EDITORIAL PAGE
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Just Like That

With the announcement of peace, manpower controls went off like a flash. Overnight, gas rationing followed. Just like that the onerous rules were gone. People could now choose whatever jobs they liked, and employers could hire anyone they liked, and as many as they liked—and motorists could burn the roads. There was no red tape; nothing beyond the—formal announcements.

It needn't have been like that, you know. There could have been delays of one kind or another. There were many excuses the President might have used to continue stabilization of employment. But apparently no one in Washington gave it a second thought. The war ended, and so did the gas and manpower strain.

These were the very first of the re-conversion steps. Other controls are still on tight, so tight that we don't have to be reminded. Wages and prices are yet under Washington's thumb, and allocation of materials and commodities will continue. Meat rationing may linger on for a good while. There will be no gobbling up of surplus property by a few citizens. For the general welfare, these controls must remain in force until the situation eases.

And for the release of these controls here is set forth a perfect model. Without a hem or a haw, the tape was cut when the time came, in a complete and natural shift from peace to war. Let the other controls be lifted in the same way, when their time comes.

Advance Priming

The sudden coming of peace, as the prophets have been warning, leaves us with a passel of domestic problems so big we don't like to think about them. Not the least of these is the probability of a slump in employment — temporary, perhaps, but involving many millions of people. The present system of unemployment compensation under the states, we believe, will be inadequate to cope with the heavy burden—and we still wish that North Carolina's General Assembly had seen fit to liberalize our own benefits last session.

But the Washington scheme of Federalizing unemployment compensation, and grinding out $25 checks to an army of the unemployed every week for a 26-week minimum gives us a long pause. Are we ready to dole out this money (with ten million out of work it could run to six and a half billion in six months) to war workers who have been enjoying the highest of pay? Are we ready to subsidize "marginal" workers who knowingly took temporary work during the war? Are we willing to impose the $25 minimum in Southern states like North Carolina, where the average weekly wage dips down to $17 and lower?

What of the army of low-paid workers (domestics, farm laborers, tenant farmers, housewives and the like) which migrated to industry and high wages during the war? Do we expect that, in the face of a proffered $25 a week, they will do anything else than retire and draw their benefits? How are we going to set up any single standard to apply to all cases, in all industries, in all parts of the country?

There is, on the other hand, the certainty that mass unemployment such as threatens in the months ahead might severely cripple industrial reconversion, and collectively cost us billions. There must be some way of taking care of workers in transition, short of writing a blank check to all who have labored. There must be, but we don't quite see how it can be done Sidney Hillman's way.

Looking ahead to unemployment, Mr. Hillman requests a 65-cent per hour minimum wage, no reduction of take-home pay, shorter hours continued price control. It's pretty obvious that such a program would squeeze hard, and a little doubtful that it would combat unemployment profitably, even when bolstered by compensation.

Perhaps, as some Congressional leaders feel, we cannot afford to attack unemployment by going into this $25-per-week business in advance. Perhaps, even, we had better try to barge through the uncertain period by trusting to admittedly inadequate state compensation programs, and tap the Treasury heavily only when all else fails.

Redder & Redder

Hollington Tong, China's Vice Minister of Information, is blandly unconcerned with the threat of civil strife in China. He wanted to be quoted: "There will be no civil war." But the Generalissimo was not so certain. He held long pow-wows with U. S. officials in China, keeping a sharp eye on the North, where the Yenan Communist troops have already disarmed Japanese troops, and are threatening to move in on huge stores of Jap munitions in coastal cities.

The Communists, whose war upon the Kuomintang of Chiang Kai-Shek is older than the struggle with Japan, have been emboldened in the past few days—and they've never been docile. At the moment of Russia's entry into the war they acquired new prestige, and looked longingly toward Peiping, Tientsin and Shanghai. They now declare that they must be represented at the peace table, that they must participate in the occupation of Japan.

