

Sacrifice Is In Order

By Raymond Clapper

THE message of President Roosevelt is not to drastic in its requests for legislation as many had expected it to be, nor as some of the President's advisors had wanted.

Instead Mr. Roosevelt leans heavily upon the readiness of the country to make voluntary sacrifices in the war, particularly in the voluntary savings and in the voluntary restraint by labor against further wage increases.

Some in the Administration doubt if enough money can be obtained off and on to draw back into Government hands by war bond purchases and other savings. Some also feel that wages and salaries need to be brought under ceilings the same as prices.

The old check he proposes is more rigid limitation of profits and increase in personal income tax rates, although without apparently intending to broaden the base by lower exemptions.

The suggestion that taxes be arranged so that an individual would have net earnings of more than \$25,000 a year probably will not result in a large amount of revenue although it has considerable morale value in reducing inequalities of income during a time of emergency when universal sacrifices are needed.

That probably will make more palatable to labor Mr. Roosevelt's desire to peg wages through the decisions of the War Labor Board.

STANDARD OF LIVING MUST BE LOWERED

But the real warning that the message contains is that either voluntarily or by compulsion we must reduce our standard of living during the war to conserve materials and money. This reduction must come not only through rationing and compulsory withholding of supplies, but through voluntary personal economies and larger savings. It means standards of dress and living must be lowered.

That is that is more voluntarily we face the prospect of its being done through a compulsory savings plan which some have advocated. Mr. Roosevelt plainly indicates it is a possibility if the voluntary method does not work. He says he prefers to keep the voluntary plan in effect as long as possible.

In other words we are in a "strait" condition in the desire of the American people to do whatever is needed to win the war. If that desire is sufficiently strong it will produce results far beyond what could be expected of any compulsory plan. This is the opportunity for a democratic country to exert its effect in a democratic way.

COST OF WINNING VS. COST OF LOSING

Many times while I was abroad, particularly conversations turned on the vast amount of hardship and effort that would be necessary to win the war. Yet someone always finished off by remarking that an matter how much it cost to win the war, that would be nothing compared with the cost of losing it.

The more we save now, the more cash we put into the expense of the war while it is going on, the lighter the cost of victory will be. For the real economic and social cost of the war is not the money, it is in fact to suffer the hardships of the war.

As Mr. Roosevelt said, safeguarding our economy at home is the very least that our soldiers, sailors and Marines have a right to expect of us.

Visitin' Around

Well, let's ask Mr. Culler (North Wilkesboro) whether during the following year appeared in the Wake's paper of the following nature: "The death of Mr. G. C. Culler of Wilkesboro" (This must be a mistake—Ed.)

You Mean Old George "Fifth Wheel" Phillips? (Ready? Check! Lemington Dispatch)

These who visited Mr. and Mrs. Cottle Jones, of Winston-Salem, last Friday were Mr. and Mrs. "Klughly" Young, Mr. and Mrs. "Hubert" Reilly and son, Bill Joe, and George Phillips.

Papa Had a Hard Day at the Office

—By Herblock



Those English, That Colossus

By Dorothy Thompson

VOLUMES could be written on the Hitler speech, but the most illuminating thing about it arose out of the situation in which it was made. Compare it with what Napoleon said under similar conditions in the year 1812.

Napoleon had been in Moscow and had been defeated, and neither was the situation in Russia but worried about the home front, about the occupied countries of the continent and above all about what the English might do if he did not conquer their plans.

In this mood he talked at length to General de Gaulle, a loyal supporter of the Emperor, who, however, had had the temerity to warn him that Europe was behind him, however clearly it might seem to be; that only his armies were holding down rebellion; that the Russian campaign, as he, de Gaulle had predicted, had been a mistake.

A REPUBLICAN NOTE

BEHIND THE SCENES Napoleon argued with de Gaulle, and along almost exactly the lines that Hitler used on Sunday. About the English, Napoleon said:

"The English... have defied me in every step I have taken. They have aimed at giving me Austria, or after Tilsit, I would have been quiet. The peace of Europe would be their real danger. They are nothing but my enemies, as though the English were not threatening them far more. Europe should think of only one enemy. That is the Russian Empire."

