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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1945

## Hail The Hero!

So Thomas E. Dewey is the new national hero. He's one with Tom Paine and Nathan Hale. He towers with Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. He saved the nation's honor—may, he saved the nation itself. We have it from no less an authority than Herbert Brownell, Jr., Republican National Chairman (and himself a patriot to the marrow) that the nobility of Mr. Dewey probably prevented him from becoming President of the United States. Mr. Dewey knew the secret of Pearl Harbor. He knew he had cracked the ultra-secret Jap code. But he didn't breathe a word of it—though as campaign ammunition it might have furthered his ambitions to reach the White House.

We aren't asking how Mr. Dewey came by his momentous secret—he obviously had to get it from someone in high authority. We don't care how he got it. It remains, as the Republican high command says, that he got it. And it was ever so decent of him to keep it quiet. He protected it at great cost. Had he leaked it, he might have been head-washed against Franklin Roosevelt—though that itself would take a good deal of proving.

All right. He kept the secret, so he's a great American. But suppose he had not kept it. Suppose he had spotted it in his campaign speeches, after General Marshall had told him flatly that to expose it would be to give the Japs valuable information, and place many American lives in danger. Suppose he'd spread it around. What would he have been then?

Would he have been less than a traitor? We think not. Suppose someone else had learned the secret—any plain American. Had he revealed it, whatever the cost, would he have been in an instant for what he was. He'd have been clearly guilty of treason in any books.

So what is all this gibberish about the patriotism of Tom Dewey? What are the Republicans trying to prove, with this absurd line of propaganda? Secrets of war are and ever have been above and beyond the reach of politicians in search of ammunition. The breaking of the Jap code was no more legitimate campaign material than the Japs' own troops and fleet concentrations against the enemy. Mr. Dewey buttoned his lip out of overwhelming patriotism, though the devil dangled the world before him. What else, in Heaven's name, could he have done?

## New Imperialists

First, their countries seek no aggrandizement, territorial or other; Second, they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

Nobody remembers those words from the opening of the Atlantic Charter. We're past the crisis now, and getting down to brass tacks in London. When the foreign ministers of the Big Five sat down to streamline the world for peace no one expected things to go like magic, but no one was prepared for the bomb the Russians threw.

We all knew Russia had no scruples about moving into neighboring countries to protect her borders. Some idealists deplored the disappearance of peoples' governments in the Balkans, Poland and the Baltic, but they knew that Russia's interest was based upon historical experience. She was simply forcing herself against the future. But everyone knew the Russians would not turn to imperialism. Even the Czars had never gone in for that sport. They'd extended their own borders, to be sure, in the manner that we settled the country West of the Appalachians. But they'd never gone empire-building.

The Soviets did. First thing, they declared themselves "interested" in at least an international trusteeship over Italian colonies in Africa. No one knows, yet, whether their attempt to gain footholds in Africa is genuine, or whether it is a move in the game to forestall expansion of British and French colonies.

## Statesmen At Work

(Serious, tactful and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record.)

THE Senate was discussing emergency unemployment compensation. Mr. HOVEY (N. C.) desired heartily to approve all that the Senate had passed. He said, "I have a letter in my hand from the Governor of North Carolina asking that this transfer be made."

Dear Senator Hovey: I do not wish to add to your legislative burden, which I know are heavy these days, but I am deeply concerned personally and officially, about that matter that only the Congress can help us with. I am strongly concerned to take this up with you on my own initiative but there is also the mandate of our General Assembly that I do so.

We are faced with problems of reconstruction in North Carolina and there is a widespread unemployment problem with this we have a State Unemployment Compensation Commission, and an adequate fund—more than \$100,000,000, but it is not right. That right arm is the employment service, which so long as the Federal Government, on the request of the President, on Jan. 1, 1942, up to that time our agency had two co-ordinate divisions, the unemployment compensation division and the employment service division, each supplied

hial holdings. If they follow this course of taking some African territory whether or not their allies do, they'll be taking a new tack. Well, the Atlantic Charter was just a thought, just a dream. It came to a world in a dark moment, when victory was most uncertain. Perhaps it was just a yearning toward a better world, and was not intended to hold forever. When we got out of the idealistic stage, and came down to talking business, we had to take things as they were. And things as they are scarcely invite consideration of the high principles of the Charter.

## A Longing Look

It's the Puck in us, we reckon. Anyhow, while the City of Charlotte is balancing (1) all the fine improvements it wants and needs against (2) the cost of them and this Scotch community's traditional dislike of taxes, it can't help throwing out the following:

New Haven	\$476,835.94
Durham	\$62,213.27
Wake	\$29,512.66

The amounts represent stay-at-home revenue from ABC liquor stores in the last fiscal year. Other substantial amounts in addition went into the State Treasury and for local enforcement of the liquor laws.

