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And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1942

Who Is He?

Fogus' Successor Will Shed Light on the Transaction

The identity of the man whom the Iron Dukes appoint to take the place of O. C. Fogus, dismissed superintendent of the Motor Transport Division, is likely to throw a good deal of light on the transaction. If Fogus' successor is as we have reason to believe he will be a man named John Barber, why that will establish the raw political nature of the deal and convict the Iron Dukes of dabbling in the very traffic which they foreword.

For Barber was Councillor Daugherty's chief ward-heeler in the election last Spring. He has, as best we can learn, no other qualification for the superintendent's job or any part of it. Were the rest of the Iron Dukes not under the stress of placating Mr. Daugherty, they would never underwrite this political indebtedness of his.

As for Fogus, his dismissal is at the same time an undermining of the merit system in city management. He was first appointed by J. B. Marshall, an efficient and exacting City Manager. When the Iron Dukes set out to remove Fogus some weeks ago, Mr. Marshall, who carries weight with them, spoke out in protest, and the dismissal was halted in mid-air.

Since that time the Iron Dukes send let no one assume from the fact that the pink slip was issued through City Manager Flack that the Iron Dukes did not order it have found the semblance of an excuse to do what they were about to do without excuse. Four tires were carried away from the stock room at the City Garage—and recovered almost before daylight the morning after discovery of the loss. Several tons of scrap metal from a torn-down incinerator somehow disappeared, why, how and where nobody is yet prepared to say, although it does not appear to have been because of the lack of any diligence on the part of Mr. Fogus.

No, his dismissal under the circumstances is merely a rationalized sequel to the original abject attempt to fire him out of hand. It has all the earmarks of an injustice, and if Mr. Daugherty's man is given his place it will represent a clear breach of faith by the Citizens Group Councilmen.

Sugar Blues

What Happens When Government Refuses To Admit Error

Some governments, like some individuals, invite criticism. Others choose to ignore unsolicited advice—or, more often, to undertake an active campaign of vilification against the critic, barely disregarding his arguments, but making every effort to impugn and discredit his motives.

It is a matter of record, we suggest, that the Roosevelt Administration, in peace and in war has not bothered in most instances to differentiate between sincere criticism and simple grouting. In a very real sense, it has been extremely difficult for anyone to be a "friendly critic" of the Administration. President Roosevelt himself has made it clear time and again that no critics of the Administration could be his friend, and conversely that to any real friend the New Deal was above criticism.

Moreover, the war has given the Administration an additional weapon with which to strike down its critics. To disagree publicly with a Government policy now is to invite castigation as an apostle of disunity, if not an outright traitor.

It is, perhaps, out of deference to this attitude, coupled with sincere determination to promote national harmony, that most American newspapers have refrained themselves from putting out all the stops on the so-called sugar shortage.

The best estimate is that there is no critical shortage of sugar.

In essence, the shortage was no more than a Governmental error in judgment. When it became apparent that our industries would require vast amounts of industrial alcohol, the Government plunged ahead with plans to have the bulk of it made from sugar. On the basis of these quick calculations a sugar shortage was foreseen. Almost immediately and with great public fanfare, plans for rationing sugar were made ready. Restaurants started their own rationing, as did grocery stores, although no one could point to any actual scarcity of sugar. The public took the Government at its word. And when it turned out that a great part of the extra

alcohol needed could be made from wheat and corn in existing distilleries, the Government kept on crying shortage. Even now, when the War Production Board announces that 1,000,000 tons of sugar formerly earmarked for alcohol production will be available for general consumption, the Government insists on going ahead with rationing.

Only now the emphasis is not on the supply of sugar like the Ikes oil shortage, it has become a matter of transportation.

Perhaps the best thing for the public to do is to humor Mr. Henderson without being inquisitive. It is more comfortable to let the thing bungle, for the Government has not yet proved either an actual shortage of sugar or a shortage of sugar transportation facilities.

And how are we going to get that war psychology unless some staple food is rationed?