Hitler: "I do not know whether all Englishmen will today still consider it wise and enlightened action to have rejected all offers I made to Austria, or to reject the alliance I offered as late as September 1939, or to refuse the peace I offered after the Polish and French campaigns. We all know that regarding the reorganization of the continent, England promised a political union of England and the Soviet Union for the welfare of the British Empire.... The British in the East will be ruined, the British Empire will be hit until it is destroyed."

THE PARALLEL IS COMPLETE

The position of the two men was almost exactly the same. The East front demanded attention; all Europe was occupied and being pillaged for a New Order, and the British had the support of a "democratic" world which I saw then their hands would welcome the English with open arms. And Napoleon was threatening them.

THE ELEMENTS WERE UNKIND

About the reasons for the disaster on the Russian front, Napoleon said:

"It's the winter that has been our undoing. We are victims of the climate. If I had only set out in the summer, the Russian should not have stayed in long in Moscow. Everything turned out for the best. I began my retreat too late."

Hitler: "A winter was beginning in the East that has not even in this part of Europe for over 140 years. The Russian army had not even seen all operations come to a sudden stop. Right in the middle of the German front the Russian soldiers could not stream forward or stay in the posts occupied. Neither the German soldier, tank, or locomotive was prepared for the sudden onslaught of the winter."

SELF-CREATED AGENTS OF DESTINY

About himself, Napoleon: "I am not ambitious. Long might Hitler, war—I'm too fond of peace. He may be a man as well as anyone, I only want to finish my work."

Hitler: "I myself have not claimed as much as three free days for myself since 1933... I ask nothing more of the German people than that they should grant that I may live only so long as it is necessary to see the fulfillment of the destiny of the German people."

TWO INVADERS ON WILKESBORO

Napoleon had something on his mind about which he talked in his confidence. Hitler has the same thing on his mind, no doubt, and he



mentioned it contemptuously in his speech... the landing of the British 'at night with blacked faces and rubber shoes'...

"As it is I know where to look for the English. If they were not occupied there, in Spain I would be forced to prepare for them and hold myself ready to defend against them at every point. And that would use up many more troops, give me much more anxiety, and possibly do much more damage."

"If 30,000 English landed in Belgium in the Pas de Calais, and requisitioned supplies from 100 villages—if they were to go and burn the Chateau de Caumont—they would do me much more harm than forcing me to maintain an army in Belgium."

"You must take good care not to repeat the ideas I expect for the English. If they entered the British heads in mass expeditions against my coast, now all one point and now at another, to re-embark as soon as forces were collected to fight them, and go on once to threaten some other point, the situation would be unimprovable."

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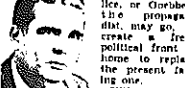
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"The war may have given your auto, Mrs. Jones, but I see you haven't given up your favorite parking place!"

Omens Of Collapse

By Paul Mallon

A PURGE of the Nazi leadership is probably forced by the Hitler speech. A guess is that either Himmler, overlord of the secret police, or Goebbels, the propaganda minister, will be the first to be thrown out of the present leadership.



Hitler spoke in a new vein, appealing long when he asked the Reichstag to give him the right to remove anyone from office after the next election. He contrasts both the Hitler and the office-holders. He already had the right to ask.

The only excuse for him to mention the matter in such a way was to seek popular support for another bold-leaping from Nazi circles.

As Judge Herr Goering seems to be in favor for the moment, it is more probable that Goebbels has been chosen to test waters.

The Boss has shaken the army and the navy. He has asked me a question. He tried Von Leeb from the Reichstag. Von Leeb from the Reichstag. Von Leeb from the Reichstag.

No one knows who replaced these men. All that is certain is that General Guder has now done Hitler's military backbone.

HINTS OF DEFEAT ON THE BALTIC FRONT

But the biggest point of the speech is a hint of defeat in nearly every paragraph. Even one, was that Hitler himself is in the defensive.