The Generalissimo has made no effective reply; it may take an American landing on the China coast to guarantee that the beaten Japs surrender to Central Government troops, and not to the Communists. Already, Chungking charges, the Japs have been trying to sow disunity in China by giving up to the Reds. The Communists counter with the charge that Chiang himself is trying to stir civil war by ordering the Red troops to take no further independent action.

The last authoritative word from Yenan came this Spring in Harrison Forman's *Report From Red China*, an account of the fierce efficiency of Communist troops fighting Japan (whose Eighth Route Army and New Fourth Army engaged most of the Japs in China), of their absolute independence and defiance of the Central Government, and their superiority in the wild Northern country. From that background it appears that the new Communist blow for greater power is going to bring on more than talk. It is likely, indeed, that Chiang will need to do more than drop his limited numbers of airborne troops into Japheld territory to keep it from the Reds—and more than send anxious envoys to Moscow in an attempt to read the Russian mind. He may be forced, at last, to beg for American troops.

Accountability

The City's taxicab ordinance is like a good many of the vehicles on the road these days in that it needs tightening up here and loosening there. One amendment proposed by the Police Department which is at least worth a trial would allow a probationary cab driver's license for 90 days to be issued to an applicant who may have been convicted of a felony but who has had a clean rebord for not less than two years.

What this means, stated in the worst way, is that ex-convicts may be licensed on trial to drive public conveyances. It is, we admit, an experiment not without risk, and perhaps it could be argued that a man who wants to go straight after having committed a serious crime should be limited to occupations not involving public security. But we think that the natural disposition to give a man a chance will perhaps persuade the Council to adopt this amendment.

A reformed felon, for that matter, could be a more trustworthy taxicab driver than an unreformed misdemeanant whose brushes with the law had run to reckless driving (frequently a hint of drunken driving), repeated speeding or traffic violations. The ordinance's lacks in this particular should be taken into consideration when the Council goes over it.

Beyond that, no ordinance is any better than the enforcement it receives. Companies operating taxicabs should be held strictly and impartially accountable for the safety of their passengers and the lawful behavior of their drivers. Bad records in either case should be sufficient ground for denying them the right to operate.

Statesmen At Work

(Serious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record).

REP. DOYLE (Calif.) Mr. Speaker, regardless of what license we take or practice on the floor of this great House relating to our discussions, debates, criticism or condemnations of conditions, and regardless of the fact that I have frequently observed that too often, it seems to me as a lawyer, we engage in criticisms, statements, condemnations, and remarks about people and about conditions and things which are later proven to be unfounded or unwarranted in fact, I respectfully rise and bespeak that each and every one of us shall during this recess, in our respective congressional districts and throughout the nation, calmly relax and speak to our people of things that are actually known to be or not to be. This is still a global war. The American people have a right to look to us to only speak out in accurate and constructive language when we speak. Frequently have I heard distinguished members of this great body here speak of things and conditions which could only have been known to them at that time by hearsay or by rumor or by gossip, and frequently a few days later, in accurate report or content, the actual facts have come to the surface wherein it was proven the previous criticism, condemnation, or report quoted or referred to by a distinguished member had no foundation in fact. I submit, gentlemen, that while it seems to be in this House that a great deal of license and privilege is taken and apparently necessarily allowed in such matters, it is tragic to have American people read or hear reports, condemnations, and criticisms which are not yet known to and found in actual fact or human experience.

America must be increasingly solid and strenuously at work . . . I think it would be definitely constructive toward all this solidarity and toward the building of a finer, more stable attitude of mind and be a definite contribution toward creative thinking of the American people if we, as members of this House, regardless of political party, would make it our serious endeavor during this recess to speak only in words and tones constructively planned to develop and increase the solidarity of the American people toward winning the war at the quickest, earliest, possible date. The result of such active, increased solidarity and thinkingand praying by the American people is evident, Mr. Speaker. I challenge the thinking of every member of this House to this proposition as we go to our respective congressional districts.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

HAVING made the decision to work with and through the Emperor in governing postwar Japan, our problem now is not to be fooled by him and the court "moderates" as was Ambassador Joe Grew, who up until just before Pearl Harbor kept telling the State Department that the Emperor didn't want war and that everything would be all right.

