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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1943

Big Offensive Russia, Winning Own Relief, Still Insists Upon More

Now the church, long despatched, has come to help Joseph Stalin, talk the Allies into a second front. The Metropolitan of Moscow asks now for "real help," so that the war might be quickly ended. Stalin apparently gave him an earful. Each report, it seems to us, can be the Allied cause no good. If Stalin so badly wants a second front, placed in some exact geographical spot, he should communicate his wishes in private. If he is playing a shrewd game with Joseph Roosevelt and Churchill, trying to confuse the Germans, then he is also confusing the peoples of Britain and America.

"The Russians have long said that they wanted land action in the West, so that so many German divisions would be smashed away from the Eastern front. They wanted relief. Now, that their greatest offensive is at the peak, and success is certain, the Red Armies are forcing the invaders to retreat toward the Dnieper River. If the line is anchored there for the winter, the Germans will have greatly "shortened" their lines. They will (if one counts the Nazi dead reported in Russian dispatches) have already removed some 5,000 divisions from the active front. On such a basis as that, what does Russia really want?"

North Africa was not satisfactory; neither was Sicily. Now, Southern Italy does not suit. "The great air raids over the Continent" wounding Germany equally as deeply as any possible Russian drive, are not considered. There is still the monotonous, persistent drumming for a second front. The Russians have had won it, at any stage. It has taken American and British production, manpower and aggressive action to swing the balance of war. Without the Western Allies' drive of the past six months, the Russians would likely have met with crushing defeat.

If Russia is going to judge any second front in the West solely by the number of casualties suffered, then she is to be disappointed. If Stalin is so short-sighted as to insist on a second front, let it be from the Western Allies to match those of Russia, he is in the wrong camp, and the wrong war. As Winston Churchill has said, the great drives will not last until there is every indication that they will succeed. In fact, they fall to see how the useless bleeding of our armies can help the Russian cause. And, while the subject is being hotly debated across the world, how soon will the Western Allies have the right to run by Ruda's would be no greater than those borne by the Allies in a big trust at Europe?

It is assumed that the Duce's fall releases the naturally light-hearted Latin from any further obligation to be Nordic, Inevitable and invincible.

mittes simply settle the foreign policy now and forever, on a non-partisan basis—so that the issue would be killed and removed from the campaign? Don't that neat? The Republicans still desperately trying to brush the isolationist taint from them, arise to say that there will be no issue on foreign policy next year!

The boys, we sincerely hope, are just waiting their time, and that of all readers who follow them. They sneaked off by themselves, still trying to leave Wendell Willkie out of the race. Inevitably, his spirit waded with them, and stutering candidates repeated words he has uttered. The Committee, we pray, will be grievously disappointed when election pressure goes on. Wouldn't it be perfect, for example, if Willkie again stamped the Convention through their popular apparel, bowled over the stuffed shirts and advanced upon the American public with his burning foreign policy? One World Willkie, unless things change, is still the one hope of Republicans, anywhere. Some should neck in at Mackinac Lake, and tell the boys.

A cat show in wartime England brought out some thirty types, not including the one that purrs to another. "Darling, I've always liked you in that hat."

Too Healthy
The More Doctors We Lose,
The Lower Death Rates Go

If the physicians of the nation weren't too busy to note or care, most of them would have suffered from acute embarrassment, these days. For the fact is that, though thousands of medics and nurses have been taken from civilian duties by the armed services, the health of America is better than ever. The death rate is at a record low, and births are double the deaths. This reluctance of Americans to pass on, even in the face of wartime strain and poor conditions of housing, is remarkable when one thinks of the shortage of medical attention is noted.

Girl Trouble
Arms of Liberation Will
Be Breaking Italian Customs

We have a hunch that Italian customs are in for a severe shock, perhaps for a permanent change. The young soldiers of Britain, America and Canada have been conquering the peculiarities of the Italian and his family. A great many of them are likely to disregard the warnings. There is, for example, the admonition that nice girls in Italy can't be picked up, as in most other countries. There is a danger that some of the long fligmarole of formal negotiations has preceded the meeting.