Between the lines you could plainly read evidence that he is counseling himself in a new type of defeat. Just as he has done the world a new type of war in the blitz. It is not a defeat in the field, but a defeat based on the diminishing of vitality in the blitzing machine unit in moral stamina and industrial production.

The high officers, some officials here so much they now are convinced Herr Fuehrer will be through by November. They get their backs to the wall and will not get through this to all.

THE THIRTEEN MAN MOVEMENT

That may be merely optimistic, but the fact is that there is certainly further evidence that the German nation as a whole is capable of only a limited military effort, has only a diminished stock of resources, both human and material.

Everything in Germany has gone into the blitz. The best of the food, the men and materials. Now the machinery is wearing down, manpower is running out, and there is no production of new equipment where to occupied countries. As one official describes it, Germany still looks good on the outside but is full of fetters underneath.

MANIFEST OF ATTACK POSSESSOR DEFENSE

British air officers have noticed that the German fleet is certainly not their front in many ways. Concrete air posts have been built to strike the Nazi bombers. They merely look off to attack. Thousands of concrete pill boxes have been constructed along the occupied stretch of coast. No more Nazi troops have been removed from that area, all talk of invasion of England has been abandoned.

Field Marshal Goring's invitation to Rome was for the purpose of discussing the matter of the Italian campaign. Transportation difficulties have so great Germany has abandoned shipments of coal, iron and other materials. Italy has been invaded by the British. Nazi fleet traps and locomotives are being trapped at the Italian front.

Germany is getting an average of only 2500 calories a day. That is less than as the soldiers at the front need more than this to live, and are getting it, the rationing of food is hardly enough to sustain health. Italy is clearly in starvation than all Europe except France and Belgium.

Heroes by Any Measurement

LEADERSHIP

Hundreds of millions of a small German community recently watched in horror as an enemy submarine torpedoed and shelled a medium sized American merchant ship, killing thirteen members of her crew of 40 and sending the ship to the bottom.

The attack occurred at night and the crew were plainly visible from the coast. Meanwhile, the news spread to a nearby city and there was a rush of citizens to the pier where the ship was. The ship was in the water and the crew were in the water.

Better Get Home Early, Girls

MOVIE PROGRAMS

Carolina, A Gentleman After Dark, "The Wolf Man."

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And Evening Chronicle

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THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1942

That Season Is Here Again, Though With Spirits Subdued

Along about this time of the year when the tilting of the earth on its axis seems to produce a kind of listlessness in the behavior of human beings it has been our custom to collect suitable stray items and present them for the little reader's entertainment now and then under the head of "Silly Season."

In Atlanta, for example, so many people are riding the buses that the Georgia Power Co. is talking of removing the seats to make more room.

In Charlotte, N. C., during a practice blackout a week or so ago, the town was practically swallowed up in almost total darkness except for two spots that gave out with a loud brilliance.

In Washington, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that it was legal for FBI agents to use devices to listen to one end of a phone conversation, but not to tap the wire itself and listen to both ends.

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As a sort of gruesome finale to this medley of muddling, consider the case of the motorman of the subway that wrecked in Jersey City, killing five and maiming a couple of hundred persons.

He was charged with operating a public conveyance while under the influence of liquor. His report had the wreck happening at 10:03 P. M. while his train was west-bound. Actually, it occurred at 10:48 P. M.—and his train was headed east.

County Tax Rate Moderate as It Is, It Could Be Lower Still

If you start with the statement (which we think is true) that the Mecklenburg County tax rate is moderate, and if you introduce the probability that it will be reduced this year from 60 cents to something less than 50 cents, you wind up with the conclusion that the Board of Commissioners is handling County fiscal affairs very well and deserves a compliment.

That, too, we think, is true. All the same, we stick to our oft-repeated contention that the tax rate is higher than it should be, and we predict that it will be higher this year than it has to be.

After a budget of expenditures has been adopted and the tax rate is to be fixed, there are two principal factors to be taken into consideration. The first of these is the total tax liability, and it is the increase in taxable property by \$10,000,000 that mainly accounts for the prospect of a reduction in the tax rate this year.

