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And Evening Chronicle

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1942

Dig. Brothers

The Tax Men Present a
Breath-Taking Bill

Whether it is stoicism or resignation or abstraction is yet to be determined, but the American people are receiving with a majestic indifference the news that within the next two or three months they face an abrupt decline in the standard of living. The cost of the war is coming home to roost on everyone's pocketbook.

Consider the income tax bill which the Senate is preparing to present. It begins on earnings above \$10.00 a week for single persons, \$25.00 a week for heads of families. They start off in high gear with a thumping 19 percent of the first taxable income. From that point surtax rates accelerate rapidly until they reach a top of 82 percent for the quite rich.

Never mind the rich; the fairly-well-to-do are going to make the bulk of the income tax returns, and their payments will have to come, for the most part, out of money they have been spending. Where else is a man supporting a wife and two children on \$50.00 a week going to get \$40.00?

And why that down payment he will have bought only a year's surcease from the income tax. The Victory Tax, yet to be drawn up in specific form, has designs at 5 percent upon all income in excess of \$624.00 a year, \$500 a month. Now is the taxpayer through at that point?

There are signs that he will be called upon to pay a 10 percent sales tax, "straight across the board" on everything that he buys. Secretary Morgenthau wants \$9,000,000,000 more in sales tax bill will raise. Even candidly don't know how else the money can be raised except by a general sales tax.

Altogether, a third or more of the country's income is going to be taken by taxes of one kind and another. The eighth most probably will have to be extracted from the War Bonds. What's left won't be except in the case of those who are enjoying war windfalls, anywhere near enough to sustain the American people in the style to which they have been accustomed. They're going to have to dig down deep.

Post-War Aim

Punishment of Axis Criminals
Involves None of the Freedoms

The first of these long-waited concrete statements of America's post-war aims came from President Roosevelt yesterday, and this was one to cheer. The United States, he said, was ready to mete out just punishment to Axis leaders responsible for war crimes. To men who planned and executed the organized murder of innocent thousands in Europe and Asia, trial and punishment is coming.

Any American or Britisher has been waiting for that announcement, perhaps without realizing it. In the conquered lands, men and women have awaited the coming of judgment; for that day they have been living A-victorious United Nations armistice will include provisions for the surrender of war criminals, those criminals to be identified by every available means of collecting and sifting evidence.

The President added that the U. S. for its part, would not resort to mass reprisals, and that the guilty would be only a small part of the total Axis populations. We hazard the guess that, if all the guilty are brought to justice, there will be very real mass reprisals for Poland, for Czechoslovakia, for all the bloody lands, there must be an answer in revenge.

Because Washington has been steadily collecting evidence of "barbaric crimes" since August, 1941, it is certain that by war's end the list will be very long. Now the temper of the American people is to exact a terrible toll in payment for German, Italian and Jap barbarism. It is to be hoped that the war was suddenly over, their mood will not change.

This is not a plan for murder to answer murder, but one of just retribution. It is not simply an eye for an eye, but the payment for crime by crime, under international law and humanity. And who, for instance, can say that one man, or any dozen

men, shall answer for the starvation of an entire nation like Greece? We hope that the President will not continue to remain silent as to the future of the neo-fascists Hitler and Mussolini. We hope that for them, there is no Doorn, no St. Helena.

The Denial

The President Thinks Willkie
Demands Not Worth Reading

Wendell Willkie, considered as much a Democrat as a Republican these days, went to the White House for the President's blessing, instruction and advice before he took off on his world tour to the capitals of the United Nations. He was regarded as, an unofficial ambassador of our Government. Some thought he was being sent, at his own suggestion, to indicate the need for a second front by American troops, to prepare the nation for the ordeal when it came.

Any American, he left quickly, arrived quickly, spoke quickly. From Egypt, he painted a dark picture of the German chances in desert warfare. From Moscow, and later from Chungking, he began to call for the second front. He not only talked to the folks back home, and left behind him a comment in Britain. He staked official comment in the East new hope and new demands. If he was organized as a sower of seed, he was doing a good job.

