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And Evening Chronicle

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1942

Men Are Men

Japan Steals Our Thunder; They're Over-Optimistic, Too

The Government of the United States and the Japanese Empire have long done with that phase of relations spent in mutual admiration. The people of America are not at all like those of the Land of the Rising Sun. Navy Secretary Frank Knox is not to be compared with Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura. In item and in total we are as far apart as the Poles. You will agree?

But consider the nations at war, two nations before the unleashed forces of destruction. Here, Nipponese and American are not always opposites. The one, marshaled for combat under totalitarian force, the other challenged to avenge himself and protect his freedom. They seemed to us, one day this week, almost of one stripe despite everything.

Americans have so often heard warnings from on high: "Take this news with caution. The war is not over. It will be long, hard and bloody. You must work harder, sacrifice more. The enemy is no pushover. He will be back. He is strong." Especially has that been the line for Secretary Knox, attempting to dampen optimism.

Across the Pacific, Admiral Nomura, one of the ambassadors of the cross, has the same tone to his own people. He warned against underestimating American might. Too many Japanese were expecting a quick, easy victory, but it would not be so. The war would be long, hard and bloody. Have faith, he preached. One might have been wiser to listen to both speeches.

What is this? This is the answer of any people at war. All see victory ahead or none. Most of them see it coming soon, with ease. Their way of life will triumph. Anything else is unthinkable. America is over-optimistic, so also is Japan. All men are alike. If so, they will remain thus until that sad day of settlement breaks over the far Pacific and the little men and women of Japan discover that Nomura, rest his soul, had tried to enlighten them, but that he'd sold only a fraction of the truth.

Dried Up

Gastonia Gained on Drunks, But the Boys Got Outa Town

Gastonia's first dry week-end under suppression of wine and beer sales is pointed out as a success by law enforcement officers, and will thus stand as a model for sorts for other North Carolina communities. The basis of judgment (by Police Chief Elliott, and not by a Prohibition group) was the sharp decrease in the number of arrests for drunkenness. And that decrease in turn was laid to the fact that thirsty citizens were not allowed to buy beer and wine.

However, and a good-sized however at that, a 50 per cent decline in arrests seems no proof that the broken flow of light alcoholic beverages had a great effect on Gastonia's new sobriety. We note that no increase in the importation of hard liquor from nearby South Carolina was recorded, and also that a veritable migration to out-of-town roadhouses took place.

If roadside beer and wine dispensaries were crowded, and taxi firms swamped by a clamoring clientele of parch-throats eager to escape the dry city limits, the experiment seems to us to have been of little benefit. If the record shows that fewer arrests were made, and in the next line shows that a great number of Gastonia's promptly made a bee-line for the nearest oasis and consumed wine or beer to their hearts' content, that proves we insist again, that the two factors are not major causes of drunkenness in the first place.

Even granting that wine and beer actually are the stuff of many a week-end drunk, the city should realize soon that it has only widened the locale of the little orgies. We insist again, that the two factors are not major causes of drunkenness in the first place.

legged and cockeyed, the culprit will answer all accusations with his stock line of defense, "Hadda coupla bottlesa beer." His refuge is in, of course, about the same for any binger. There, however, the similarity ends. It should be so recognized.

Demolition

For a Few Violations, OPA Holds Entire State to Blame

We beseech you, if your imagination permits, to go along with us on the theory that the State Office of Price Administration, based in Raleigh, might be likened to an aviation combat group, with our hundred counties as its theater of operations. Immediately, if you're agreeable to that, we'll accuse high-flying OPA of indiscriminate bombing.

As if nettled by their task, and disposed to distrust public reaction in advance, OPA's commanding officers have straddled an entire state with their missiles. Upon advice of their informants that rationing regulations have been violated around Raleigh or Wilmington, for example, they branded the state at large as guilty, and bombing and strafing went forward immediately.

Once, assuming that this force serving the public was waging a just war against a stubborn and conniving populace, we accepted an OPA charge that the state's filling stations had been guilty of kiting over the rationing traces. Operators in the Mecklenburg area protested, and we brought that to the attention of group headquarters. Our answer was not quite satisfactory, and something like this, "Oh, that. We didn't mean your part of the state. We meant another part."