Profits Plus

Congress Must Guard Against The Inches & Heintzes

There isn't any doubt that public opinion favors the immediate enactment of some sort of limitation of war profits. This war, our part in which is only commencing, is going to require a tremendous sacrifice of soldiers' lives and civilians' welfare before we are done with it. The people don't want to see anybody prosper from that sacrifice.

It is advisable—nay, it is obligatory—for Congress to take up the question. The form of the limitation and the percentage of allowable profits are matters to be determined only after thorough consideration. Any legislation must be so framed as not to curtail production or to penalize the manufacturers of civilian goods over the manufacturers of civilian goods.

Any legislation limiting profits must likewise take into consideration the astonishing devices which some war contractors may resort to in order to dissipate profits. The notorious case of Jack & Heintz is a good illustration.

Jack & Heintz bought out a small concern making electrical equipment for airplanes. They expanded it many times over and capital borrowed from the Government, and on orders from the same Government proceeded to earn so great a profit that they were literally buoy with money. To avoid repaying it in taxes to the Government they handed out great jobs to themselves in salaries and bonuses, paid grotesque salaries to minor executives and other employees, gave free lunches to all workers and monthly banquets at top prices.

The case of Jack & Heintz, as little typical as it may be American industry generally, is nevertheless a timely reminder to Congress to provide not only against excessive book profits but against evasion of profits. The second is worse, if anything, than the first.

Holy Smoke!

Outright Carelessness May Yet Lose Us the War

Sometimes it seems almost as if the United States were trying to fight this war on the domestic front by exposing itself to a steady series of disasters. The destruction of the *Normandie* was a terrible blow to pay for carelessness. Yet that loss would seem as nothing as compared to the greatest single blow that might be dealt us: the assassination of the President of the United States. The life and health of the President are of paramount importance not only to this country, but to our Allies.

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To win the war, our Government is going to have to out-think as well as out-fight the enemy. It is time we begin suspecting him of anything. After all, nobody ever accused the Japs or the Nazis of having a speaking acquaintance with a scruple.

Elastic Blame

By Paul Mallon

A FAIR sitting of the charges of rubber treason against Standard Oil—as situationally disclosed yesterday by the Truman Committee—will show the following residue of facts:

The symbolic rubber on which our Army will stand in the future will be born in a process which Standard obtained from Hitler's I.O. Father.

The manufacture of this synthetic rubber in anything like the quantity needed was started only after the war began.

ALMOST ANYONE CAN BE BLAMED

The evidence to why it was not started sooner can be twisted around to suit almost any purpose. You can blame Standard on the suspicion that its early offers to the Government were not adequately pursued because it wanted royalties.

You can blame Standard, if you choose, because it officially was at least ahead of the Government in seeing a probable need for synthetic rubber.

You can blame the Japs for not telling us they were going to cut off our Eastern supply of natural rubber.

You can even blame Roosevelt because his pre-war instructions were against breaking off relations with the starting symbol of our war, which our friendly foes, Allied British-Dutch rubber monopoly—a break which would have plunged Java and the East Indies into economic depression and thus have failed to give us a foothold for the Japs to walk in on.

You can blame James Jones for not having pressed the matter to any earlier conclusion, although he is supposed to have a memo from the White House in his possession asking him not to offend the British and Dutch by his rubber actions.

You can blame the limitations of human vision for not having predicted enough back in 1939 and 1940 that our big business men, Congress, or this nation, including the Truman Committee, to appreciate fully what a rubber problem was in store for us after last Dec. 7.

STANDARD LOOKED OUT FOR ITSELF, ALL RIGHT

IN A NUTSHELL. In this case, seems to have been a natural limitation of our interests, concern, lookout, not our own interests, but in a way short of treasonous implications. It is hard to get the words of its deal with Partner, the British-Dutch cartel, past it. It gave Hitler a free hand, a somewhat less efficient method than the one it got from him.

The hotly process II, will not be used much as long as natural rubber cars are available, which is half a billion tires. No expert is needed to detect the great difference between them. You can make the soft bushy tire with your hand.

PROBLEMS. It is good for only 100 miles at 30 to 40 miles an hour. It may be manufactured for civilian use, but the Army won't want it, as long as it can get natural.