The second factor governing the tax rate is the estimate of the percentage of taxes that will be collected during the tax year ahead. On that estimate the tax rate goes up or down inversely.

Last year the expectancy of collection was set at 81 per cent, whereas the actual collection in the previous tax year had exceeded 86 per cent. Not since the depression years 1931-1933 has the County collected less than 81 per cent.

For the current fiscal year collections are certain to exceed 85 per cent again, and that would be so if the Board of Budget proposed an estimate of not more than 82 per cent, maybe 81, and the effect of underestimation is to increase the bills of taxpayers while producing an unabsorbed surplus for the County Government.

The Board may argue that in the long run it makes no difference, that a surplus of collections in one year makes possible a lower tax rate in the next. That would be so if the Board did not continually budget for a surplus in the year ahead, thus canceling it out.

And the main reason why we consider it advisable to raise the estimate of collection is the impetus it would give to collections and the habits of prompt payment it would encourage among taxpayers.

War Orphan Its Adoption Is for The Emergency Only

Its pretty easy in periods of great stress such as the present to dispose of the other fellow's equity in the national welfare. It's nothing for most of us to agree without a quibble that in war time \$25,000 a year is enough for any rich man, never stopping to think that the poor devil may have a long-term lease on his hands or a note coming due or large premiums to pay on the insurance with which he hopes to meet a part of his inheritance tax.

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The same thing is true of wages and of factories. As an academic proposition, it stands for reason that the cost of living cannot be kept under control without yielding limitations upon the principal factors of wages and farm prices. But to the working man with a family to take care of, and to the farmer with his children, of establishment and household, a limitation upon income is no academic matter.

Rich men, business men, salaried employees, wage-earners and farmers, all are bound to recognize, of course, that the only practical way to undertake a job of this enormity and complexity is summarily, without too nice a regard for technical objections that it may cause. For once you started trying to make the thing precise and equitable down to the last sub-section, you would have begun a job that you couldn't possibly finish.

So, let us accept the President's new National Economic Policy for the emergency we measure that it is, adopted in our common interest. And, adding to it, let us resolve that as soon as it may be safely dispensed with we shall return to the traditional American system whereunder energy, stick-to-itiveness and a fair share of luck will pay off in coin of the realm.

Lost Supplies Axis Gains, Allies Lose in Important War Resources

In the week following Dec. 7, the U. S. Department of Commerce issued a piece of publicity which conveyed a good deal of reassurance to a nation confronted by this. This publicity was a table of the war material resources of the United States and of the Axis, and its effect was to put Hitler, Hirohito & Co. in their place as upstarts.

Between the U. S. and its possessions and the other United Nations and their possessions, our side could at back and count its war wealth in predominant measure of production, of coal and iron ore production, and many other things. The Axis' puny supply and sources of supply. The rubber and tin of the Netherlands East Indies were ours almost to the point of surplus, whereas of these essential commodities the Axis possessed only what it had accumulated or, in the case of rubber, inferior substitutes that it had devised. It was plain to see that, given time, we would carry all before us might.

But we were not to be given time. To the contrary, we were to be pines. The rubber and tin were coming to the hands of the enemy. According to a current analysis by Dow, Jones & Co. in the eight important categories of rubber, tin, iron ore, tin, coal, and wool, the gains of the Axis, which are correspondingly losses of the United States, now make our fight an uphill one.

To be sure, the Jap can no more exploit the natural resources that have the Naot in the Pacific than can the Axis in the Atlantic. The problem of starting up production again under war conditions is complicated by the problem of supply in both directions. But if the enemy's enrichment represents less complete depletion, it represents a full gain to him, to us.

In one immensely important resource, however, the anti-Axis nations still retain a potentially-crushing advantage, and that is manpower. The United States, the United Kingdom and Russia, bolstered by China's hundred-millions and cheered on by the unconquered people of conquered lands, outnumber the Axis by three to one.

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