This week the bombers are at work again. In a general, all-inclusive, somewhat vague statement, OPA's chief investigator, James C. Greene, says that 70 per cent of all filling stations investigated have been found guilty of violations, that gasoline has been sold without coupons for 75 cents per gallon, that "serious black market operations" are being carried on. No names are named, nor even sections. There is only the claim that a roundup of the bootleggers is now in full swing.

This time, we won't venture to fly along. Dealers in gasoline are innocent as far as we're concerned, until OPA names names and cites instances. And if they've discovered all these violations, why don't they out with them, rather than blacken the reputation of a whole group?

Miss Alice

She, With Miss Lelia, Was A Charlotte Institution

The accounts of Miss Alice Holland's death say that she taught for 35 years in the D. H. Hill School. This is more of an anachronism than an inaccuracy, for at the time Miss Alice began to teach at this place is now D. H. Hill School, it was known simply as the South Graded School. Miss Alice had one of the first grades, the Miss Lelia Young the other, and between the two of them these gentlewomen introduced whole generations of Charlotteans to the mysteries of reading and writing.

They were, for all their variations, a team. Miss Alice was the disciplinarian, an attitude which probably accrued both to her personal nature and the circumstances which compelled her to turn to teaching. Among parents of those earlier days when a child had to be started in school it was always a matter of absorbing interest and conversation, like unto the turn of a fateful die, as to which room the young beginner would be placed in, Miss Alice's or Miss Lelia's. The children were pleased, without intended kindness to Miss Alice, at being consigned to Miss Lelia's, but many of the harassed parents, without intended kindness to Miss Lelia, admired Miss Alice's resolute and hoped it would prevail. And from both first-grade rooms the children emerged after their year's novitiate with an appreciation of the worth of these two women and their beneficence.

The fond sentiment for both will be generally recalled by Miss Alice's death on Wednesday, as it was by Miss Lelia's death two years ago. Each was a person of distinction and status in her own right, yet one complemented the other. And it seems, even now, so natural not to speak of Miss Alice without mentioning Miss Lelia, and not to speak of Miss Lelia without mentioning Miss Alice.

With White House Blessing Communism Enters New Deal Taxation

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON
The Administration is proposing to correct its mistake in illegally limiting salaries to \$25,000 (without approval of Congress) by doubling the size of the error.

Either way or both, this restriction alone can re-make and destroy the American way of life and the democratic capitalist form of government, as anyone who will weigh the facts carefully can see.

The greatest problem this country faces is to pay for this war. The debt is now running over \$100,000,000,000 and will continue upward.

The only way this Government can sustain itself is by taxing the earnings of the people to a similarly unprecedented degree. The weight of the debt will shrink proportionately as incomes go up.

What we must have to sustain democracy now and after the war is highest productivity, highest earnings, a greater national income than ever before, full employment and good profits—so all these sources of income can be tapped by taxation to an extent never before attempted.

If income from investments is to be limited to \$25,000 annually, there will not be sufficient investment to sustain a capitalist democratic system. No one will risk more than enough in private enterprise to make that sum. Financial stagnation will ensue.

Money will not be ventured in new enterprises, to furnish new employment, higher wages, better working conditions. Existing enterprises will be crippled in their growth if they are already furnishing each of their stockholders \$25,000 a year.

Greatest sufferer will not be the investor, who is already making his \$25,000, but labor—the union or non-union labor—that is employed with the investors' money.

If salaries are to be limited to \$25,000, similarly, no one will waste his energy trying to make more. The superior lawyer, architect, artist, concert musician, actor, doctor, business executive will make his \$25,000 and quit.

Greatest sufferers from this eventually will not be the persons who have made their \$25,000 (which is enough for them) but the average worker who relies upon them for support. But the party to suffer most is the U. S. Treasury—the people's purse—strained by this unprecedented, colossal war load. Its revenues will fall off as earnings of investors and high salaried persons are limited.

It will have to tax the average man more and more, and if he cannot carry this added burden after the war, the Treasury will break down and our democratic system with it.