U. S. plans for governing Japan to date chiefly call for taking away its colonies and its raw materials for making war. But what our State and War Department planners fail to realize is that many nations, such as Belgium, Portugal, and Holland may have colonies abroad without being aggressive, and that the wiping out of Japanese belligerency is a far deeper problem. It gets down to a democratic change in the whole outlook and philosophy of the Japanese people.

It is doubtful if they can be persuaded to give up the idea that Japanese are born to rule one world until they also give up Shintoism, the state religion which teaches just exactly that, and which revolves around the person of the Emperor.

Hirohito probably is, as Mr. Grew maintains, a moderate man, much more moderate than the militarists around him. However, emperors come and go. And it is the system which they represent, a system which teaches all devout and loyal Japanese that war and conquest are an essential part of their life, which stands between us and permanent peace.

The best description of how Joe Grew was completely hoodwinked by the charming and "moderate" nobility around the Emperor is told by a young U. S. Naval officer, Andrew Roth, who was promptly clapped into jail after his book was submitted to superior officers for clearing, and who still faces a charge of using Government documents for his own gain. However, when and if, his book, "Dilemma In Japan" is published by Little Brown & Co., it will be something every American interested in peace in the Pacific should read. I am indebted to Lt. Roth for some excellent material on this subject.

Hirohito & Big Business

Most important thing for our military governors to remember about Hirohito is that—(1) He is hoodwinked by and is a part of the five big business families of Japan which helped promote Japanese conquest of China and which was fat on wars; and (2), he is the heart and soul of a state legion which preaches war.

This is what our former Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Grew, so tragically failed to grasp before Pearl Harbor and what he has continued to ignore when, as Undersecretary of State, he has sold a policy of emperor-retention to Secretary Byrnes and President Truman.

How charming and ingratiating the Japanese nobility can or can or else how naive our Ambassador was) is indicated by Grew's own diary and by some of the telegrams he sent back to the State Department just six weeks before Pearl Harbor. It was obvious from Grew's reports that the imperial courtiers of Hirohito wrapped our Ambassador around their little fingers.

Not only did he urge that we continue sending oil and scrap iron to Japan, but in late October 1941, after the bloodthirsty Gen. Tojo actually had become Prime Minister, Grew was so naive and short-sighted as to inform the State Department that Tojo "would resign" if he failed to iron out U. S.-Japanese troubles in the peace talks which the world later realized were a mere smoke-screen for the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Six weeks after Grew's childishly trusting report, the "moderate" Emperor, whom he trusted and still trusts, savagely declared a holy war against the United States.

Despite that obvious error which may have led to our being caught napping at Pearl Harbor, Ed Stettinius later picked Grew to be his Assistant Secretary of State, and we have since accepted Grew's advice regarding retention of the Emperor.

Note—Some diplomats now point out that with Grew, an official of the U. S. Government, making public statements favorable to the Emperor during the war, it was only natural for the Japanese to accept the bait dangled before them and propose keeping the Emperor. After all, Grew holds the second most important post in the conduct of our foreign affairs. And the Japanese would have been foolish, in view of Grew's known views, not to have taken advantage of them.