It has been guesstimated that in Mecklenburg, which in normal times has a large liquor traffic annual net revenue to be realized simply by switching over from the bootleg system to the store system would run as high as \$500,000.

The County Government, not the City, would get the dough, to be sure; but their clientele are 85 per cent the same as far as taxes are concerned. And \$500,000 smackers a year, no matter who took it in, would support a lot of public improvements in this community, not to mention the improvement in liquor systems.

## Let 'Em Up?

If George Bernard Shaw is right about the history of mankind he needn't be so anxious for the future of Germany and Japan. He mutters in his heard in the old familiar fashion that we're utter fools to occupy the enemy nations, says that it inevitably causes another war. Says our sitting on their chests with a loaded gun will not reform them, but simply perpetuate their criminal instincts. On the other hand, if we'd just walk off after defeating them, they'd be more likely to behave as gentlemen, reform of their own accord, and join us in the making of a hap-happy world.

The Irishman has no doubt. He's always known the ineptness of the human race to deal with its simplest problems, and has exploited its follies. But he just might be wrong this once. For example, how did the Japs get that way? Were they oppressed by foreign conquerors, subjected to the evil influences at large in the modern world by force? They were not. The world suddenly swam into their ken and, seeing at glance what they'd been murdering, they went after the Japs themselves. They worked out their own theories of just how to get along.

It was Hitler's line that the harsh treaty of Versailles forced Germany into a new world conflict, and made them burn with revenge. Mr. Shaw evidently agrees, and discards the theory of our military men that we erred fatally in 1918 by accepting an armistice before we had invaded German soil. But who was oppressing the Germans in 1914 or in 1917? And how long does he think it would take the Germans to make war again, if we simply left them to their own devices. He admits the spirit of France yet lives in Germany against Japan, but supposes that, by leaving it to grow of its own accord, it will wither and perish. It sounds like nonsense to us.

We can't occupy these countries forever, we suppose. But we're dubious about the announced plans of occupation: a year for Japan, fifteen months for Germany. Even that leaves too much to Mr. Shaw's theory. We think the record shows, plainly enough, that these nations have not the slightest desire to live in peace under any circumstances.

## Statesmen At Work

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menting and supporting the other. It was a duration loan and there was definite promise of its return when the war was over. It does not seem to me to realize the situation our Unemployment Compensation Act provides for. The unemployed have claims for benefits which the Unemployment Compensation Commission, but the agency does not take into account the employment and job placements. Except in 32 of the 48 offices in the state, the commission does not even take into account the unemployed service employees are Federal employees, owing to allegiance to our State agency and, except as they are covered by the provisions of our State officials.

our General Assembly of 1945, in 31 B. 08, a copy of which is enclosed, demanded the return of the employment service to the State. It is a matter of great importance to your attention. This resolution and the developments of the past few weeks, constrain me to urge that you take early action in this matter. We don't want any break-down of our reconstruction industry in North Carolina, or even any slowing up, in the emergency that we are in.

R. GREGG CHERY, Governor.

# The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON  
If Congress is really interested in investigating military efficiency rather than in political recrimination, it will drop the disastrous Battle of the Bulge as well as Lt. Harbo and concentrate on the matter that was Model.

Casualties at Pearl Harbor were 3,000. But casualties in the Battle of the Bulge totaled around 50,000. And just as Pearl Harbor set back in the Pacific, so the Battle of the Bulge delayed victory in Europe. General Eisenhower had hoped to finish Germany in the winter, possibly Christmas, but disastrous, overwhelming losses during the first weeks of the Ardennes offensive held up the war.

How many extra American lives lost as a result of the spurt given to German plans? But what is known is that U. S. troops suffered immediately placed huge orders for more tanks, more artillery, more of almost everything as a result of the heavy supply losses in the bulge. That is one reason why acres and acres of surplus supplies are scattered over the country today.

Also is never leaked out that certain U. S. Intelligence Officers in Washington warned that the bulge was coming, and that nothing was done to prepare for it. These are a few of the things Congress could investigate with profit to future military efficiency. Here are some more.

### Nozi Captives Talk

Congress doesn't know it, though the Army does now, that captured German officers have now thrown significant light on the Belgian bulge operation.

They have testified that the bulge operation was planned as early as November (though it didn't get started until Dec. 16). It was planned by Hitler himself. German generals were taken by a circuitous route to Hitler's headquarters, then near Frankfurt, where they were searched and placed in chairs four feet apart, remembering one colonel brought in a bomb concealed in a brief case at the last staff meeting Hitler took no chances. His Gestapo men wanted to be able to see both sides of the chair in which each general sat, also didn't want the generals to know exactly where Hitler's headquarters were.