Now, all these large incomes from investments or salaries are taxed profited for the people as a whole. The tax on \$100,000 earned is \$65,148 (larger from investments). On \$250,000, it is \$151,000.

As long as we keep these large income people working fully they not only furnish employment, capital investment sources, and contribute directly to the economies of the nation, but we take three-fourths of what they earn or more away from them in taxes.

Any man now earning \$250,000 is working eight months a year for the country—the people as a whole—and only four months for himself. What the Administration proposes is that he shall stop working the eight months for the nation and work only the four months for himself.

This is bad enough in war times, when the will to win—plus unprecedented Government expenditures—furnishes the

impetus for full production, but after the war, such an impetus will be lacking.

In truth, a peacetime restriction along this line would be a simple direct tax upon superior business energy of Americans, the extra initiative, the desire to get rich, which has made this nation the envy of the world. No greater nonsense than these income restrictions are perpetrated on a free people. And why? Well, the excuse for it now is that the Government wants to avoid inflation.

This is manifestly absurd, because a 65 per cent tax on a \$100,000 income already has met the inflation danger in a wise and profitable way.

The only other excuse is that the CIO wanted it (long ago), the Communists proposed it, and it apparently sounded good to Mrs. Roosevelt and some other officials not fully identified in the public discussions about the matter.

The only ones who could possibly gain from it are the Communists who want our system to fail. Labor and the CIO would suffer, and no doubt Mrs. Roosevelt herself would suffer (and the charities she sustains, as well).

Apparently, both the CIO and Mrs. Roosevelt look at it only from the standpoint of the person who is getting the big money. The only way in which the question should be viewed is from the standpoint of the people as a whole.

From that standpoint, the opposite policy is demanded—higher and higher incomes for everyone to keep everyone producing fully, larger investments to inspire new enterprises, a substantial diversion of new employment, and a terrific taxation of them to keep the democratic way of life going.

That is the only way we can survive this war.

The True Unity

Twin Offensive

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON
THERE has been much confused talk about a "united command" as if the Russian generals could have been very helpful in planning the amphibian campaign against North Africa and the desert war in Egypt, or as if our own General Staff could have been very helpful for the Russian defense of Stalingrad.

What we really need was not a "united command" but a unified strategy. And that we are now seeing brilliantly expressed, expressed with the most exquisite timing. Everyone is fulfilling his obligations, fully, and on time. In the Western Theater of the war, and although our military leaders have worked us against over-optimism, it is impossible to find any cause for pessimism.

Furthermore, it must be apparent to the German High Command that no nation has braved beyond its powers. General Montgomery, in Egypt, has done what he said he would do. The Americans have kept their own counsel, have done what they were not expected to do, and the Russians are demonstrating that Stalin's statement of some weeks ago, that the Red Army is still equal to any Land Force on this earth, was accurate.

It is also clear that in calling for a second front the Russians were not asking to be relieved of any share of the task of defeating Hitler. They were asking to have a situation created in which the defeat of Hitler by common action is certain.

Against the agitation for a Second Front it was argued that by publishing it the element of surprise would be eliminated. For creating the element of surprise there are two possibilities—to be silent, or to talk too much. Actually, the immense amount of talk created such a confusion that the Montgomery campaign, the Eisenhower campaign, and the Timoshenko offensive all came as complete surprises. Hitler became cross-eyed trying to imagine where the next blow might fall.

The Russian Front still remains the main front of the war. Yet on this front the overwhelming bulk of Hitler's armies are tied up. And, as the Anglo-American forces have fulfilled their obligations to create a substantial diversion, the Russians have promptly responded. This week-end battle before Stalingrad is perhaps the decisive battle of the war in Russia. It is more important than the battle before Moscow a year ago, and it has been more brilliantly executed.

In the first three to four days of this battle, the German losses were so heavy that everything known to us. They occur at a moment when the matter of reserves is of primary importance to Germany. As far as we can see now, two German armies are defeated. The Russian army has captured, and more than a hundred thousand have been lost, killed, captured or wounded in action.