We don't believe the ancient custom will hold for long, before the gay advances of the conquering soldiers of liberation. It seems a fair guess that many an Italian girl is going to insist upon doing away with the red tape. In the days after conquest, as the armies move up the peninsula, Italy will expect such antics as she has not seen before. And if our Army authorities expect to prevent irrepressible youngsters from flocking around pretty girls who have been conquering the peculiarities of the Italian and his family. A great many of them are likely to disregard the warnings. There is, for example, the admonition that nice girls in Italy can't be picked up, as in most other countries. There is a danger that some of the long fligmarole of formal negotiations has preceded the meeting.

FDR's Stamp The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

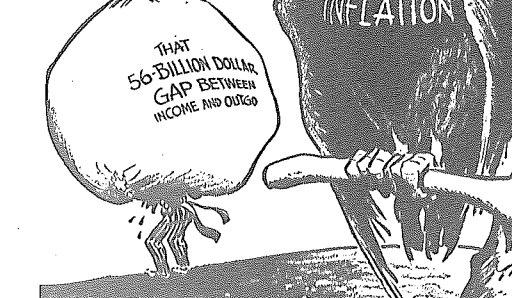
WASHINGTON
When President Barkley of the Negro Republic of Liberia was concluding his visit to Washington, President Roosevelt said to him: "When you get back home, don't forget to send me some of those stamps with legends on them." The remark illustrates what still remains the President's favorite hobby, despite the war. There is nothing which pleases him much to give him a moment's relief from the worry of war as having a volume of stamps set up on his breakfast tray on a Sunday morning.

And on most Sunday mornings he shuffles new stamps, pastes them in his albums, and personally keeps up a collection of stamps. Some collectors employ experts to keep their collections in shape, and the President has had a small amount of help from Gerard Beelman, who also helps Secretary Ickes. For the most part, however, Roosevelt handles his stamp collection personally. Although the President's stamp collection is probably the most famous in the world, it is not the best. The late King George V far surpassed him and some 300 volumes. The President's collection numbers only 40 volumes, with from 25,000 to 50,000 stamps.

In this country, also, the President's collection is easily surpassed by those of Sol Newberry of Chicago and E. Albert Eisenstadt, an Army doctor from Fitch, Okla. Though he may win some of the fine points of philately, the President misses none of the fun. When he trades stamps with Harold Ickes, they do it as a couple of boys—trading stamp for stamp, and not bargaining for value.

The President has received many a rare set from foreign Governments—an autographed stamp from Ignace Paderewski of Poland; plus some rare Turkish stamps sent by the late Kemal Ataturk. And when Soviet Ambassador Litvinoff sent to the White House one day, he carried under his arm a handsome book of Russian stamps, embossed with the hammer and sickle. Technically, it is against the law for the President to receive these gifts. To protect President against the ministrations of foreign princes, the Founding Fathers wrote into the Constitution a provision that "no person holding any office of profit or trust... shall, without the consent of Congress, accept any present, or gift, or title, or honor, or any kind of privilege, or foreign state."

However, nobody seems greatly worried about whether the President receives pictures, autographed stamps, Turkish shawls, or Liberator legends, so long as he gets some fun out of it. Many recent Presidents have been stamp collectors, including Coolidge, Cleveland and Teddy Roosevelt.



Shooting Or Hanging

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
INVASION of the Italian mainland may make it necessary to do something about the body of Mussolini almost any time from now. How ought he still is in Italy. The Germans may get him out but I hope we induce the Italians to hold him on the spot for us.

One day when I was just out of Italy, and without trying to start an argument at all, but rather by way of stating an obvious principle of justice, I mentioned this ought to show Hitler and Mussolini on sight and waste no time on a trial. Much to my surprise a wordy argument developed. Most of the mail that has come in since I returned home has been about this—whether to give them a trial. An editorial from the Jackson, Miss., Daily News prefers hanging. That brings the argument down to something tangible.

When a Mississippi editor sits himself down to discuss the merits of hanging, one must listen as to a voice of authority. My Mississippi friend would to attention the fact that the last execution in this country was for a few minutes in every town square in Italy. He would repeat the process in Germany and in other European countries. In all of these situations, a well-thought man, he says, is no good for a repeat performance.

