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And Evening Chronicle

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SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1942

Lead

Labor Issue Is Quiet but Could Become Active Again

How it is over the rest of the country we don't know, but in this community the clamor for Congressional action against strikes and repeal of the 40-hour law has somewhat subsided. Public indignation is notorious for the rapidity with which it waxes.

A strike or other provocation could raise it again full force to be sure, for the sentiment which manifested itself here came, unless we mistook it badly, from conviction rather than detestation. In fact, we thought we detected in it a widespread realization that the Administration had gone much too far in its labor measures, that war and its deprivations were only making people up to the extent of the advantages which had been made secure in labor's name.

It is anybody's guess, of course, what part of the clamor was due to this perception. We would not be cheerfully admit to an inability to gauge it. In general, however, the people divide three ways on the labor question.

One group is constitutionally against labor, however and whatever. The labor group is for labor on about the same terms. The others see much that appeals to them on this side, now on that, and at the moment they who determine the balance of public opinion are more disapproving than approving of labor's special benefits.

Yank

The Army's New Newspaper Gets a Regional Name

At the risk of disrupting national unity, we enter herewith a weak protest against the choice of a name for the new U. S. Army newspaper. The publication, which will be distributed to all soldiers, is to be named "Yank."

Now, we got nothing against the word Yank. In fact, we had no grudge against Yankers, the species. Even the abbreviation, dissonant as it is, is all right.

But the fact remains that most Southern soldiers instinctively do not think of themselves as Yank. If you were to see one of them in uniform walking along the streets of Ryeleigh or Darwin and were to call out, "Hey, there, Yank!" he'd either look around for another fellow or say, "Who, me?"

There's nothing reprehensible about the term, mind you, and it has the virtue of being a concise title for a service newspaper. But it's a regional title, sort of, and not altogether tactful, in a way.

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Point Of View

Only the Boldest Newspaper Would Defy War Department

In the latest issue of his Textile Bulletin, Editor David Clark of Charlotte, Indiana, the newspapers of the United States, or at least a portion of them, for the publication of stories and articles dealing with our war efforts when they should be suppressed.

We take this to mean that it is the stories and not the newspapers that Mr. Clark wants suppressed. Because if it ever comes to suppression we'll lay two to one the New Deal gets him before it gets us.

Of course, to anyone with even an elementary knowledge of how the present Government censorship operates, the charge that any substantial portion of the press is delaying authority and talking out of school won't stand up. Virtually all of the foreign and national news published by daily papers comes from the major press associations—Associated Press, United Press, International News Service. Most of the war news, of course, is handed out by the War and Navy Departments after having been carefully checked. As a further check, there is the U. S. Office of Censorship. All doubtful news gets an okay there before it is put on the wires.

The press associations have co-operated closely with the Government to eliminate any item that might be helpful to the enemy.

"Nothing is more vulgar than haste," said Emerson, a wise man in his day and age. However, this is no time to keep the war effort retarded.

We may yet come to textiles made of mink, though we dread it. Fancy, dolling up and being asked, "who's your tailor, and how?"

No Indian Generals

By Paul Mallon

THE unfathomable mystery of India's politics were never more perplexing than when its leaders rejected the British offer at first on the ground it would not, and then when they lead their own army against Japan—only to have them surrender to the British in Malaya or North Africa. But few native officers among them have been above the position of lieutenant-colonel. They have no major, colonel or general, capable of handling large masses of troops, no one to plan strategy or make a battleline.

CRIPPS HAD TO MAKE APPEAL TO MUSLIMS

Cripps knew his plan could not be widely accepted—his studies less technical reason. The Sikhs came out against it first, and naturally so. Since the time of Chhatra they have held the Punjab area, even after they have given up their form of taxation or business. Under the Cripps plan, or under the alternative plan, they would have to surrender to Muslim leadership because they are a minority even in their own region.

PASNETT REASSURES MUSLIM WORRY JAPS

The British knew the Indians would never go over to the Japs the way the Hindus do. They do not consider themselves rebels. They have no kinship with the Japanese. They are friendly to China, and they are friendly to the British. Their historic policy of passive resistance against the Japs then has been against the British. The Japs have been the ones to hit into the streets and murder them by the thousands in accordance with established Axis principles of scouting support.