For the first time in the history of the Russian army, they have been able to carry out a rapid maneuver in the open, on the terms of the classic German strategy, comparable to the battle of Tannenberg in the last war, and of Sedan in this. This differs from the Battle of Moscow a year ago, which was on a wide front, without concentration and without encirclement.

The Russians may have two immediate aims: a limited one—the relief of Stalingrad and the Volga, and the attrition of the German, and a great maneuver aimed at the capture of everything known to us. They occur at a moment when the matter of reserves is of primary importance to Germany. As far as we can see now, two German armies are defeated. The Russian army has captured, and more than a hundred thousand have been lost, killed, captured or wounded in action.

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Too Much Talk A World Of Brass Tacks

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
ONE of the early jobs will be to get the talk about that international police force down out of the air and into practical terms.

When it becomes apparent that there is something of that kind, and that it is not just some more big talk, people in every country who are fed up on war and the threat of war are going to take the United Nations a lot more seriously. They are going to be more anxious to get on the United Nations bandwagon. Our victories are pulling over some of the fence-sitters fast, in Latin America, among the neutrals in Europe, and, of most immediate practical use, the deserting Vichy leaders like Darlan.

This so-called international police force would become another encouragement toward the crumbling of the Axis world that already has set in. But we need a better term than international police force. We are shooting at something that would do the work of an international police force, but I don't think any of the men who have the practical job in hand are thinking in terms of a literally internationalized force, wearing some new kind of international uniform, under an international flag, divorced from their regular national allegiance. No big nation is going to sign over a huge chunk of its national defense forces, take its flag and its insignia away from its soldiers and sailors, and all of that sort of thing.

Nations and national spirit and the instinct of national self-preservation are deep-rooted and not to be erased from the hearts and minds of people in any important country. I don't think anybody in a position of responsibility is thinking of anything of the sort.

They think of something much closer to what now exists, and something that doesn't wrench every instinct of people in every nation. At its simplest it will be merely complicated. But the rough idea of the direction now in mind is that the principal United Nations—especially the four major powers, the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China—would be the backbone of a United Nations arrangement whereby the general staffs of the principal nations would be under orders of their respective governments to collaborate against any designated aggressor.

Perhaps the principal weapon would be the air force. It might be possible to make the whole so-called international police force rest on staff agreements between the air forces of the principal powers. There will be enough air force on our side at the end of the war to serve the purpose.

Air force can go anywhere, quickly, and it doesn't need such elaborate bases and establishments as either naval or land force. Commercial air lines that

will cover the world may well serve as the basis, and be maintained for ready conversion to police work. Something like the present Combined Chiefs of Staff, which brings the American and British armed forces into working co-operation, may serve as the staff control for such a force. In the Combined Chiefs of Staff, British and American armed forces work as an international force now, yet each preserves its national identity and national independence. We are more likely to get such joint forces than a single new force created as an international air force.

They would be military agencies of their respective governments. Their co-operation would be the result of combined decisions of their governments—or their governments as constituting the executive committee, or whatever it is, of the United Nations. There, at the top, is where the decisions would be made to use the joint force against a threat of aggression.

The adequate force can be thus provided, by following in peacetime the pattern our combined forces now follow in this war. The test is whether the governments of the nations are sufficiently supported by their respective peoples to hold together in a United Nations organization and make decisions to use force against a threat—as when Hitler invaded the Rhineland in 1936.

It would bring us new recruits and help win the war if something of that kind could be done very soon. That isn't too much trouble, nor too much risk to undertake, to reduce the chances of having a third world war.

Visitin' Round

Yes, But You Didn't
Mr. What Kind of Chickens
(North Wilkesboro Hustler)

Mr. T. M. Foster, who owns the Blue Ridge Hatchery, has recently completed or added a new hatchery house to his extensive poultry business establishment heretofore, and which is the third-room hatch house built by the progressive, Blue Ridge Hatchery. And this week four carpenters are erecting a feed storage-house aside of their coop storage which was built two or three years ago on the side alley near the town or Presbyterian cemetery for storage of coops.

(Everybody Talks About It But—
Rt. 3, Stem, Statesville Daily)



"I wish I could lay hands on that architect who sold me on the idea that plain, useful basements were old-fashioned and we should have a rumpus room instead."