

"Okay, Boss?"

—By Herblock

OCD Needs Next Prod

By Raymond Clapper

MUCH is yet to be done beyond the constructive action taken by President Roosevelt in the last few days. He can't do it all himself; several situations need the help of his producing and driving force levels which the farm bloc has attempted. In setting up the new War Labor Board, Mr. Roosevelt gave it more power, including that of arbitration. All of this is moving toward more drive, more concentration of authority, and away from the buck-passing paradise of the last 18 months.

While he is going good and while he has public enthusiasm behind these constructive measures, Mr. Roosevelt has a good opportunity to end the fantastic situation in the Office of Civilian Defense. There is no reason why it should any longer be tolerated under the part-time leadership of Mayor La Guardia and Mrs. Roosevelt. It is sufficient to note the contrast between the confused and chaotic OCD and the quiet, smooth organization of automobile rationing.

When it became necessary to ration tires, Leon Henderson called in Frank Bane, executive director of the Council of State Government. From there on it was easy. Mr. Bane, through his contact with State, Commerce, and with the aid of expeditors he knew from previous work, passed the word down the line and in less than a week tire rationing boards had been set up in almost every community, to work under regulations issued at Washington.

ITS THE BUNGLED JOBS THAT ATTRACT ATTENTION The secret was in turning the job over to a skilled person who knew how to reach into the government and the local people who would do the work. You haven't heard much about it, because it is the bungled jobs that attract attention. Fortunately OCD didn't get its hands on tire rationing, although it no doubt wanted to.

Those who try to do business with the Office of Civilian Defense report that they find their complete confusion and inefficiency earlier put in the worst in 4,000 years of history. Mayor La Guardia had mayors set up local councils and then asked the Governors to set up local councils, so that in some places two sets are functioning. Buying of equipment is reported to follow the most antiquated Army methods. Criticism is as bitter inside OCD as it is outside. In fact one hears on good word about OCD except from Mayor La Guardia and Mrs. Roosevelt.

ACT AUTHORITIES MUST BE INDEPENDENTLY. Some advocate that it be grouped with the Federal security agency under a kind of home security division which would link health and employment services more closely with a dual street, and restoration of all kinds of local services, which must be done by local authorities independently of Washington.

Visitin' Around North Ala's Trill (Davis Item, Daily News & Press) Miss Martha Turner and boy friend, spent awhile Sunday afternoon with Miss Myrtle and Christine Aldridge. Mend Down a Brick and 3 Nails (Dreel Item, Morgantown News-Tribune) Zion Memorial Baptist school had 48 percent Sunday with collection of \$438 added to the building fund. Pupils, Kellin, Or (Ch. 3 Item, Daily News & Press) D. R. Moore of Granite Falls was in this section a few days ago in the "latter of poultry and egg business."



Letters to the Editor: Parking Meter Philippine

Editors The News: At last we are to get parking meters. To be sure only 300 are to be installed here, but after the public has had a chance to appreciate their value, these hundreds may be followed by many more. I understand that every available street parking space will have its meter. With the reasons for their installation so obvious, it is hard to understand how even the Iron Dukes and the Blocks of Greent could have discovered, for a time, about so important a matter. I understand that it was an appreciation of the following considerations that finally overcame all opposition: 1. The meters will keep the dilapidated jampies of the wool bums, who come in from the hinterland once a week to do their trading, off the main street. Travelers need every available street parking space with white-wash tires. This will broadcast Charlotte's progressive character. 2. The meters can be installed on the meter posts for dispensing salted peanuts, port cards and "lose sixes" groups. 3. They will be a godsend to the "docks." 4. They will cause many citizens to give the children dimes, or even ten-cents, instead of the customary pennies and nickels, for Sunday School. 5. Boholous gentlemen can use them to demonstrate their sobriety and agility by leap-frogging them as a game. 6. They will give the town an air of super-patriotism on celebration days when each parking post is a mark for an American flag. 7. They will add to our speech idiom: Charlotteans will be saying to each other "Where are you parking today?" 8. And last, but not least, the "sake" will be the greatest of any kind machine ever introduced into North Carolina. Three hundred meters taking in a daily total of \$150, not counting the additional income from the sale of the meters, will be a great boon to the Government as a scrap fund. P. S. I hope the parking meter posts will be firmly implanted in the ground, in case we wish to use them as hitching posts. 1700 East Boulevard, Charlotte, N. C.

advantage of the world's bloodshed and poverty, to squeeze an extra income out of all the city, town, and village dwellers, the tradespeople, laborers, professional men, clerks, school teachers, stenographers, office boys and school children. They are to have more than anybody else can have, and they are to take it out of the mouths and stomachs of their fellow countrymen. Why? Will their fellow-countrymen quickly forgive and forget it? Why should they? What about the thousands of car owners who still "burn the roads" at 60 miles per hour, take curves with tires screeching, and start and stop with grinding, burning rubber? There is a rubber shortage. The supply is shut off. If present stock is wasted, soldiers must fight without tanks or supply trucks, and airplanes must take off and come down only on water. What about the farmers who take tires wear out twice as fast at 60 miles as they do at 40, and twice as fast at 40 as at 20. Still drive fast and start and stop suddenly. What of the "manufacturers bloc" which under the OPM has called its "dollar-a-year-men" through key positions to hinder and obstruct the war production from automobiles and trucks to airplanes and tanks, in order to preserve "business as usual" in their profit-making industries? JOHN H. SHEPHERD, President, Webber College, Nabson Park, Fla.