City Hall Today: 300 Idle Meters

By Dick Young

Now that Charlotte has parking meters, although it looks like the Council is hesitant about putting them into operation, a survey on parking meters in 1941 showed a 60 per cent increase in 1941 over 1940 in interest. This survey by the Incorporated City Manager's Association discloses that 125 cities installed parking meters in 1941.

YOUNG

Charlotte has 300 meters on Trade and Tryon Streets and they are standing there idle. They are put on Wednesday the Council ordered to amend its meter ordinance and allow the City Manager to cooperate to April 6 instead of April 15. Unless the meters are officially placed in operation, they will soon get the idea they are purely ornamental and will keep on parking meters to them. It is no reason why they shouldn't be put on. They have to be put on to give the world to go on Monday. All of which seems foolish, if the meters are to penny meters.

STREETS IN SIX CITIES LINED WITH METERS

But back to the results of the meter survey, announced by the Public Administration Clearing House. The number of municipalities now using parking meters in relief traffic congestion was 247 as of February 1, 1942, according to the Associated Municipalities Association's Special Year Book. Twelve cities, including Lewistown, O., Rutland, Vt., and Westport, N. H., are scheduled to install meters.

METER INSTALLATION READY AFTER 1935

The 1941 increase in the use of parking meters is the result of the first installations of the device in three cities in 1935. By the end of 1941 cities had meters. Eighty-one cities added them in 1940, 119 in 1941, and fifteen in 1942. Total of 1942 in cities under 50,000 population has made installations in 1942 in 1941.

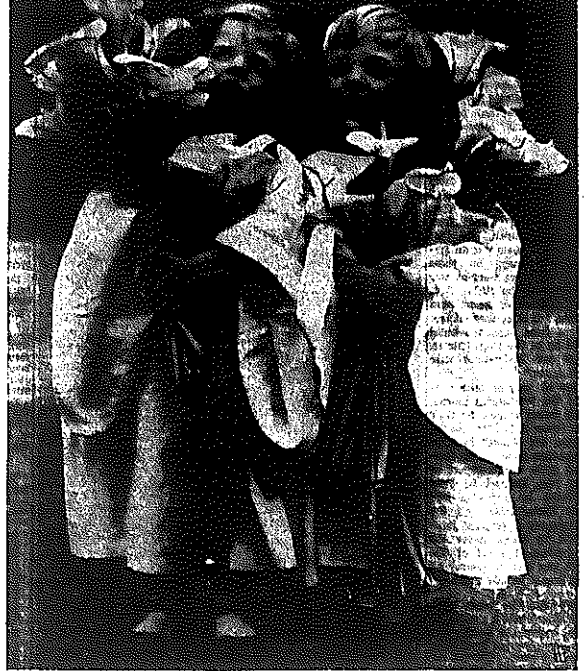
Typical average monthly revenue of one meter for the same month of October, 1941, was \$1.25, according to the survey. Meter revenue in cities of various sizes ranged from \$1,000 in 1941 in cities under 5,000 population to \$250,000 in cities over 200,000.

The majority of meters require a nickel coin, but an increasing number of cities recently have been installing penny meters. In the survey, 48 cities reported using penny meters.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

The worst of men are of profound interest to God: For the Son of Man is come to save that which is lost.—Luke 19:10.

Hallelujah! Christ Is Risen!



Who Are India's Friends?

By Dorothy Thompson

THE outstanding fact about political freedom in the world today is that it is indivisible. The freedom of India depends upon the freedom of all nations. The freedom of Russia, or China, or Britain, or America, of the smaller nations, or India, cannot be secure and develop in the room of the larger freedom of all.

LEFT-WINGERS IN DEMOCRACIES ARE INDIA'S FRIENDS

The fourth fact is that the friends of India are in the left-wing circles in the democratic countries, who have fought India's battles before the bar of public opinion in every democratic country. It is still allowed to function, and that in Asia India's two great friends are China and Russia.

IF WE WIN, IMPERIALISM IS DONE

If the United Nations win this war, the history of colonial imperialism is over. If the Axis wins it is a new, dynamic, and ruthless imperialism is at hand. The heir to the Kipling tradition of the White Man's Burden is not Britain, which has been moving steadily away from Empire in the last twenty years, but the Germany of Hitler, and the Italy of Mussolini.