Point has a synthetic rubber which will make a better tire, either, but it costs much more and requires the building of more facilities, and prices may not be widely used.

WE ALSO GOT EXPLOSIVES FORMULA

Standard also obtained from Hitler, for synthetic rubber, a formula for TNT, which was given to them by the Germans. This formula, however, was not used, as far as we know, until after the war began.

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STANDARD ANTICIPATED HIGH ROYALTIES

Negotiations lagged a year or so before Jones authorized money for four plants. Apparently Standard wanted three per cent royalty but finally accepted a cent and a quarter plus 10 per cent of net sales for the first year.

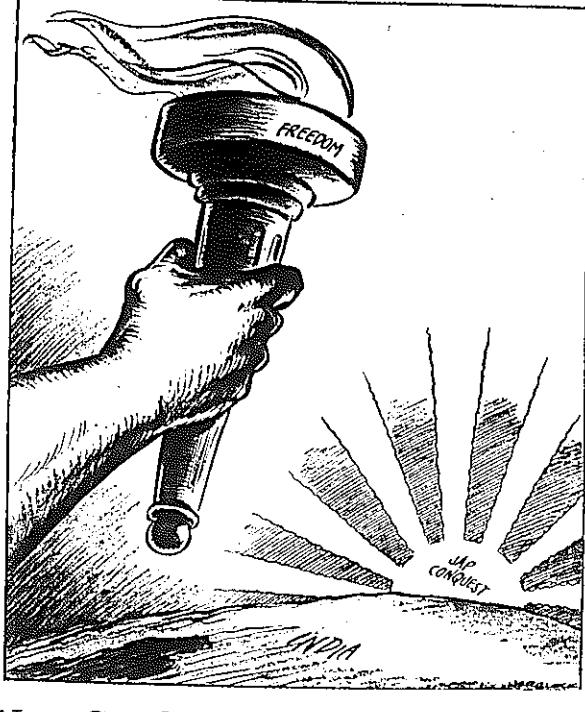
There was some ground for the committee's suspicion that it had not done its sufficient homework entirely until investigations from the Truman Committee at the insistence of Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold who was trying to squeeze Standard into agreeing to a lower royalty, despite the fact that the two men been as inclined they might have signed off on last rubber supply.

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The threat of this publicity may have brought Standard around faster than the threat of the anti-trust law.

Fire To Fight Fire

By Herblock



Not Co-Ordinators--Brooms!

By Dorothy Thompson

MY friends ask me why I don't spend more time in Washington, getting "forested", as they say.

Well, there are several reasons.

One is that it's impossible to find anywhere to stay in Washington unless you park yourself on your couch, and maybe someone is parked there already. The other is that in Washington it is difficult to see the woods for the trees. The third is that there is a certain atmosphere of bustiness that is depressing and overwhelming. And another reason is that here, in this overheated office, there is almost frantic bustiness, that is depressing and overwhelming. And another reason is that the country is too complacent; someone asked recently whether the morale of the country is rising or falling.

IN THE FACTORIES

THERE IS NO STRAIN

I don't have any such feeling. I go to an airplane factory. There I see quiet men in their shirt sleeves, often with an oil hat pushed on the back of their heads, doing perfectly gigantic things without any atmosphere of strain whatsoever. The reason is that there men have made a decision about a specific piece of work. It is within the compass of their knowledge, abilities, and training.

They are not proliferating managers, foremen, and workers, but there are twenty thousand men in each plant, each with his own responsibility, each with his own authority, each with his own authority for carrying through his particular project, responsible for its various parts, and so men work together, and the whole assembly line functions with quiet steadiness and strength.

WASHINGTON IS A MAZE OF CONFUSED AGENCIES

Now compare this with Washington. The few agencies are proliferating like golden pigs. They have been set up without any thought of what they were set up for. It would appear that the main reason for setting up many of these agencies was to take away the job from somebody else, who ought to have been doing it but didn't seem able to.

Instead of reorganizing the Cabinet, and fixing responsibilities on the Cabinet, they have been set up. Instead of fixing responsibilities, scores of authorities are warring with each other in a jungle of red tape. In each of them is a cross-section of the nation itself, and the major purpose has become infinite. The main purpose is to accomplish a task which will not be done, which will not be done, which will not be done.