Resolution With a Suffix July Arthur in Onslow County News & News Our fellow student here made a New Year's resolution, and told his wife about it. "I'm not going to drink any more," he advised. "That's fine," she commented. "No more than I drink last year," he advised. "Oh," she exclaimed. "Well, that is enough."

Side Glances



"Yes, and I'll denounce this jury two more days before I'll give that blonde any breach of promise damages! I heard all about this case at my beauty shop!"

Air Losses Pinch Japs

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON ALL the most actively warring nations are beginning to feel the pinch of plane losses. The Japs had to withdraw their bombers from the Philippines (virtually ceasing operations on MacArthur's order) to make the current raids on Singapore. This is a convincing indication that while the Japs have underestimated the Jap air strength in the beginning, they are tending to overestimate it now.

The Russians have air supremacy over the Nazis on their front. It is true, but only because they withdrew their planes from the Far East. Japan knows this and has therefore cut the wings of her home defense force to the detriment for the Malayan campaign.

NAZIS STILL HAVE MORE THAN 4,000 PLANES And the Nazis lost their supremacy over the Reds because they had to shift to Libya, Sicily, Sardinia and the South Ukrainian fronts. Their losses in Russia run 25 to 30 per cent of their original force, and Goering's old command is now scattered all around Europe. Yet the Nazis have more than 4,000 planes left and could replace their losses with three months production, if they have the materials.

This is where our swelling plane production will begin to bear weight. A spectacular Nazi air attack on Malta has been expected the past several days. It is looked upon as a matter of time. The island is an inviolable of England, that was the similar conquest of Crete. An entirely different formula would be used for England.

The Nazis want Malta for better reasons than recharging. That British stronghold sits astride the route from Italy to Greece in Libya, with a strong plane force which accompanies the convoys. By the capture of Malta, with its 1,200 bombers, it would be a serious blow.

If it falls, the British will be able to do no more of the kind of back and forth through the Mediterranean, but only with great danger. The typhus has reached Berlin as reported here. There may be a few cases, but the epidemic and sanitary conditions in the Nazi capital make an epidemic of typhus a serious matter. Poland and the disease is spreading, but it has not reached its epidemic stage. The epidemic has been pushed back so fast that their sanitary facilities break down behind the German front. Many may suffer later in the winter.

The virulence of the disease varies. In mild epidemics, the death rate has run from 25 per cent to serious cases as high as 80 per cent. It spreads rapidly. While the body loses weight, the victim, after the tenth day all live on the victim being carried off in a wheelbarrow (used by the German Army) and in tables, furniture, chairs.

The Russians are better prepared to fight the louse, through the "disinfectant" service. Fewer cases of typhus are reported from the front. What has happened on the Russian front can be seen from the map that from the front phrases of the German Army has been pushed into Russia averaged 400 miles, measuring from the original Russian-German attack line. The Russians have pushed him back an average of 40 miles (exactly the distance from Berlin to the north of London). Only one-tenth of Nazi-combatant troops, therefore, has yet been required.

REIN DRIVE IS FOR LIMITED OBJECTIVES The Red campaign is not an ambitious drive to destroy the German Army or invade Germany. Limited objectives are evident in the tactics employed. One is the relief of Leningrad. This would remove valuable supply railroads behind the lines, push the German Army back beyond the bombing range of Moscow (close to their present planes could heavily bomb the city). More important, it would allow the Reds to clear the Finns from the shortest rail line to the White Sea and open a second route for our supplies. The Finns have cut the railway around Lake Onega, making it to clear the Black Sea to insure its supply lines. The Reds are fighting up through the Chinese. Are seeking to cut in behind the German advance post between Mexico and Deawing on the Sea of Azov. Relief of the naval base at Leningrad is in line with this constant checkmate.

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They So Lived Duty Was the Watchword of These Two Great Generals

In ordinary times it is primarily the Christian virtue and strong character of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson which are chosen for comment on their joint history. But in times like these their more martial qualities suggest themselves. Their two military careers contain recommendations of the greatest urgency to a United States at war. Stonewall Jackson and his "foot cavalry" were masterly exponents of movement and surprise in war, the tactics which served the Nazi generals so well during the first two successful years in overrunning Europe. And Marston himself was a connoisseur of surprise, a fighting general who knew the effectiveness of what is now called the "pinch" attack, although in his day it consisted simply of dividing his force some ways, because of the insufficiency of men, at great risk and moving it from two directions against the enemy. Lee and Jackson both, owe their everlasting fame to the accident that they lived in a time of war. Old Jack as an eccentric professor of mathematics at VMI and Lee as a colonel of U. S. Engineers (who laid a line to John Brown in the arsenal at Harper's Ferry) were men of personality but not of prominence when Sumter fell. But in war they had the stuff of which great warriors are made and a conception of duty that "sublimed" words which formed their theme. And that, rather than the circumstances of fame, is the lesson of their lives for us in this year 1942—that we shall live that when our country calls for all that we have, we shall answer with all that we have.