But in a press conference in Washington yesterday, his boss made light of him before reporters. The President had indeed read the headlines saying that Willkie had come to the purpose of the Willkie trip, or he is playing the ends against the middle like the astute politician he always is. Has Willkie forgotten his orders since he left home, burned a White House bridge after being carried away with Russian and Chinese needs? Or is he simply talking too much about a subject that has already been settled behind the scenes, and is ready even now for final action?

We don't pretend to know the Roosevelt meaning, and a certain amount of pondering leaves us still puzzled. Is the President only covering up the purpose of the Willkie trip, or he is playing the ends against the middle like the astute politician he always is. Has Willkie forgotten his orders since he left home, burned a White House bridge after being carried away with Russian and Chinese needs? Or is he simply talking too much about a subject that has already been settled behind the scenes, and is ready even now for final action?

Withdrawal

Lewis Split of C.I.O. Spoils
Hopes of Unity for Labor

Our old friend John L. Lewis was in his usual rare form yesterday as he pushed his United Mine Workers into the final breach with CIO. Perhaps the break was not so important, though it makes impossible the Labor unity for which Lewis has been loudly calling. Of greater import were the Lewis words as he delivered his final speech. In those words, any American could see for himself the pressing need for Government regulation of union operations.

To isolate unto themselves the workers of a whole major industry, Lewis had only to assert that CIO was indebted to UMW to the tune of \$1,665,000, that it was trying to destroy the Mine Workers, that it was preventing unity. He clutched it by saying that, if the miners wanted to stick with CIO they didn't want a man like him as president, they wanted a man with more rabbit in him than I've got.

Even from a casual reading of the reported session one may see that the miners themselves were convinced, until the Lewis harangue, that CIO was the group for them. The larger body owed them big money (there's no quick way of knowing under present union operations). They believed that unity might be achieved by sticking with CIO. The Lewis personality, apparently, dissuaded them.

So the Labor unity in the war effort which was promised last Winter has come to naught. A. F. of L., CIO and UMW stand apart. But the bushy-browed king gave them all a choice. The Labor unity was ready, he quivered. They could have unity. On his terms. In this case, and at this time, he may as well have been yelling his diatribes to the people and service men of the United States. We're wondering how long this is to be allowed to go on, without the same control now placed on us all.

After The Battle
It's All Up To Byrnes

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON
THE President's new economic control set-up is largely the handiwork of three close economic advisers, Henderson (prices), Lubin (White House economist), and Davis (war labor chairman). In the initial stages of the plan, Nelson (the production) and McNutt (the man-power) played some part with the other three, but they were left out at the end.

The program represents what the President intended to do in the first place, before asking Congress for the farm price legislation. The farm price legislation was made, and, as announced at the White House, Oct. 3, is substantially the same as forecast in this column published Aug. 25, even as to the names of the members of the board, excepting Director Byrnes, Morgenthau and Jesse Jones.

The initial announcements merely constituted a legal assumption of blanket authority to do just about anything—with no specific indications as to what the program will do to either existing wages or prices. The obviously puzzled Agriculture Department fended off inquiries as to what the Executive order will do to farm prices, by saying that further directions would have to be received from overall economic controller Byrnes, or the White House.

Absence of comment from farm bloc Senators betrayed their uneasiness at Mr. Roosevelt leaving out any mention of farm bloc labor costs, while including consideration of farm subsidies. They took as a further indication that the President intended to go ahead as he had originally planned, and farm bloc Senator Bankhead granted a mild disapproval.

Frankly, they did not know what it meant. One Administration source guessed the inclusion of subsidies, and the exclusion of farm labor, would leave parity just about where it is. Average Congressional guess was that farm prices would advance at least 5 per cent or 10 per cent in a year, but this was admittedly both blind and conservative. On the wage side, the field ahead was just as wide open for Justice Byrnes and the War Labor Board. The order could mean a lot or it could mean little. As a matter of fact, it probably means that the War Labor Board is going to continue to follow its policy of applying the Little Steel wage formula, under which wage advances will be allowed on the basis of increased cost of living since Jan. 1, 1941.

