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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1941

No Nails Latest Shortage Finds The Government Excuses

Yesterday a Charlotte mill executive ordered a small quantity of nails from a local hardware store. He was told right off the bat that the store didn't have any. "What, no nails?" he asked, or something to that effect.

"No," replied the clerk. "Oh, we've got a few pounds of ten-pennies, if they'll do for you." "They wouldn't." "I'll just get them somewhere else," said the executive. That was what he thought. After an exhaustive series of inquiries, he was faced with the incredible fact that all of the retailers and jobbers in Charlotte have not enough nails between them to build a modest chicken-house.

How long the shortage will last no one seems to know. The defense contractors have plenty of nails. But the private builders and Johnny Public, who depend on retailers and jobbers, are caught short.

The silk shortage was the direct result of American foreign policy toward Japan. The so-called "oil shortage" in the East was caused at least partially by foreign policy; tankers formerly on the Gulf-Atlantic seaboard run were transferred to Baku. It took a long time to get the aluminum shortage. But when we'd like to know, or what can the Government find to blame the nail shortage on? The answer is, of course, that this time our Federal masters are making a mistake in the middle of their own inefficiency.

Or has the Government purposely caused a shortage of nails in order to curtail non-defense building? If it has, the public ought to be told about it. To beat Hitler, our people will make almost any sacrifice; but they don't want the Government to make the post of synthetic shortages and whimsical Ickstein sacrifices.

Forced Savings Morgenthau Calls It a "Separation Wage" but... The Wall Street Journal, which keeps a sensitive ear to the ground in such matters, reports that Secretary Morgenthau is now "seriously considering" a forced savings plan for American workers. He is expected to explain details of the scheme to the Senate Banking and Currency Committee on or about September 15.

Fable Of Finny Who Wanted To Call It Off But Just Couldn't

Once upon a time there was a little tough guy named Finny who worked hard, saved his money and always paid his debts. He lived in the North Side in a flat which he formerly rented from a big shot named Beargrease. But Beargrease got in a fight one night with some Heinies and they just about took him apart and when Beargrease came to he wasn't the same guy. The Doc said he suffered a double revolution.

So Finny took over the flat for himself and quit paying rent and Beargrease grunted but didn't say anything. The next week went to the Heinies, who lived just across the lake, began to make trouble again. They elected one guy the Supreme Big Shot and he kept shooting off his mouth about how he was going to move in on Beargrease and all the rest of the boys and how they'd better not stop him.

So Beargrease, being a dumb cluck, but not so dumb as everybody thought he was, began to get nervous. "Listen," he said to Finny one day. "I don't mind you stealing my flat from me while I'm in trouble, but you gotta gimme back part of the hall so I can keep the little Super-Henic out of the rest of my apartment."

"Nothing doing," said Finny, who was getting tougher and tougher these days. So Beargrease hauled off and socked him and the fight went on for days. Finny got in some good licks but finally he had to toss in the towel and Beargrease took over the part of the hall he wanted.

"All right for you," whimpered Finny. "By Judd, I'm gonna say for you, you big lug, and you wait and see if I don't." And before anybody knew what had happened, here came the Heinies again. Finny, seeing a chance to settle a score of his own, joined in the fight. Beargrease did some good scrapping, but finally Finny edged back into the hall he had lost.

"O. K., O. K.," Beargrease said, "you got it back; why don't we call it quits now, give him a chance to get his feet under him." "I dunno," said Finny. "I might do it. I always said I didn't want any more than was mine." Just then the Big Shot of all the Heinies came up. "What's this about this? After all we've been through together, you wouldn't walk out on me now, would you, Finny?" And he tickled Finny's back with the muzzle of a Luger. "No," said Finny.

Soused Spouses Six-to-One Is the Ratio of Married Drunkards to Single "Father, dear father, come home with me now. The clock in the steeple strikes one." "Ten Nights in a Bar-Room" Marriage. It is said, often brings out the beast in man. C. D. Cunningham, director of the Keeley Institute at Greensboro, says that matrimony also seems to encourage men to drown themselves in drink.

Prices And A Yankee And Her Party

By Dorothy Thompson THE attitude that perplexes Congressman Martin Dies in tracing down subversive activities is not his committee's, nor his own, but that of the quiet, dignified, and quiet Mr. Dies says: "I am a Communist, and so are members of my committee." Dies is official chief of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He is also a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He is also a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

REPUBLICAN LABEL FITS ONLY PARTLY Someone called me a Republican recently, since when I have looked around various corners of my mind to see whether that statement fits the picture of the man I know. My heart lies not only North and South in this America of ours, but also East and West, and across the Atlantic. Democrats are my kind of Republicans, just as all the Republicans whom I know are Democrats as far as I am concerned.

