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And Evening Chronicle

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Barrage

Raid on Wake Forecasts Air Offensive in Pacific

The devastating raid on Jap-held Wake Island on Christmas, though long delayed as a news release, brought a grim satisfaction to Americans. Not only is the memory of Wake's fearless defenders still fresh, and crying for revenge, but the long fight from Pearl Harbor indicates clearly the new balance of power in the Pacific.

Now, Japs are dying in great numbers, while American casualties are light. When the bombers swept down over the unsuspecting garrison at midnight, meeting no opposition until their work was done, they wrecked half the buildings on the island. If the attack could have been followed by a seaborne landing force, Wake might have been retaken with far greater ease than the Japs won it a year ago.

That raid, on a much smaller scale, was a Jap Pearl Harbor. This time, they were inferior, they surely lost great stores of equipment and many men—and the could inflict no casualties upon the raiders. That the harbor fight could take off from Pearl Harbor, strike so heavily and return intact is important to our cause. The pattern will now be followed again and again. In the months to come, such fights will become routine. Wake might have been subjected to shattering blows. Bombings will not be mere tokens from the Army Air Force much longer. Before the passing of many months, the tempo is sure to be increased, the raids are to become larger, and ultimately they will be followed by naval task forces, which will be able to take island objectives with greater ease than we have been led to expect.

As Spring approaches, we may look for a vast air offensive against Japan, an enemy far more vulnerable to softening from the skies than Germany. And when that offensive reaches its peak, Greater East Asia's Co-Prospersity Sphere will be near the end.

"Compromise"

Hitler Threatens Us With War to a Great Decision

In his annual New Year harangues Adolph Hitler has certainly been no groundhog for accuracy, but for 1943 he had a new note of grim warning for the German people. Oh, there was victory ahead, but he was sure, but it might come at times that the balance was shifting in favor of the United Nations. Reverses, therefore, were to be expected.

It may be well to note, in passing, that the same line was taken by Vice President Wallace in a recent address to Americans, now being widely distributed to movie audiences. Mr. Wallace seemed to be advising the public that certain Axis gains could be expected before March, but that they would be only temporary.

Both leaders were saying plainly that the war would be fierce and terrible, that all peoples would suffer new privations, and that the course of battle would not run smoothly. There, the likeness of the Wallace-Hitler speeches ends.

Adolph's words brought grief to Americans as he denounced "French traitors, Generals," and finished with: "One thing, however, is certain: In this fight there can be no compromise any more."

Does the end of Adolph's compromise mean that his troops shall no longer flee through Russian snows, and die by the hundreds of thousands? Or that death-dealing Allied bombers shall somehow be halted in their terrible flights over the Continent? Or that British and American forces shall not reap 1943 numbers, and thrust his forces out of Africa?

What is this Hitler "compromise"? Has he, then, been playing out and mouse through three bleak years, holding back his mighty forces, to catch the time when the enemy should exhaust him beyond his patience? If that be true, we're tired of this dual statement, ourselves.

Naming it pumpkin pie after a minor ingredient is like calling a railroad that wags from Buffalo to Kansas City the Wqbas.

Credit Due

Willkie Called a War Turn On Advice From an Irishman

Well, it turns out that Wendell Willkie was, at least once, dead right. His Summer argument that all-conquering Marshal Erwin Rommel was broken and defeated dread leers and belly laughs in the days of defeat, but within two months he was vindicated. It seems strange that his accurate calling of the turn in Egypt should have gone unnoticed at the turn of the Allied victory—as a matter of fact, we haven't checked back ourselves to pay respect.

The current issue of *Colliers* tells a part of the fascinating story: The hurried, hulking Willkie who spent only a few hours on the Egyptian battle front not only got the right story, but he checked back ourselves to pay respect. The current issue of *Colliers* tells a part of the fascinating story: The hurried, hulking Willkie who spent only a few hours on the Egyptian battle front not only got the right story, but he checked back ourselves to pay respect.

General Bernard Montgomery, a swagging little Irishman who fears neither High Command nor Republican mogul, gave Willkie his tip, and didn't bother to keep it off the record. He himself was a newcomer to the desert, but two weeks of life on the front lines told him what other British leaders had not seen. He himself could be broken, but he knew the desert, and he knew the world. He told Willkie, Willkie told the world, and the world couldn't believe.