A vast new vista of wage controls seems to be opened by the President's assumption of authority to let the board rule against wage increases.

"We've Got To Be Careful of Sabotage These Days"

—By Herblock

It's A Tough Job
Freezing Our Manpower

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
IN considering the problem of placing labor in war industry and on the farms—really get down to business on this after the elections—we might well take into consideration the suggestions of a man who had some experience in that field in the last war—Bernard M. Baruch.

Mr. Baruch, as chairman of the War Industries Board in the last war, Mr. Baruch approaches the drafting of labor in a manner somewhat different from much of the current talk. His views were outlined in a memorandum prepared for congressional study some years ago. His ideas are still pertinent.

Mr. Baruch says a distinction must be made between the soldier and the civilian worker. The soldier serves the nation directly. His service profits no one but the country as a whole. He has surrendered his ordinary civilian status and is clothed, housed, fed and attended.

But the civilian employee serves a private industry operated for profit. Enforced and involuntary service for a private master is defined by the Supreme Court as slavery. Everyone now working on man power is conscious of the deep American repugnance to forced labor, and many feel that this must be taken into consideration if the purpose in mind is not to be frustrated by public sentiment.

But Mr. Baruch does not say that men in civilian life are free agents in wartime. Perhaps, he is hardly inclined in the last war, can be immediately expanded to deal with a situation that is already far more acute than that in 1918. The Government can specify cases of employment

even outside the union field, and by the President's limitation of action to \$25,000 net, after taxes.

But this vista moved forward or backward, like a stereoscopic slide, depending upon what official eyes you attempted to see it through. The wage provision of the Executive order, for instance, directed adjustments to correct "manifest inequities," "substandards," "gross inequities," or "to aid in the effective prosecution of the war."

They might as well have put in "or for any other purpose." Under this, wages could be generally raised to any height.

The \$25,000 restriction also contained so many loopholes that it looked like a Swiss cheese in which the holes were larger than the substance. Certainly it will allow salaries up to \$75,000 or more before taxes, and perhaps even larger salaries in a great many instances.

Also, the order implied that the income tax returns can be used to enforce this and other wage provisions. The question here also is whether the extreme report of opening tax returns to the War Labor Board is to be pursued or not.

But do not get the idea from these microscopic observations that the program is considered to be unwarranted or unwelcome. The choice of Supreme Court Justice Byrnes, with an acutely political mind, to answer all the above and other questions, appears to be accepted everywhere with satisfaction.

Mr. Byrnes has never been at the forefront of the reform element of the New Deal in its many talked-up programs to revise Governmental systems. His legislative career in the Senate was devoted to acting as an efficient go-between with this group and the Southern farm bloc Democrats.

His administration of the nation's economies will probably assume the same character. No doubt he was selected for that purpose. He generally runs most shows in which he is involved.

Mr. Roosevelt will use his unparalleled persuasive powers to get Byrnes from the bench for the job. It may now be told the President wanted Byrnes to handle the War Production Board before Nelson took over, but was unable to get him to leave the bench for that post.

What we have here then, is a good man with unlimited power and only general directions as to what to do to keep wages and prices in check. What we will get is solely up to him.



"One more complaint out of my family on the meals and I'll get a job in a war plant myself, where all of our various cooks have gone!"

Little Guadalcanal
No Paradise

The New Yorker

UNTIL the Japs moved in, there was hardly any reason for a white man to visit the island of Guadalcanal, and few did. The mean temperature runs between seventy-five and eighty-five degrees, the humidity is terrific, the rainfall averaging two hundred inches annually.

There are no roads on the island except in the northern part, where the air base is, and no indigenous occupations except the production of copra and the raising of cattle. Most of Guadalcanal's twenty-five hundred square miles is steep and rocky, or covered with forest or thick jungles.

In the open spaces the grass grows to a height of six feet, and during parties going through this in the early morning, even if there is no rain, are setting as wet from the dew as if they'd been swimming. In the forests are tree trunks as big as humpy rabbits, figs that have long tails but otherwise resemble our Public Library birds, and bright-yellow orchids.

