News: Well, here I am again, writing to you and my friends from the new republican minority of South Africa. It is a long time since I hear of you and I hope I stay that way. I hope you remember that in the time of the RNSRC, I have seen your time back from Post Office. It is about the mosquitoes that bite you when you are in Africa. I have traveled a lot since then and seen a lot of country.

But none of the country I have seen can compare with old Charlotte. I wouldn't give a spoonful of good old N. C. earth for the whole place over here. If the people of Charlotte could see the man who was in the war, I'm afraid they would never get over it at all. I would be very pleased to hear everything that has been going on in the old town since I left. I guess that is impossible since we never get any home-leave papers over here.

Boy, what I could do with a couple of copies of that good old Charlotte News over here now! By the way, I have seen it paper from other states that states like New York, New Jersey and a few others are going to give bonuses to their boys in the service. I heard some of them were to be a bonus of one hundred dollars. I was wondering if you could let me know how to get one. You ought to let me know how to get one. You ought to let me know how to get one.

Since the beginning of the war the suicide rate in Great Britain has steadily declined. One can only attribute this to morbid curiosity over the outcome.

If I happened bought a pocketful of rye, it was before my time," said the Old Rounder today, in a discourse on current conditions.

While we are discussing the bugs and insects of all kinds, such as wheat bugs, grasshoppers, war worms, army worms, heat, drought, wind and flood—against all he has a hard time in the kingdom of words. Has anyone ever thought what a calamity would befall our country if it were struck by a disaster of this kind? They are the soldiers of the soil. God forbid that they should ever be struck. If they should, we are all dead. The farmers have no certain hours to work. They work and work and it is a day from being day to the next. The farmers are the soldiers of the soil. God forbid that they should ever be struck. If they should, we are all dead.



Now I know he loves me. Mother—I've investigated! None of those girls who threw themselves at him when he worked at the soda fountain ever hears from him since he went to Africa!

Too Smooth

Fulbright's Plan

By Samuel Crompton

THE trouble with most of our talk about foreign policy is that it is too lofty and thin. It is conversation on a marble pavement, among high pillars, instead of being instant, urgent colloquy on the sweating Tenth Avenue of this world.

Our sentences are round, and smooth. There are no projections, knobs on them, on which a man can hang his hat. Do we want "international machinery" to "keep the peace"? Of course I want it. But what does it mean? In the year 1943, the only international machinery that exists is "Keep It in the Air," a second front in Europe. Possibly, too, we should join Britain in her twenty-year treaty with Russia. Something on the order of these developments is necessary for the first, crude machinery toward building the high powered peace plant of the future.

We need to use whatever machinery is available this year, to do the work we have to do this year. Later on we can install air conditioning and put rugs in the executives' offices. After all, Henry Ford started in a shed. This is my major objection to the Fulbright resolution and it goes along with my overwhelming approval of it.

The Fulbright resolution doesn't start in any shed. It would put Congress on record as favoring "creation of appropriate international machinery with power adequate to maintain a just and lasting peace... and participation of the United States therein." Amen. I must also add: Build these less stately mansions. O my soul. This is a resolution against cold. Even since we can vote for it. The entire House for 1943. This one is "Keep It" and therefore it is Congress off too easily. Because, after you pass this resolution for a peace-making assembly line on the Willow Run scale, you still have to go right back to building that same stretched little shed.

It is perfectly possible for a Congressman to vote for this resolution, and next day, demand that we move our troops to the Pacific and stop fretting so much about Europe. He can vote for this resolution, and then vote against a system of treaties with Britain, Russia and China, when these are finally offered, on the ground that he doesn't like it. This resolution, in other words, does not really knock them. It rounds and smooths, has no projections and cannot catch anything.

I would swap it for a resolution saying that this Congress goes on record in favor of immediate negotiation of binding twenty-year treaties of friendship and collaboration with Britain, Russia and China. That kind of resolution would imply carry the Fulbright resolution in its teeth.

It would be a spectacularly 1943 resolution, a this year's model, whereas the Fulbright resolution is an any-any-year model. It would sharpen the iron spears under the fence-sitters. It would take the issue out of timelessness into time.

A Prediction

Is It Dewey?

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT and Governor Dewey of New York will be the Presidential candidates in 1944 in the opinion of Grover Cress, veteran political writer. In a signed article in the current issue of Collier's Weekly he states that Democratic leaders are convinced no one but the President would have a chance of winning the Republican nomination.

"Mastermind of both parties, backed into dark corners, one and all agree that his (the President's) renomination is a foregone conclusion," writes Cress, and then outlines the strategy he believes will lead to Governor Dewey's nomination.

"All emphasis will be placed on the candidacies of Willkie and Bricker. In the hour of decision, however, when these two gentlemen are named by their parties, the President will be defeated by a unanimous call from the party—a call that will not admit of refusal, and with Earl Warren, the hard-hitting, highly competent Governor of California, as his running mate, will better combination would be desired."

Cress states that in spite of an expected vigorous "stop Roosevelt" drive, no other Democrat has a chance of nomination because no other Democrat could possibly beat Governor Dewey in the opinion of party leaders.

"As they see it there is only one possible campaign issue," he writes: "only one hope of Democratic victory in 1944, and that is the catastrophic rise of the people desire to 'change homes in the U.S.A.' If the rise is still on it will be flooded that a continuity of administration is essential to its successful prosecution. If handling has ceased, it can be argued that only Franklin D. Roosevelt, the real author of the Atlantic Charter, will have the knowledge and the authority to contend successfully for America's objectives at the peace table."

Cress outlines the Republican strategy as follows: "If the war is still on, they will pledge a more vigorous and effective prosecution by taking military decisions away from a 'White House' court, putting entire control in the hands of a 'supreme war' council. They will guarantee consideration of the war as a whole, emphasizing the Pacific area no less than Europe and North Africa."

"If the last shot has been fired, their peace policy will repudiate any hint of isolationism, and at the same time reject Henry Wallace's dream of any world brotherhood to be financed by the United States; a policy that will accept every proper responsibility for the reconstruction of the ravaged nations, while insisting that our aid will be in proportion to our own resources."

"Having thus answered the argument against horse-changing, all emphasis will be put on waste, extravagance, bureaucracy and other purely domestic issues."

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

God does not change His mind. What He has promised He will do. The author of the word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is as the clouds that surround the word is true from the beginning.—Psalm 119:89, 90, 100.