They then unfolded his plan. The generals debated whether the German Army could squeeze enough gasoline and supplies from other operations to start the bulge attack. Most of the generals were opposed. They thought the idea was sheer suicide. But Hitler's mind fanatical, he decided that this last attempt must be made to break the American line and get through to Brussels.

It nearly succeeded. Lt. Gen. Kurt von Manstein was among those who left the meeting hearted. Before beginning the offensive he went to see his wife and children to tell them he never expected to see them again. Later he was to surprise himself by getting far as Bastogne, where he sent the message to Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe to surrender. McAuliffe's now famous reply was, "nuts," and General Manstein has since told U. S. interviewers that he understood quite well what "nuts" meant.

Another German opposed to the Belgian bulge campaign was the man generally credited with master-minding it—Field Marshal Kurt von Rundstedt. Last Decem-

ber, American correspondents asked accounts of how von Rundstedt had planned and led the Ardennes attack. But when interviewed, asked him about the Belgian bulge, he gruffly replied: "I don't know, because I was not connected with that operation. That was Model."

von Rundstedt was referring to Field Marshal General Walter von Model, his colleague on the Western Front, who had been strong for Hitler's plan to catch the "Bulge" and cut off the British.

Despite the opposition of regular German Army officers, Hitler seemed already in picking the time and place for the attack. He had the first advice of the U. S. forces would not have been caught napping if the advice of two War Department colonels in Washington during the first week of the advance of the Assistant Secretary of War, John McCloy.

### Washington Was Silent

Mr. McCloy, looking at the map of the Western Front several days before the Germans launched their surprise attack and noting the thinly spread American forces in the Ardennes Forest, remarked that he thought this was taking a chance. Members of the General Staff, however, reminded him that General Eisenhower knew what he was doing.

General Marshall made it a point never to give orders or suggestions to commanders in the field; so, as at Pearl Harbor, the man on the job was left to run his show without advice from Washington.

The warning of the two colonels, however, was much stronger. They were Col. Truman Smith and Col. Percy Blair, who went to Gen. Eisenhower a week before the bulge attack and advised him what they feared was coming. Blissett, however, fell back on the General Staff policy that it was not Washington's job to instruct field commanders.

General Blissett, head of Intelligence, is an air officer, who spent a large part of this war in India. When he ignored the air advice of Colonels Smith and Blair, the two officers wrote a memorandum putting themselves on record that there was grave danger in the Ardennes and that General Eisenhower should be apprised of that fact.

### Green 106th Division

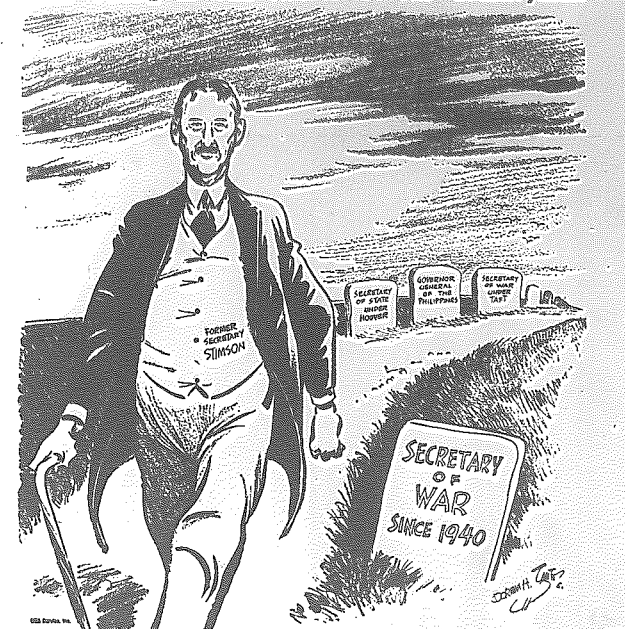
However, even this written warning was not passed on to Eisenhower. As at Pearl Harbor, War Department routine required that each command be on his own.

On Dec. 15, a new and relatively green division, the 106th, was moved into the Ardennes Forest opposite the German lines. It had arrived in France less than a month before. Never before had it been under fire. Early the next morning, Dec. 16, Hitler launched his long-planned pincer. His intelligence must have been excellent.

Last year, this column's comments on the Belgian bulge were telegraphed in abbreviated form to Europe and interpreted by members of the 106th Division as a reflection on their courage. No such reflection was ever intended. On the contrary, their resistance was one of the most heroic of the entire war.

But what I did report last year, and what still is true, is that just before the 106th Division sailed, its senior field commanders were replaced with younger colonels and lieutenant colonels who had never been under fire. And while every man and officer fought valiantly and to the last ditch against overwhelming odds, the entire 106th—thanks to inferior intelligence support and no time to prepare—was virtually wiped out.