Better Late... What's In It for John L. If AFL and CIO Make Peace?

Wonder whom John L. Lewis would choose as the "united and competent leadership" under which he would be willing to see the AFL and the CIO united? That's not an unfair question, because it was John L. himself, back in 1939, who actually began peace negotiations between committees of the two labor organizations. This was the same John L. who, before and since, has ignored or summarily declined numerous invitations from the President of the United States to try to close down what was bleeding organized labor. Now, with patriotic zeal that comes later, perhaps, than never, John L. wants to make it up. He must have his eye on somebody. Messrs. Pearson & Allen of the Washington Merry-Go-Round predict that the "united and competent leadership" a labor peace will be made. They also foresee the resignations of William Green, AFL president, and of Phillip Murray, CIO president. (Then whom does John L. have in mind as the supreme general of the combined groups? Surely it would be impossible for him to overlook that capable, unselfish, and kindly patriot, John L. Lewis or else, boys, or else.

Bad Taxes But Payroll Deduction Is Worse Than Sales Levy

It may be that Congress will make obsolete the payroll tax vs. sales tax argument by deciding to try both. Admittedly that's possible. There is still time to ponder which is best, or more accurately, which is worse. Both are "bad" taxes because they make no concession to the principle of taxation according to one's ability to pay. But if they are "bad" in this respect, they are equally bad. The payroll tax has three current items: 1) a straight levy assessed against every wage earner's pay check, 2) "withholding tax" ostensibly collected to assist the taxpayer in meeting the yearly income levy (the payroll tax would be credited against the sum due under 10) 3) a straight payroll tax deduction of a "social security payment." The withholding tax is a penalty against the taxpayer, provided proper credit was given on income tax and returns made if the amount assessed against payroll exceeded what the government was due. The other two items of payroll taxation are of the same stripe and are equally reprehensible. Apparently those who advocate this tax take no cognizance of the fact that millions of persons with incomes would be exempted from paying it. They would escape simply because they are not on payrolls. Farmers, merchants, salesmen, commission men—all of them would be spared. The others would have to pay it all, electrically, fuel, and food. And since it is Government policy to discourage purchases of non-essentials, the tax would take its greatest toll against those who went in for luxury spending. If it comes to a choice between the sales tax and the payroll tax, we'll take the former. But, as we said in the beginning, we're liable to get both.

Mr. U Saw His Defection Shows Which Way the Wind Blows in Asia

By seeing through the ubiquitous Burmese Premier U Saw, the British cleaned out a fourth Axis Trojan horse. First there was Iran, then Iraq, then Syria. Now it appears that U Saw, in attempting to get what he called "self government" for Burma, had transferred his negotiations from London to Tokyo. In return for promises which the Japs no doubt were delighted to make, he would have betrayed his people into the hands of the enemy. It was lucky for the British and for all of the allies that he didn't do so.

But the smothering of one would-be ally is a far shorter of solving the greater problem of keeping our Asiatic allies in full partnership against the Axis. There are disturbing signs that Japan's "Asia for Asiatians" slogan has made more than a few converts. From China come reports of dissatisfaction with the Allied War effort in the East. The son of the founder of the Chinese Republic suggests that if Britain and America propose to take no immediate offensive action against the Japs, then China will not feel obliged to do otherwise. China will be content to wait.

Perhaps. But rumors persist that the Japs have promised Chiang Kai-Shek that they would withdraw from all of China and allow the Republic to re-establish its capital at Nanking—in this year for a peace. It is presumed that such a treaty would be based on Chinese participation in Japan's "Co-prosperity sphere for East Asia."

Whether or not there is any basis for these rumors, the neutralization of China, —or, worse still, Chinese co-operation with Japan—would just about close the white man's goose in the Far East. Nor is all going well for the British in India. The Indian leaders are not fully satisfied with the Raj's promise to consider the question of full dominion status after the war. They want something now.

The two things all our Asiatic allies want are 1) economic and political, if not social, equality with their Caucasian comrades, and 2) tangible assurance that Japan will be stopped immediately. For the long-oppressed people of Asia—and they have been ruthlessly exploited by white overlords—would rather live in Japan than to be conquered by her in a hopeless war. There are no Greek Evzones, no Yugoslav Chetniks in Asia. It is time that the United Nations profited by Mr. U Saw's timely example and decided if they can hope to win this war without Asiatic allies. Hitler and his hard luck stories of life in Russia are no pleasing to foreign ears, they might be worked up into another hour of charm. In certain respects the Red Army resembles the peach crop of Georgia which is not at its best until it has been killed off a few times. A fine way to build civilian-morale—no crowd bawling "pull yourself together!" and another threatening to take circles away from the girls.

It is hoped and trusted the better business bureaus are looking into this new one, a "save-Humania-for-Carol movement," headed by Carol.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

Our bodies are from the earth, they will perish, but our spirits should be joined to God, who lives in heaven. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.—Romans 8:14