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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1943

The Serpent To Strike Again

Jap-German Defeats Have Left Enemy Sufficient Strength For New Offensive

The bad news of a fierce German advance in North Africa, though the action is not to be regarded as conclusive in the battle for Tunisia, serves as a reminder that the Axis military power, though past its peak and on the wane, is still a mighty force.

Let these facts be remembered about all of the United Nations victories of past months: 1. Though the enemy has retreated, he has done so only after strengthening himself to the rear, and has retired in a semblance of order.

Those things were true of Guadalcanal. Though the Japs lost a heavy price of manpower, they did not retreat until they had thrown a protective cordon of new bases in the path of any future American drive.

To some extent, the situation exists in Russia — though Germany has poured strength into the campaign.

Landon Whispers Wolf

Alf Hasn't Thought of a Thing To Say Since '36; He Can Only Think of Nazis

The voice of Alf Landon, because it came only as an echo of another day, was but faintly heard last week.

It is as well that he was not received with acclaim, for his sounding of the tocsin in Omaha not only offered no constructive criticism for the war-busy nation; it also poorly served the cause of the Republican Party.

Hail To The Chief

Stanhope Lineberry Has Served County As Few Law Enforcement Officers Have

For well over three years Stanhope Lineberry has been to Mecklenburg County a model public servant. As Chief of County Police he has rendered a service deserving of the highest praise.

Chief Lineberry, departing now for service with the Coast Guard, is to be hailed for his contribution to community welfare. He has directed his men after the fashion of an Army captain, and that kind of straightforward discipline has meant much to the County.

planned in detail, though savage Red drives ruined those plans around Rostov and cut off an army about the size of the ill-fated invaders of Stalingrad.

By the time the Russians have mopped up the vast territory through which they are moving, the Germans will be firmly entrenched on the Dnieper, and Spring will be at hand before the main forces there can be fully engaged.

Where these offensives will strike can scarcely be guessed with accuracy, but it is obvious that the two main machines are still intact, that neither can hope for victory except through further offensive moves.

Despite losses, there is no evidence that either Germany or Japan is greatly concerned over defeats in Russia or the South Pacific.

Shine, Republic America Must Not Rule The World

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON The least realistic thinking in this country is being done by those who reply to every projection of a reasonable world with the epithet "idealist."

To confound the acknowledgment that facts require radical revisions of past international behavior, with the "wild dreams of idealists" can lead to the destruction of the civilization of man on this earth.

They are, for instance, acting their fates against any program which has even a chance to eliminate war from this world. Their attitude is that the Western Hemisphere can make itself so strong that no one will dare cross her interests, or attack her.

Leaving out of account the probability that no such America would long remain a free democracy, the program greatly overrates the potential of America in the world picture.

today our allies would regard us as a possible future menace, and draw closer to each other.

This picture is realistic, based on the long established behavior of nations in a world governed by power politics.

The theory that some nations of men are, by the laws of God and Nature, eternally virtuous, and peaceful, while others are damned with congenital sin, is very dangerous nonsense.

It is this, our Republic, should ever get the idea, with a party in power to back it up, that America alone is God's country and that it is our business to dominate the globe.

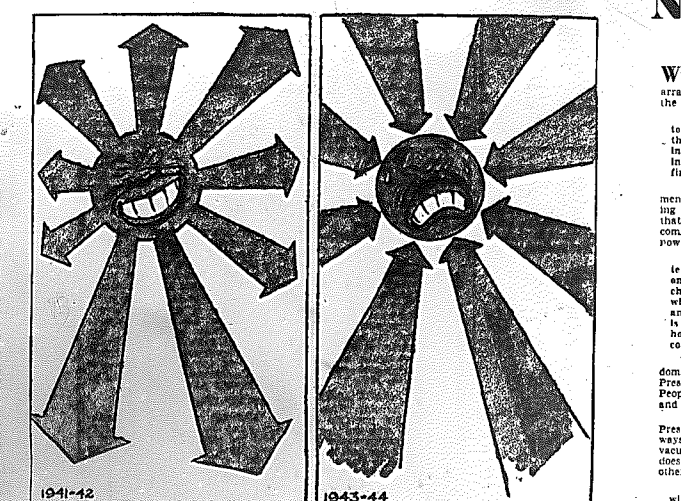
The lesson of aviation is that all people now live on a terribly small planet; no frontiers can be made impassable, and no seas are moats. In the ether above us the lines can be drawn to divide the world, to be handed over to anybody and here that. The sky is the element of mankind.