In the old days the residents were cannibals and head-hunters, going after their neighbors in long canoes that had upturned ends, like gondolas. It's only fair to say, however, that the natives on Guadalcanal were never as tough as those on the neighboring island of Malaita, who are pronounced by experts to have been the most bloodthirsty black men on earth.

The Guadalcanal set have never been quite as innocent, but their liking for what is known in pidgin English as "long pie" has for some time been an open secret. In 1931, they ate a romantic capitalist named Benjamin Boyd, who had arrived in a yacht from New South Wales with some dreamy ideas about becoming their ruler. As recently as forty years ago they killed, and presumably ate, eleven members of an anthropological expedition from Australia.

In general, the natives took to the plantation life so well that until the war interfered it was the custom for young men to hire out for four or five years as plantation hands on coconut islands. Of the fourteen thousand natives the last census of the island showed six thousand head of cattle, a hundred and thirty-four horses, a hundred and ninety-five goats, and eleven mules. Who and what's there now is anybody's guess.

A Strange Fellow
Our New Adviser

From "The Hour"

WITHIN the past fortnight a dapper gentleman by the name of Tracey Phillips has visited Washington and made a number of calls on the State Department. Phillips, we are informed, has been prominent officials regarding the European situation and problems of the foreign born in this country. Those State Department officials are doubtless unaware of certain of this gentleman's associations and of some of the more interesting aspects of his career.

A former member of the British Colonial Office, Tracey Phillips was known to be in contact with "appeasement circles" in England before the war. Lav Astor and Lord Halifax, whose names were then associated with the so-called Cliveden Set, were among Phillips' intimate friends. Phillips was also said to be the great admirer of Benito Mussolini. He was a frequent visitor to Fascist Italy.

The Fascist Government of Italy displayed considerable warmth towards Phillips who has expressed his admiration for the brutal Fascist colonial policy in Africa.

Tracey Phillips arrived in Canada from England on June 10, 1940, and was promptly contacted by Luke McShin, editor of the pro-Nazi Ukrainian-American newspaper, Svoboda. This paper was banned by the United States for its pro-Nazi character appearing originally in the hands of a Russian émigré who had fled from his office in Jersey City, N. J., to Canada to avoid the Russian secret police. Phillips, published an article welcoming the "distinguished visitor," Tracey Phillips. Only a short time before this, Myshynsky had returned from Nazi Germany, where he had been a guest speaker on one of Dr. Goebbels' radio programs.

Phillips' visit to Canada had been preceded by that of a Fascist-Ukrainian, W. Kisseloffsky, who spread the word that Phillips was coming as a "special emissary of Lord Halifax." From the day he set foot in Canada, Phillips was enthusiastically hailed by Fascist-Ukrainian organizations set up by representatives of the German Intelligence Service. The very friendly reception accorded to Tracey Phillips by these persons at a time when Germany and England were at war, was rather strange, to say the least.

As a matter of fact, Phillips' association with the Fascist Ukrainians dates back some years. In the Summer of 1939, Phillips was invited to the home of Lord Halifax, and spent a week at the Villa Romana, home of Jacob Macdonald, an American financier and philanthropist, who had been placed in the United States State Department.

Tracey Phillips has been in Canada for ten years. His influence in England was doubtless useful to him in securing his present position with the Canadian Department of War Services.

It would appear that, in view of his strong connections with the Fascist Ukrainians, Tracey Phillips is hardly the man to organize effective support of the war effort, or to give advice to the United States State Department.

There was no objection.

MR. BYRNES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

THE SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

MR. BYRNES. Mr. Speaker, double honor came to me Saturday last. Justice Byrnes was called by the President to the difficult and responsible task of leading the fight against inflation. Those of us who know him, as he is affectionately called, are sure that he will perform his new post with the same outstanding manner as my other constituent, Mr. Byrnes, who pitched his team to victory in the Yankee Stadium.

It is a special honor to me to call the attention of Congress to these two distinguished citizens, Jim Byrnes and Ernie White, residing within a dozen miles of each other, each of whom has and shall continue to lead the field in his respective calling.

Strength to their right arm!

Palmetto Pitchers

Two Of A Kind