How To Make Peaceful Japan

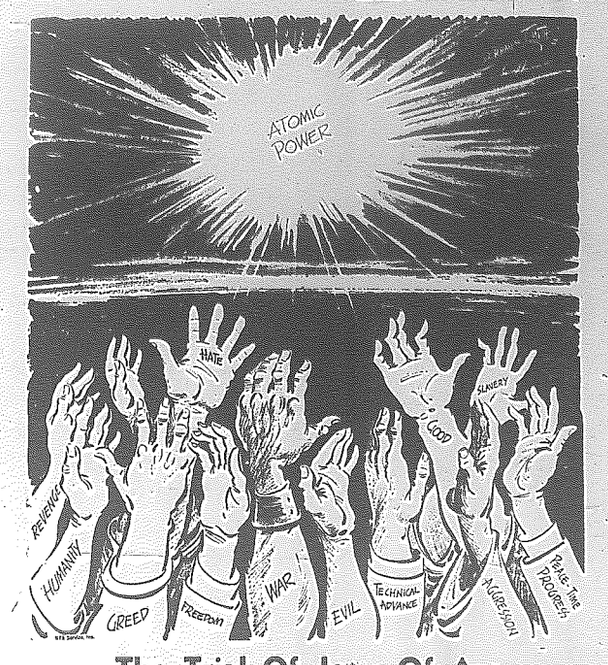
The chief problem facing U. S. Governors of Japan is how to wean Japanese psychology away from the idea that Japan's future can only be solved through military aggression. Making this conversion with the Emperor still on the throne is going to be difficult—because he has been the spearhead of the conquest theory in the past.

However, the Emperor has not been such a sacrosanct institution in the past as the Grew school of thought would have us believe. Two centuries ago the reign of Emperor Meiji, grandfather of Hirohito, there was rebellion against him, suppressed only after terrific slaughter. Once there was even an attempt to assassinate Hirohito.

And when the former mayor of Tokyo, Yujio Ozaki, made a speech against the Emperor since Pearl Harbor he was given a two-year jail sentence; but public sentiment was such that the military did not dare put him in jail. Ozakai, a strong friend of the U. S. A. and a bitter opponent of the military, was even elected to the Diet in 1942, after Pearl Harbor.

If U. S. Government officials are wise they will endeavor to deflate the influence of the Emperor in the reverse manner used by the feudal barons and big business leaders to carefully build him up shortly after Commodore Perry opened Japan's doors to the world.

Into Whose Hands?



The Trial Of Joan Of Arc

By H. I. Golden

(One of a series of articles on famous trials)

IN the year 1355 the Hundred Years War began. The war was between France and England and various allies, which each side gathered to itself from time to time. In those days wars were handled by the "nobility" and professional soldiers. Most of the small people, the peasants, went about their toil earning an existence, barely noticing the change in the uniforms of the armies that swept across their land from time to time.

By 1429 the English were in possession of enough of French territory to enable King Henry VI of England to assume the additional title of King of France. But suddenly a little peasant girl, seventeen years old, took command of the armies of France and proved to be such an inspiration to her countrymen that thousands of these same small people and peasants flocked to her standard in the fight for the liberation of their country. Within a few months this amazing girl had beaten the English at the Battle of Orleans and had chased them clear back to the Channel.

The girl was Joan of Arc, born in 1412 in the town of Domremy. Under her leadership and inspiration, France regained her dignity and her honor. At the head of her victorious army, Joan led the Dauphin of France to Versailles where he was crowned King Charles VII, and thus within a year, through the efforts of a peasant girl, France again took her place as a leading world power.

The Maid of Orleans, as she was now called, continued the war to liberate all of France and she took part in the campaigns which recaptured Laon, Soissons, Compeigne and was now storming Paris itself. On May 24, 1430, Joan was badly wounded and taken prisoner by a group of Burgundian soldiers. For a large sum of money they turned her over to the English. They took her to Rouen, which had become the English capital in France, and on Jan. 3, 1431, by order of King Henry VI, Joan was placed in the hands of the Bishop of Beauvais, who delivered her up tothe Inquisition of France on a charge of heresy.