And instead of maintaining and perpetuating itself, it has taken precedences over other agencies, and each agency is waging itself and trying to prove that that or that belongs to it and not to the other fellow.

We have these agencies—and how are they staffed? We have these agencies in Washington, should at the responsible places they are remains a complete mystery to me. What kind of qualifications for the particular job are con-

siderately absent.

The various departments are in a complete tangled mess and anything may come out of them. We have been directed to the sources that want it and could make it available to



"Our sorority wasn't very smart to snub her, but how were we to know she would turn up with two good-looking brothers in the Marines?"

India Needs Machinery

By Raymond Clapper

CALCUTTA, INDIA
COMPLAINTS of India's commercial interests that the British war production give a distorted picture.

Informed independent sources qualified in India say there has been substantial expansion, even if inadequate and below what might be expected of such an enormously rich and populous country.

The big difference is in heavy industry and metals. But in textiles and similar industries there is large production, especially in uniforms, shoes and camouflage nets. The silk industry is being expanded for parachute manufacture. These industries are almost fully on a war basis.

MACHINERY PARTS, ENGINEERS NEEDED

Shipping shortages and long supply lines make it necessary to provide materials here for United Nations forces.

The big hope of any Cripps settlement is that it will make this possible. It would also stimulate support for the American technical mission in helping to plug the gaps in Indian production.

It is true, as Sir Shri Ram, president of the All-India Industrial Engineers Association, said the other day: "We cannot produce a single internal combustion engine, or tanks of any size." There is difficulty in replacing machinery parts, which must be shipped from England now."

British Labor Party leaders criticize

this old failure in developing mechanical industries in India. Modern war requires production bases at many separated points to reduce the transport problem. The British Government now thinks this is and is working on it. Conferences are being held for this purpose, including one at Delhi for expanding small industry.

Some objection is made by Indians that the guaranteed quotas are too small. The British probably will agree to take more supply orders now, are double what they are last year.

WE MUST HELP INDIA TOOL UP

As we complete our tooling-up job in America, we must think about supplying tools for other areas, including India. The largest single steel mill in the British Empire is here. It is being built with some of our biggest mills, but it is capable of expansion. So are India's chemical and aluminum industries.

Already some progress has been made. Almost 300 firms are making simpler kinds of machine tools, and training men in precision work. Groups have been sent to England for training as precision machinists, foremen and supervisors. India has a plentiful supply of labor skilled in handicraft, and adaptable to machine work. If India is going to be utilized to full value, such things must be done in increasing volume.

Now this is a fault at the top. What is needed are a very few people of penetrating intelligence, incisive character, and those who are given full authority to carry out their functions in carefully defined areas. They must enlarge their staffs in order to prove that they are capable of handling the problems which are overburdened and over-organized, and we don't need more commissioners; we need more business.

At the same time, there is an increasingly timid and vacuous attitude of the highest rank. They "stick their necks out" because they may chop at them. So we have a proliferation of timid and indecisive.

There are very good people in these agencies, but they are lost in the imperialistic forest of over-organization.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

We must face unpleasant difficulties with steadfastness. And it came to pass, when the days were well-nigh come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem.—Luke 9:51.

WAR INDUSTRY MUST BE DECENTRALIZED

Therefore, two things are necessary: One, adequate defense of eastern India; the other, decentralization of war industry westward to the Bombay and Karachi areas.

The Japanese also threaten the Bay of Bengal, Ceylon, the Indian Ocean and Madagascar. If the Japanese should succeed in establishing bases at these points, then United Nations lines in India as well as in the Middle East and Russia would be under severe attack—if not arrested.

So we come back again to the necessity of holding the main Middle East supply line against the German-Japanese pincer this summer.

Visitin' Around

II. Aights Be Locked Up

(On Years Ago, Lexington Dispatch)

Paper litters Main Street at times and it looks as if some ordinance should be made against it.

Let's Hope It's Not the Case of Those Hoover Corners

Walnut Hill, New-Haven-Record)

Spring seems to be just around the corner.