But a supernational law cannot be created or enforced by a single nation or even by an alliance of nations against other nations. There is a total global peace. The victors must create a world commonwealth and the conquered must join it.

There is no peace without law. There is no law without government. It is impossible to dimiss that simple statement of fact as "idealistic."

The New Design

By Herblock



Whispering Campaign De Gaulle Is Attacked

By Samuel Grafton

A KIND of whispering campaign against General de Gaulle goes on continuously and maybe some body ought to open the window and blow the room-born. Well, I should like to say that these Frenchmen who were not stubborn went down in heaps and windrows in 1940.

The critics of de Gaulle expect him to be firm as a rock against Vichyites in France, but they would like to go all homes and quillets when a Peyrouin is installed in North Africa. These men like their heroes to be hard when they want them to be hard and soft when they want them to be soft.

And as when proponents of a semi-fascist officialdom in North Africa say that de Gaulle is hard to get along with, I would say that is nothing new: the Germans, in 1940, found him impossible to get along with; they had never met such a difficult fellow.

I hear also that General de Gaulle is cold and remote. Perhaps we have not tried to warm him up the right way. We first referred to his move-

FDR's Vacuum No Policy

By Raymond Clapper

WHAT an ironic thing it was that the Undersecretary of State, Sumner Welles, had to open United Nations Month, in general terms arranged by OWI, with bitter recognition, only slightly softened, that the United Nations still remained nothing but a noble pair of words.

I know it is not the fault of Mr. Welles. No one in the Government has been more aware over many months of the necessity of moving to bring the United Nations into reality, to create some structure that will bind the Allies together after the cement of fighting for a common victory ceases to hold.

Germany is retreating faster than anybody thought possible ten days ago. The end of Germany is not yet, but it is so plainly on the way that the prospective victors are beginning to lick their chops and to drool in anticipation of the spoils.

We don't know what we want. Oh, yes. We want the Four Freedoms. But they are words in a vacuum. There is no American policy. President Roosevelt thinks about some of these things unduly often.

If this world is going to hold together at all after victory, it will be held together by England, Russia and the United States working together, and bringing China into the group. These four—and largely the four men at the top of these four nations—are very likely to determine the direction that affairs take in the period immediately following victory.

Read the address of Undersecretary Welles—for he speaks as one of the few diplomatic technicians who can see beyond the text of a memorandum on his desk to the wide horizon that must be explored.

Mr. Welles says: "There could be no surer road to disaster, no other means of bringing about unmitigated havoc in the future, than for the United Nations to enter the post-war period as rivals and opponents in their commercial and financial policies, rather than as collaborators in a common task of seeking and achieving international economic stability and general well-being."

That is as preposterous as the idea that we have the right to fly our planes over all other countries without giving them reciprocal rights here. That is the kind of fantastic argument you get in such a vacuum as President Roosevelt has permitted to continue.

Visitin' Around

Faye Nordstrom, Mrs. James W. A. Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. James motored to Morganton on Thursday.

Side Glances



Anything For A Laugh

(Little Stories From Coronet)

ON a street corner, the band was playing its solemn airs with grim determination. While it had attracted a sufficient crowd, the leader called on his members for testimonials. The woman with the drum stepped forward.

"Before I was saved," she began gravely, "I used to buy one cigarette from another. Then I was converted. Now I don't smoke." "I used to be a drunkard, too—many's the time I've poured a quart of liquor down my gullet in a single day. Now I don't drink at all."

"I was quite a sinner—'ill I was saved. Now I don't go to no 'more-houghten' clothes, complete with that big lousy drum." "Weldon Malick, a breezy matron from Chicago was visiting among the First Families of Boston, and the Back Bay dowagers were proceeding to put the Middle Westerner in her place."

"Here in Boston, you know," one of the good dames remarked at tea, "family is the thing that counts. We are interested only in breeding." "Well," commented the lady from Illinois, "out in Chicago we think it is a lot of fun, and we manage to have some outside interests."

A favorite Ozark story concerns a farmer who finally yielded to his wife's insistence and invested in an outfit of "store-boughten" clothes, complete with a new hat.

"Well, if the cook's leaving for a war job, why not invite your mother over for a visit? It'll give the folks a time she was here she didn't take those loogie remarks out of 'em."

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