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A Time To Be Thankful

Everywhere on this page Marquis Childs invokes the ghost of Charles Dickens...

But, beyond the simple fact of survival, there is good reason to mark this day. Certainly our victory did not bring us to its goal...

This is an uncertain time, and any logical approach to Thanksgiving must be comparative. Mr. Childs elected to contrast what we now have with what we might have had...

If we are not really at peace, we are not actively at war; there is no occasion today for the heartfelt prayers...

And this, we think, is progress indeed. In the face of the split atom and the distrust that marks our relations with the Russians...

There is reason for Mr. Child's gloom, but not, in itself, guarantee of a hope for peace. Perhaps, in our own humility, we have attained it for the first time in our history.

Postponement Is Not Policy

There is no reason to be surprised that the United Auto Workers finally called a strike against General Motors...

The strike became inevitable when young Henry Ford addressed his long list of complaints to the United Auto Workers...

But when the Ford letter was published it was obvious that the automobile industry was in a bad way...

were unreasonable, perhaps, and a 30 per cent increase certainly seems an exorbitant demand...

If the strike continues at GM, and spreads to the rest of the industry, public support for the union will fade fast.

The great share of the blame for the strike rests with the Government, which failed, or refused, to recognize that the differences between the union and the owners could not be reconciled without outside pressure.

By Drew Pearson

EX-AMBASSADOR JOE DAVIES, one of the best envoys ever sent to Russia, is writing a book which will make some fur-riated around the State Department.

Davies is shocked at the Truman-Brynes policy toward Russia, says that inside the State Department a violent anti-Russian group is out to stir up trouble—perhaps eventual war—with the Soviet Union.

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Merry-go-round

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home is the quiet rendezvous of visiting international bigwigs. The President of Chile motored out to lunch with Welles during his official visit.

Army investigation has shown that about 22 per cent of all goods being shipped to the Philippines now finds its way into the black market.

The black market absorbs everything from trucks to fountain pens, from pistols to radios. Cigarettes, milk, clothing and typewriters all sell at premium.

Huberdasher Truman

Eddie Cantor, ribbing President Truman before the National Press Club dinner the other day, let loose this one: "Of late, our President has been visiting the Supreme Court with increasing frequency."

Capital Chaff

The War Department has finally decided to do something about releasing thousands of surplus doctors. Doctors with 70 or more points shortly will be eligible for immediate discharge.

For on the Palestine issue, as on the atomic bomb, and again that it is a case of a new decision which fails to increase the previous situation.

Thanksgiving After Victory



Illustration of a man and a woman sitting at a table, possibly a shepherd and his flock.

Grin And Bear It



Illustration of a man and a woman sitting at a table, possibly a shepherd and his flock.

"My but it's nice to have the turkey and dressing disappear as if by magic, again."

On A Dark Street

By Samuel Grafton

WE ARE huddling with Great Britain; this is the net result of Mr. Truman's conversations with Mr. Attlee.

For on the Palestine issue, as on the atomic bomb, and again that it is a case of a new decision which fails to increase the previous situation.

DRIFTING TOGETHER

Our two countries are drifting together, but not for a common purpose, which is why it becomes possible to suggest that we are huddling for lack of purpose.

The People's Platform

The First Thanksgiving

By H. L. Golden

Charlotte shepherd thought it was another ill-fated born out of the fever of the first Thanksgiving.

End Of A Pleasant Life

For most of his 55 years Robert Benchley was a gentle voice in the ear of America, remarking upon the foibles of the average man with a sharp and penetrant wit that never seemed to make anybody mad.

Benchley concerned himself with the contemporary scene, and, of course, much of his humor was directed toward the war. He was an impressive residue to endure as a monument to his artistry.

Benchley performed the remarkable literary feat of creating authentic satire without bitterness, and he was accused of avoiding the pressing issues of his time.

Negroes In Organized Baseball

Good sportsmanship alone is sufficient ground for seeing to it that Negroes have a chance to play in organized baseball, but for seventy years they have not had that chance.

Calling the opposition's program "grandiose" means it will be along presently with practically the same thing, labeled a master plan.

Scrooge Sees No Reason To Be Thankful



Illustration of a man and a woman sitting at a table, possibly a shepherd and his flock.

By Marquis Childs

"But you know they have a dictatorship in Russia, don't you. They're trying to extend that dictatorship. They want to control Eastern Europe. There's no democracy in Bulgaria."

"Don't you think there's reason to be thankful that the war is ended? After all, if it were still going on, the plums called for an invasion of Southern Japan on Nov. 1 and the Tokyo plain in February. Thousands of new casualties would be added to the list each day."

Saved for What?

"Perhaps a few lives were saved. But you have to ask what they're saved for. They've been saved up doubtfully to be killed in another and more terrible war."

"You're such a simpleton. I'm surprised they let you out. You know, if you have an ounce of sense you should know that the so-called United Nations Organization is nothing but a hoax. A hoax, I tell you! It was thought up by these schemers in San Francisco on Nov. 1 and the Tokyo plain in February. Thousands of new casualties would be added to the list each day."

Answers and Questions

"We're going to celebrate Thanksgiving over here in a few days. Mr. Scrooge, and I wondered if you had some comments to make."

"Thanksgiving? His sardonic laughter might have been heard in Hiroshima. 'Thanksgiving? You're not trying to be humorous are you? What is there to be thankful for? Muddledheaded human beings have finally found a way to destroy themselves altogether. With the weapons they now have, they're managed to blow up half the earth. Now, with this atomic stuff, they can do a thorough job."

Ill-Will for Christmas

It seemed to me that that slip about being happy was a bigger slip than Scrooge would ever admit. There are others like him, and their names are often in print, who seem to revile the holiday.

By Marquis Childs

CHARLES DICKENS in his "Christmas Carol" had Scrooge, that apostle of gloom and ill-will, converted by a minor miracle on Christmas Day.

But Scrooge, it is said to report had a relapse. The state of the world and all the talk of destruction and disaster seem to have put old boy back into a vicious frame of mind.

This columnist, as we say when we have solemn affairs to report, has had an exclusive Thanksgiving interview with Scrooge. It was not off the record, either.

It was very much on the record. Scrooge has seen all the direct consequences of human greed, jealousy, hatred and malice coming true.

The old fellow put on a truly impressive performance. He made professional gloomsters such as H. G. Wells and Dean Inge seem like happy-go-lucky school children. But to do Scrooge justice, it is best to put down questions and answers. Here it is.

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"Well, possibly." He made this concession grudgingly.