Joan's protestations throughout her career in liberating France had been that she had "heard voices" and "seen visions" and at her trial she had stated that both the "voices" and the "visions" had identified themselves to her as St. Michael and St. Catherine. We all have a right to our opinion based on our own religious beliefs with respect to this aspect of the life of Joan of Arc, but we may completely set aside all these debatable points and we still have one of the most remarkable women who ever lived. The greatest testimonial to her greatness is that she received a trial at all.

The early fifteenth century was not an era particularly noted for its regard for civil liberties or for trial by jury, and when the clerics were in very little trouble was taken to protect individual legal rights. Yet Joan, when she was brought to trial and her judges were twelve of the most influential leaders of Church and State in the country, was allowed an attorney or adviser. The judges followed over the first thirteen days and one program of questioning. They demanded that Joan "recant" or deny that she had "heard voices" and "seen visions." To her adamant refusals they replied with threats of torture or burning and when that failed they offered her her freedom. But on the battlefield, Joan of Arc stood firm in the courtroom, and proved herself just as much more than a match for the learned scholars who were sitting in judgment upon her. "Do you consider yourself in a state of grace?" they asked her. "If I am not, may God put me there; if I am, may He keep me in it," she replied.

On May 24, 1431, she was contacted of heresy and burned at the stake in the market place of Rouen. An English soldier gave her a cross as the flames began to envelop her. Even then, the Bishop of Beauvais, who was by now equally tormented, kept pleading with her to "recant," but Joan of Arc merely said, "All Rouen, Rouen, much do I fear you will suffer from my death," and with a prayer on her lips she died a martyr.

Quote, Unquote

THE Franco government in Spain is clearly fascist. It's a closed oligarchy with none of the civil liberties that are the essence of our democracy.
—Sen. J. H. Ball of Minnesota.

Clinicers for early marriage are greatest for girls living in the South . . . smallest (for girls) in the Northeast.
—Life insurance company's statistical report.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"Which is more important, dear—for an ex-soldier to be on time or to go around the office looking like a fashion plate?"

Filling The Gap

By Editorial Research Reports

AS "stop orders" went out from Washington's halting work on warships and canceling billions in war orders, the CIO called on Congress today to take three immediate steps to "prevent the necessary transitional unemployment from becoming mass depression unemployment". It called for (1) a 20 per cent increase in basic wage rates, (2) raising the statutory minimum wage from 40 cents an hour to 65 cents, and (3) adequate emergency unemployment compensation.

An emergency unemployment compensation bill has been announced by Majority Leader Barkley of the Senate, after a conference with the President, as the first measure to be pressed for enactment when Congress reconvenes in September. Adoption of legislation to assure adequate jobless benefits for displaced war workers was asked by President Truman eleven weeks ago, and had previously been asked by President Roosevelt in a special message to Congress, May 28. Truman said:

"Decent unemployment benefits would serve as a bulwark against postwar deflation. By assuring workers of a definite income for a definite period of time, Congress will help materially to prevent a sharp decline in consumer expenditures which might otherwise result in a downward spiral of consumption and production. Adequate unemployment insurance is an indispensable form of prosperity insurance."

Some three million persons employed directly by the Federal Government in arsenals, Government-owned shipyards and munitions plants) are not now covered by the unemployment compensation systems of the states. The President recommended that jobless benefits be extended to them and to maritime workers, with the Government paying the cost, and that Federal assistance be extended to the states to permit them to raise their jobless benefits to a maximum of $25 a week, for payment over a maximum period of 26 weeks. Secretary of the Treasury Vinson said, July 1, in his final report as Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion that "An adequate unemployment compensation law is our No. 1 legislative requirement for reconversion."

The Administration bill when finally introduced by Chairman Doughton of the House Ways and Means Committee, July 9, was a disappointment to the CIO and the AFL. Doughton emphasized that he had introduced it "by request", thus getting it off to a bad start. The legislation covered the points made by President Truman, but its provisions for liberalization of jobless benefits were not to come into force until the number of compensable claims filed with the states had reached 2.5 per cent of the number of persons working in the covered employment in January, 1945. The CIO interpreted this as meaning that no Federal assistance would be forthcoming until 600,000 compensable claims have been filed for unemployment insurance.