We're happy to be able to record a bullet for the anti-isolationist champion of the GOP, and to proclaim that we'll be of a more open mind now than anything else he has to say. And privately, we'd just as soon take another trip to the front soon, and see what else Montgomery knows.

The Unborn

Americans Can Fight Now, Worry Over Birth Rate Later

One Dr. Constantine Panunzio, a sociologist of the University of California at Los Angeles, is the most unimpressed citizen in a whole warring world, so far as we've heard. He has been left cold by the present amazing American birth rate, the U. S. drive against Japan in the Southwest Pacific, and the entry of UCLA's stalwart football team into the Rose Bowl.

Despite all these signs of virility, he sees America's coming days of today don't amount to much in the Panunzio book, and the fighting abilities of today's soldiers won't help us a bit when we fight Japan again in 1970. He says we're going to skip an unborn generation of Americans, by sending young married men off to war.

The conscription policy, he allows, is short-sighted. We can't raise a new generation with so many young husbands off at the battle front. "We must realize that the younger married people give birth to a large proportion of the children"; the prolific Japs, even if they're knocked out now, will increase by some 20 million by 1970—while America can anticipate a gain of only 18 million.

He cites the case of France, suffering a lowered birth rate after the first World War. He thinks married men between 22 and 25 should be left home for the purpose of propagation, to guard against the future. He can't see fighting on the whole, for that matter.

The doctor may well know whereof he speaks, but it seems to us that his figures, at best, are only semi-final. We'd rather take a chance on the generation of tomorrow than keep too much of our manpower at home now. It seems elementary that, if we don't win this war at any cost, there wouldn't be much future for any Americans, fathers or sons. And who's to guarantee that Japan, in taking her knockout blow, won't lose more fathers-to-be than Dr. Panunzio can calculate?

A great influence for orderly conduct, the Marquis of Queensberry, though perhaps too limited in his interests. He never got up rules for Christmas shopping.

"Hitler" says Anthony Eden, "is not an accident; it is a symptom." For the remedy see the news from Russia.

Various Governors-elect announce flatly they will show up for their inaugurations without silk hats. Or rabbits therein.

The Farmer Wants Relief

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON
THE rationing of tinned, dehydrated and frozen foods was overdone. They are needed for overseas shipping, but to our own troops and to supply our allies. And the point system would seem to be the simplest one from an administrative viewpoint, avoiding the separate rationing of every article.

But rationing alone will not solve what promises to be a battle within the next twelve months the leading American industry is the production of food. It is a problem which has been shockingly neglected. And it has begun to assume serious dimensions because of the viewpoint of production but from its effect upon the social order.

At a time when we need more food than ever in our history farms are closing down by the tens of thousands. Dairy cattle are being slaughtered in droves. A widespread Axi plot could not accomplish as effective sabotage as follows from falling energetically to deal with the needs of farmers.

I spent the Christmas holidays in a rural New England community. Within the last months two splendid and productive farms, within two miles on either side of my farm, have been dismantled. One is a 500-acre farm with a new \$10,000 barn that normally supports 50 head of dairy cattle. Today there is not a cow on the place. The other is a 200-acre dairy and general farm occupied for 40 years by the same family.

In our town there are normally three carpenters. On them the farmers depend for the repair work now more than ever essential, since there is a shortage of materials. All have left us, to work in defense plants.

True, prices are high. But they still do not produce sufficient income to enable the farmer to compete for workers with the war industries. The most incompetent hired man can move to the nearest town and get a job. The farmer, with his less skill and manual effort than the manifold skills of the farm, earn an income the payment of which by a farmer would automatically wipe out his profits.

The problem of transportation to markets is terrible because of the food shortage. That people in cities still run private cars causes the farmer to snarl his teeth. He is not only cut off from his market and shipping center, but is socially isolated; his granges and churches are inaccessible. He is lonely.

It is all very well to accuse "the Farm Bloc" of "holding up the People" and "raising the cost of living," and on this ground refute the farmer.

permission to reckon labor costs in price. But every industry in the country thus reckons labor costs in price. The farmer gets for his products, won at the market, the price of the American population, still does not enable him to compete for workers, and his profits are payment for his own labor, for he is not only a manager but a working man.