India's friends among the left-wing circles are not different. The Japanese are the self-selected Master Folk, and god-sent rulers of the East, for which viewpoint they are appointed Honorary Nehru's friends. It is not democratic but ultra-imperialist sympathies will not determine the future of political freedom, but victory or defeat.

Careful How You Write the President

Those who feel inclined to write direct to the President should know that such letters go through a "hot line" to the White House. Roosevelt definitely rejects letters that are not his, and the writers to such letters will be looked up by the U. S. One good looking fellow wanted the Government to send him to Berlin for a talk with Hitler. His letter went on the hot line, but the President's secretary told him out of his nonsense.

LACK OF INDEPENDENCE DEMANDS SLOW PROGRESS

Metric says that even in the third year of war India cannot build a merchant vessel or an automobile, and can assemble only a few airplanes. It adds that this is not for lack of capital, or machinery or trained personnel, but is a question of outlook and policy—India cannot be strong economically until it has independence.

Side Glances

One organ of Indian industry asks whether the Grady mission is going to help Indian industry, or to start a new American industry. Every effort has been made to emphasize that the American mission is interested only in developing war supplies. But the Indian leaders have asked for the establishment of a trial plant in India. So they are unable now to readjust themselves to the idea that, unless the war is won, India will be under Japanese imperialism—which will tolerate no back talk at the British bar.

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The Government should provide me with a nice wardrobe, I write. "I think Colonel Lindbergh should fly me to Berlin, and I'll be back in a week," writes a German. "I'll be back in a week," writes a German. "I'll be back in a week," writes a German.

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Business In India

By Raymond Clapper

ALTHOUGH India's independence leader, Nehru, is a socialist, his Congress Party is heavily backed by native industrialists. They are conservative and usually disagree with Nehru's socialism. But they see in the Congress Party an opportunity for their own business expansion as against British interests, which they claim are holding them back.

The American picture of Gandhi at this a spinning wheel fails to reflect the economic side of the independence movement. In fact, Gandhi's close friend and adviser is the chief native industrialist, J. K. Birla, senior partner of Birla brothers.

LIST OF INDUSTRIES FILLS A PAGE

This company operates a vast array of business enterprises, including insurance, sugar mills, paper mills, jute mills, cotton mills, investment companies, hardware houses, shipping, chemicals, foodstuffs. The list of these partners' subsidiaries fills almost a page in the Calcutta Telephone Directory.

Birla, the leading industrialist in the Congress Party, is a tall, slender man, in the late fifties. He is a shrewd and cosmopolitan. Gandhi is often a guest at his mansion—most recently for a meeting with China's Chiang Kai-Shek.

Birla has been opposing the "scorched earth" policy. He openly expresses suspicion that the American technical mission to India, headed by Henry P. Grady, may have imperialist designs. As the big voice for more business as usual and more profits as usual, he seems indifferent to the urgency of war effort—in which he claims up with Gandhi.

The Grady mission will have to deal with, and win the confidence of, men like Birla.

INDIA'S "MR. SMITH"

A BIRMINGHAM MAN Another similar business leader is Gaganbhai L. Mehta, (last name is as common here as Smith at home). He is the new president of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. President of the Hindustani Bazaar, Mehta, who is also one of the post-commissioners, he has been Indian delegate to international labor and Chamber of Commerce conferences. He is a director of several firms.

He studied at the London School of Economics, commands a Jardine, Matheson, and various major active industrial rapid industrialization of India through Congress Party independence. Handsome and engaging, he is one of the rising younger men who look to Nehru, rather than Gandhi.

India must be an important supply base for the United Nations' effort in this part of the world. Japanese conquest of the southwest Pacific means that India is the only India as a supply source. This was the reason the Grady American mission was assigned to help develop Indian war production.

One difficulty is that Indian industrialists are an opportunity to develop a profitable post-war industry, but are only mildly interested in the war effort. They are absorbed in resentment over alleged blocking of their enterprises in the past.

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Visitin' Around

France As Usual (Pictorial Item, Lexington Herald)

All we can hear is of the war but not many seem to care. Things are going on just the same old way. Darning is enjoyed every Saturday night.