Now, the Communist Party line, as of pre-war—it has all changed since Germany attacked Poland—was to get the best of events was desirable, since it would destroy the capitalist system, and the people in the process. Therefore, if Mr. Henderson would be a Communist, he should have been against price controls following the attack. He would have been for the better. At present, however, the Russian Government is following the line of the Communist, he should have been against price controls.

SOME OF THE NEW INCOMES MUST BE SAVED Mr. Henderson will fall unless he realizes that the population that he is trying to appeal to is not the same as the population that he is trying to appeal to. He is trying to appeal to the population that is not the same as the population that he is trying to appeal to.

Mexican "Treaty" By Hugh S. Johnson Publication of the complete detail of the sketchily disclosed compact was of considerable interest to the American people. The interest will be renewed when we may get our hands on the treaty. We may get our hands on the treaty. We may get our hands on the treaty.

WHAT IS THE "LOAN" TO BE FOR? As announced we are going to make a "loan" to the Mexican Government in the amount of \$100 million dollars and that will make everything hunky-dory. Just what the "loan" is for is not very clear but there is a good deal of talk about Mexican making "loan" payments for "equipment" of American farm and petroleum properties in Mexico.

Not only was American property alone that was confiscated. Most of these properties were refused to recognize this hijacking and the American Government is in opposition to Hitler as much as it is to the Mexican Government. Are we going to "appease" Mexico for Britain also by charging the property to American taxpayers? It would be just an absurd and costly mistake as the present rumored proposal.

How Far Can Hitler Go?

By Raymond Clapper LONDON.—It looks very much as if Hitler is setting America to see how far he can go in conquering the United States to war. That's what I make of the 22-mile southward movement of the German submarine which is within the patrol belt also claimed by the Nazis as Germany's own blockade zone.

IN EFFECT, with the occupation of Iceland, the British undersea protection of about two-thirds of the North Atlantic route. Until now Hitler evidently has chosen to accept that situation rather than risk provoking the United States to war by attacking in the area under American patrol.

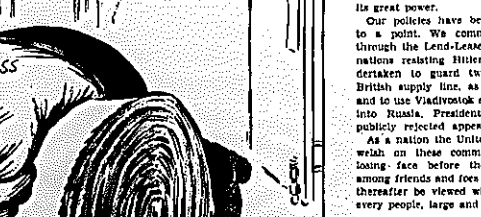
SHIPPING LOSSES HAVE BEEN INCREASING TERRIBLY. During recent months British shipping losses on the North Atlantic have been declining steadily. Supplies have been declared to England with almost no interruption. It is known that an American production increase in the production of the North Atlantic route will increase. If he cannot choke it by submarine and air attack, then he has no hope of cranking England.

Hitler is having serious trouble in Russia. Already it is beginning to be considered everywhere that he is miscalculating there. It is not likely that, while caught in that desperate fight, he would want to bring the United States into the war. For he must know that, if the United States went in, that very action would give him a new and powerful ally.

BRITISH BOMBS HAVE BADLY SHAKEN GERMAN AREAS. Quite reliable reports indicate that the British bombing of Germany, although far from decisive, has rather badly shaken up some areas and has increased alarm among the German people over the turn taken by the war since the attack on Russia. Britain has gained time for preparing against invasion. The troubles of Vichy, France, and the sudden resentment among the people of all the occupied countries are matters which Germany knows all about. Unless Hitler is completely mad he will not wish greatly to aggravate his deteriorating situation by pulling the United States into the fighting.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT The gospel rests on accounts of the activities of Jesus Christ. It is to be written that thou mightest know the certainty concerning the things wherein thou hast been instructed.—Luke 1:3, 4.

Here It Is, Folks —By Herblock



It would thoroughly shake the confidence of all the Latin-American nations and would in effect, give them notice that they could not count on us in a pinch. We should see them running to cover to wait for the Nazi handout to come along.

Visitin' Around No More Trouble Here (Delivered Here) Lexington Dispatch) One of Uncle Sam's boys, Robert Workman, is also in on a short trip from camp in Fort Benning, Ga. Robert is another neophyte in the ranks of the Army. He looks so well that he surely has been fed well. He has about finished his course of training and looks so well in his uniform, and likes this job just fine.