A final and more liberal bill was offered in the Senate, July 17, by six Democratic Senators: Murray, Montana; Kilgore, West Virginia; Wagner, New York; Cordey, Pennsylvania; Pepper, Florida; Thomas, Utah. It would come into effect immediately upon enactment, in addition to benefits in the Administration bill. It would provide travel pay for workers claiming jobs in distant communities, and would raise jobless benefits for unemployed servicemen from the present flat $20 a week to $25 a week for single veterans and $30 a week for married veterans with the benefits to continue for a maximum period of 52 weeks. At present, the period of payment ranges from 24 to 52 weeks, depending upon length of the veteran's service.

It is generally held that legislation of this nature must originate in the House, and the House has been less favorable than the Senate to proposals for liberalizing unemployment compensation at the expense of the Federal Government. Whatever happens to the Thomas Bill in the House, a fight for substitution of the Murray - Kilgore - Wagner - Gurney - Thomas Bill is certain to be made in the Senate.

People's Platform

End Of Strife

By CPL. DON BARRON
Hamlet, N. C.

Reed Sarratt's Saturday report on the Labor Institute says . . . "We must resolve differences peacefully. We must not achieve international peace only to fight among ourselves at home."

I don't know if this view will become The Charlie Review or not. I like to think so. I like to think we Americans really are going to make this terrible war pay off in the dividends that will make our country the odds-on gainer. Should we learn—and I mean learn this lesson all down the line—we have wrested from World War II more than anyone could have imagined Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7, 1941.

You have printed several of my letters here agreeing with your paper's foreign views. One disagreeing with you nationally. I hope you will read Mr. Sarratt's observations and find what must be for us all the agent to dissolve your animosities and permit harmony.

We have nothing to gain by group fighting group. Absolutely nothing at all. While from harmony will certainly develop the practices for which our forefathers wrote those amazing documents in 1776 and 1787—Declaration of Independence and the U. S. Constitution.

I don't know, when a popular and leading paper has printed a more encouraging story than Mr. Sarratt's. For whatever it means to you, your paper has certainly improved the prospects of the Yankee about the South.

It is with the deepest kind of sincerity that I ask for more articles with the identical observance. Let's live at peace internationally and nationally. Let's have no more strife. Let's honestly be the believers in Christianity and democracy that we don't want it for ourselves, well then for the loved ones of those who now lie in graves in every kind of the world's soil and waters. And if not for them, then for our children.

For the good this article will engender, my deep thanks and my appreciation.

Hang The Emperor

By WILLIAM B. GARDNER

Trenton, N. J.

As one of millions of Americans I want to know how our people can grant any kind of immunity to Hirohito, the Emperor of Japan and to his Cabinet. For we have practically committed ourselves to the task of trying our war criminals by a world court.

The reasons are: 1. If Hitler has been caught he would have been one of his. 2. If Mussolini, the Italian dictator, had been caught he would have been hanged.

So, as thousands of others, I am wondering how the God of Heaven can expect any other treatment than the same kind of justice as his partners in crime especially as the God of Heaven led all the rest in striking at Pearl Harbor.

Those Dark Days Coming

By THOMAS W. HAMRICK JR.
Shelby

Throughout history a lush and prosperous period has been inevitably followed by a severe financial panic. Depression periods inevitably and always follow prosperity periods. The law of action and reaction is at work. The business cycles, and the economic trends are still operating. Forecasting agencies and financial advisory services specialize in authentic and authoritative forecasts.

The national depression of post-war years will regularly and inevitably ensue. The next new national depression will last for three years. The first warning of a post-war depression will come from the postwar Federal Reserve Board at Washington, D. C. This shrill warning will pay you dividends in the long run. Be on the alert for that warning.