In short, the farmer, if he cannot reckon labor costs in price on the same basis as industries reckon them, must be supplied with labor from new sources and under different conditions. That has been obvious since the outbreak of the war to anyone who has studied the wartime farm problem here, or in any other warring country. Yet almost nothing has been done about it. Some farm boys are conscripted some Mexican labor is allowed to enter the country; it is all a drop in the bucket.

Hundreds of thousands of healthy sixteen and seventeen-year-old high school boys could, if the schools were dismissed earlier and assembled later, be available for seasonal work next Summer. But absolutely nothing has been done, as a national movement, to mobilize them, give them pre-training, organize, and place them.

England has an efficient Women's Land Army, comparable in its status to WAACS and WAVES. Why haven't we? When the question is raised the remarkably answer comes, "Public Opinion isn't ready for it." But who makes public opinion? Does it not respond to leadership presenting the facts? With energetic leadership, public opinion never will crystallize.

In spite of the fact that commentators and energetic restaurateurs have called attention time and again to the terrible wastage of food that still goes on in restaurants, and which could be stopped by some simple regulations entailing no red tape of any kind, these regulations do not emerge. Why not?

What does go on in a terribly cumbersome system of assigning farm priorities, under four to six different bureaus have to pass on a few hundred dollars' worth of materials, holding up decisions for weeks. Why? Are not the local war boards competent to make these decisions in the first place?

City people write most of our newspapers. Perhaps that is one reason why the farm situation is the least publicized of any basic American problem. But unless we see and meet it, we shall shortly be appalled by the increase in farm production, relative to our needs, and after the war we shall be confronted with the wreckage of communities that have been, perennially, the backbone of American life.

Saving Lives Over Here, Too

—By Herblock



Philippine Lesson

Model For Freedom

By Raymond Clapper

IN DISCUSSIONS that concern the shape of things after the war, President Roosevelt leans heavily on the story of the Philippine Islands as his model of what the United Nations policy ought to be toward colonial peoples.

In fact the President went to considerable lengths to spell it out in his address Nov. 15 commemorating the sixth anniversary of the Philippine Commonwealth Government. But the President's remarks attracted little attention. The significance which he intended they should have escaped general attention.

The President was a bit disappointed that what he had to say was not picked up and developed into a general discussion that would point the way for United Nations policy. Undoubtedly he will return to this theme because it is the only safe path that he sees through a tangled and treacherous question.

Mr. Roosevelt said directly that the history of Philippine independence provided a pattern for the future of other small nations and peoples and was part and parcel of the philosophy and ideals of the United Nations. You remember the story. We took the Philippines in the war with Spain in 1898. But the American people thought it incongruous and unwise for the United States to continue permanently a colonial status over millions of people who wished independence. In 1916 we voted that the Philippines should become independent in 1916.

tion and the recognition and fulfillment of social and economic needs. In other words, you must establish a going society in the modern sense. You must have popular education, and an economic life strong enough to carry the people along as a nation.

Second, Mr. Roosevelt believes there must be a period of training for ultimate independent sovereignty through the practice of more and more self-government, beginning with local government and passing on through the various steps to complete statehood.

We forget that before we gained our full national independence, we had long seasoning in local self-government, and local colonial self-government and finally the Federal Government established in 1789, after a decade of experiment with the confederation, out of which we learned through mistakes.

Such training for independence is essential. In Mr. Roosevelt's judgment, and some people need more intensive training than others and for a longer period. Each case must be judged by its circumstances. We have been working in the Philippines since the beginning of the century and when we decided to grant independence, a ten-year training and transition period was allowed. Some colonies would need only ten years, some twenty-five years, some perhaps an indefinite period.

Side Glances



"I know we've always through our big dance during the Spring semester, but we're facing a crisis—after the first of February this college will be practically a girls' school!"

Greetings. All!

A New Year

By Samuel Grafton

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to those Senate isolationists, NEW YORK
there are no more isolationists since Pearl Harbor. We claim that trying to fire Senator Warren R. Austin as assistant Republican whip, because he isn't an isolationist.

The quiet attack on Senator Austin is the first organized move since the isolationist since Pearl Harbor. It now becomes as important to defend Austin as to defend Guadalcanal. If this quiet little organized attack on Austin succeeds, isolationism will go on to other objectives. A Happy New Year to all Republicans who will see this issue in the right perspective, and who will get it into their heads, as soon as possible.