I still prefer shooting—quick, sure, job simple, with no time wasted finding a piece of rope or a tree. In Italy, I say, he is already equipped to do the job. Name your own method but let us not waste time on the farce of a trial, or a hanging. The only way to deal with a hypocritical traitor. Why haul a stage full of international lawyers around to put on a fake show and finally acquit Hitler and Mussolini?

Realism A La Reynolds

In a recent address Senator Bob Reynolds delivered himself of some remarkable sentiments as concerns Americans and the war. He called to attention the fact that the U. S. Navy was bleeding herself white, just to fight this war. He talked a question of that, he said, put it all words.

"Our Bob wanted to know if the answer next Fall. A passage from powers and to restore order in the world at the earliest possible moment."

In the 10 months since Pearl Harbor, said Senator Reynolds, the United States has spent more money on war equipment and supplies than the other Allied powers, and Axis power nations, lend-lease is taking billions of dollars worth of all kinds of goods—real "health"

Public Glances



I HATE TO GET EVERY BIT OF GREASE OFF ME BEFORE I GO HOME—Junior examines my hands and looks behind my ears!

Everyday Counselor Greatest Task

By Rev. Herbert Spagh

WE are fighting this war on two fronts, the military front and the home front. Things have been going well for us recently on the military front. Would that they were doing as well on the home front. We do well to remember that the battle on the home front calls for as much concentration and unity of effort as that on the military front. We are fighting entrenched evil from the military front. Our big job on the home front now is to see that evil does not become entrenched here.

The rising tide of juvenile delinquency all over the country is coming as a result of our neglect of the home front. A startling statement was made recently by a high official of the Southern Railroad who said that today more damage is being done by agents of enemy nations. This reminds us that if we are going to be successful in our fight to preserve the American home and these children, we must keep faith with our own fighting on the home front. We must preserve for them a United States to which they can return in happiness and security. "High-mindedness exalteth a nation: But sin is a reproach to any people."

The Public's Always Wrong
"Practical" Men

SOMEWHERE around 1832, it is said, the Common Council of Philadelphia passed an ordinance prohibiting hatbands; they said they were unnecessary, dirty and a menace to public health... During the War of the Revolution the more "practical" of the Colonians were Tories. Or, if they weren't, spent most of their time caucusing Washington and his tiny armies. The majority of these "practical" men ended up as penniless refugees in Newfoundland or the West Indies.

Daniel Boone was looked upon as a restless, no-good fellow who wouldn't stay at home... During the 1820s and '30s, "practical" Congressmen and Senators, and the "practical" Eastern newspapers and their "practical" subscribers derided and tried to block every effort to explore and settle the West. The real Far West—our main beef and mutton and wool supply source, the place where most of our gold and silver and other metals come from—was discovered by the men who traversed the first trail and telegraph were looked upon as visionaries and fools.

Lincoln was told to mind his own business. Theodore Roosevelt, the name, when he wanted to build the Panama Canal. "Practical" men ruined the League of Nations, killed Woodrow Wilson, and ruined the Maginot Line. They're the fellows who think a major conflict is inevitable every twenty years and a major depression every ten. The biggest job they've done in the past five thousand years is the present war. Until a little while ago they thought malaria came from the filth that arose from riversbanks at night, and kept their windows shut and before that they avoided vaccination, and before that, the theory that the world was round. All through history "practical" men have been battling on the wrong horses, marring the wrong women and bringing up their children to hate them. And inevitably they have kept their mental windows shut.

The men who transported the first railroad and telegraph were looked upon as visionaries and fools.

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**Platform Of The People
A Negro YMCA**

Editors, The News:
Many citizens of Charlotte are deeply interested in the construction of a new building for the Negro YMCA and your editorial expressing the hope of The News that this building fund will not only be permitted to open, but that it will be quickly subscribed to, has created a most gratifying opportunity to service which awaits the Negro YMCA here, is deeply appreciated.

The recent annual report of the branch of the Charlotte Association has shown a steady growth in membership services to the young men and boys and the Negro race in Charlotte. The report has shown that the