A very merry holiday to Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information, who needs one badly. Elmer is stuck between a choice of evils: If he announces that rationing is coming five weeks before it does, everybody jumps him and tells him that that encourages hoarding, as if Elmer didn't know.

But if Elmer says nothing, and lets the Government begin to distribute those many-lettered, many-numbered new rationing books, amidst a mysterious silence, that would encourage every rumor about everybody jumps him and tells him that that encourages hoarding, as if Elmer didn't know.

Happy New Year, to everybody who realizes that war is a process of choosing among bad alternatives.
The best of holidays to Harry Hopkins, who will probably be put on the post soon by a Senate investigation of Louis-Lend. Strangely enough, the same group of isolationist Senators that is out to "get" Mr. Hopkins, is also out to "get" Mr. Hopkins, a kind of Democrat, which is an indication of how the isolationists have their own partisan considerations in their fight to keep the world from making sense.

The House-Lend Act has to be re-passed by Congress this year. It will probably be re-passed. But the isolationists are not going to lose this golden opportunity to make our Allies waver. They are going to get Mr. Hopkins before a committee and make him explain why the House-Lend Act, while Allies wait, is a national policy. And this is the second item on their program for the year.

Happy New Year to our Allies, who will have to hearken anxiously to this rumble-humble, while waiting for ships to come over the seas with the equipment they need to fight our enemies.
A very good year to Vice-President Wallace, who has just broken out the brilliantly simple idea that Congress ought to declare formally parity prices for farmers. A Happy New Year to the critics of Vice-President Wallace, for suddenly their job has been done enormously harder.

They are now going to have to answer Wallace's plea for jobs for all and they are going to find it somewhat more difficult to get off jokes on that topic than on the topic of milk for Hottentots.

Whereas: That is how the world moves. A man in our community has stood up and has said that there ought to be work for everybody. And suddenly it has become the question of the lips: Wallace himself is no longer the boss; the thing he has said is the issue.

That is part of the miracle or democratic process. To fight Wallace's story, the opposition to him is easier to see than to fight. It is going to have to pick its debate up, and carry it to a higher level.
Happy New Year to everybody who picks the debate up, and carries it to a higher level.

City Hall. '12

Not Perfect

By Dick Young

1943, in his infantile arrogance, found it a bit chilly yesterday as he made his exploratory trip through the City Hall. The building was closed as City Hall workers took the day in celebration of the arrival of the New Year and it was cold inside. I found it a bit chilly myself and I can assure you I was wearing more than a strong. My footsteps resounded through the silent halls as I strode to my office and there I sat myself down and mused on the year that had just passed.

I didn't flinch through it, I began to think of the year, but for the life of me I couldn't escape the realization that so far as the present administration was concerned the year was a failure. I couldn't recall any scientific achievement and the date book wasn't any help in jogging my memory.

There was the smoke ordinance that the Council hadn't done anything about. There was the milk rationing law that caused a lot of trouble. There was the question of the enforcement of the provision for a State grant of \$100,000 for the year. There was the hue and cry from the multitude of Wesley Heights reverend fathers who were lined up for their section. Nothing was done about that when the Council pulled the question of the Council's jurisdiction out of the hat. And there's the milk rationing, which would have meant a State grant of more than \$200,000 for the City Health Department, but the Council did nothing about it and thumbed its nose at Raleigh.

But there is one thing this Council has done that other administrations have just jostled with. Under the leadership of Mayor Curran it carried through over many obstacles a full-fledged program of fence-closure in tax and street assessment suits. In earnest fashion, the legal machinery has been geared for concrete results and the year saw several pieces of property actually knocked down under the hammer because delinquent taxes and street assessments were not paid. That is a wholesome situation and gives indication that carelessness in settling accounts with the Municipal Government need not be tolerated any more.

Another action of the Council that portends success in raising the standard of the Police Department was the appointment of Weston-Salerno's Walter R. Anderson as chief of the department. The new chief has been on the job three months and every indication points to gradual development of the efficiency and morale of the blue-coated force.

The youngster of the annum also bears a stick of dynamite in that he has a bill for 1943 brings with it a municipal election. It is a bill for any predictions but there is already indication that a party of interest will be stirred up in the spring election to choose a mayor and eleven new Councilmen for the next bimble.