## Still Young In The Hearts Of His Countrymen



## Taming The Wild Missouri

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON  
THE Missouri is a wild and rampaging river that flows through some of the wildest and most wonderful country in this great land of ours. Often, all too often, the Missouri makes the headlines with stories of flooded towns, homeless citizens, crops ruined.

Here in Washington, a group of men sitting around a table are talking about how to tame the Missouri. They are the members of the Missouri River Commission, a body set up by the Federal Government to study the river and make recommendations for its control. The commission has been working for many months on the job. A subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation is holding hearings on Senator Murray's bill to create a Missouri Valley Authority and to authorize the Tennessee Valley Authority.

This hearing is a repeat performance. Earlier this year, another Senate subcommittee heard almost the same witnesses make almost the same arguments.

Even more curious is the fact that the chairman of the committee this time was also chairman at the previous hearing. Senator Overton of Louisiana, who is opposed to an MVA, is presiding as on the former occasion, when a Commerce subcommittee turned in an adverse report.

Behind the struggle for an MVA are many forces. The private power interests are, naturally, opposed. They do not want to see public ownership extended through the Missouri Valley.

The most active force in favor of an MVA in the valley is the National Farmers Union, which is strongest in the states that are within the Missouri watershed. The Farmers Union, spurred by its aggressive new president, James G. Patton, has crusaded for an autonomous MVA in the valley, with power to reshape that vast region.

But, inside the Government, too, there is a conflict. The old-line bureau that have detested the rampaging Missouri for so long feel they have a prior claim. An

Independent authority like the TVA might remove them altogether.

The Army engineers and the U. S. Reclamation Bureau in the Department of Interior are put together on their own plan for the Missouri Valley. Harry W. Baschore, reclamation commissioner, said in an interview last week that if present Federal agencies could be "re-organized" he could bring the valley all the benefits that would come from an authority.

When Secretary of the Interior John E. A. Brown, at the previous hearing, he said he was in favor "in principle" of the MVA bill. But he believed the valley authorities should report to his department to be coordinated.

The net effect of his testimony, however, was to please the opponents of the bill. As he finished, Senator O'Daniel of Texas thanked him profusely, saying: "You certainly have been very helpful to us, Mr. Secretary. We are very glad you came because you served to bring this issue into the clear."

When I wrote about the TVA and Iches' attitude toward authorities some time later, the Secretary of the Department of Interior has come forward with the every kind of a liar. If, however, you are for something in principle, but help in practice to bring about its defeat, then your advocacy would seem to be of a curious and dangerous kind.

The claims of conflicting Government agencies should have nothing to do with how the Missouri Valley is developed. The test should be the greatest good for the greatest number of people living in the valley.

The Department of Interior has come forward with a new bill providing for the creation of authorities in the river valley. These authorities would be situated in the region and would report to the Department of Interior to the White House. This may be the answer.

We're learning, if slowly, about the power of our natural resources. Life Magazine had a superb spread the other day on the Missouri Valley. But the wild Missouri River, carrying along in flood the fertility of the earth, will not wait indefinitely on the maneuverings of politicians in Washington.

## SIDE GLANCES

By Calibrat



"Mother won't let me wear makeup to the party. Grandmother—does she expect me to wait until I'm as old as you?"

## The Farmers, Too

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK.  
FARMERS are beginning to wonder about their postwar income, too, just like labor: one unavoidable question follows another—unavoidable questions which a recent version.

At a New York meeting, Mr. Roger Corbett, executive secretary of the American Farm Bureau Federation, has warned that the farm situation is now that the war is over. The burden of his talk was not much different from that of any labor leader warning against a cut in total pay; and while it is true that farm leaders and labor leaders are sometimes in opposition, their speeches are often almost interchangeable.

Mr. Corbett argued for a continuing farm program; and there is the Government's determination to give some sort of financial assistance to returning G. I.'s. No one suggests that either the G. I. or our society will be ruined by the return of the population. There is a settled plan for partial remission of taxes to help business. We must not be surprised if, over the years, labor shows a growing disposition to ask for a seat at the table of the new postwar program. It does not fully appreciate the distinction of being the only large group of laborers to be retrained. It likes the old and simple American virtues of independence, etc., and does not want to be the sole repository of the farm's surplus.

The farm meeting at the Hotel New Yorker broke off with the reading of the new conservation bill. The Murray full employment bill.

## People's Platform

The Forgotten Men

By PFC. HARRISON P. CROWELL  
P. O. Ogilthorpe, Ga.  
In view of the sentiment expressed by friends, relatives and neighbors, we believe it imperative that a matter of great importance be brought to your attention.

A poll was taken throughout the Army in an attempt to create a fair point system for discharging service men. The results of this poll showed that the majority of the men in the Army are in favor of a system for discharging service men which would take into account their military record, their character, and their ability to contribute to the community.

From time to time in modern warfare it is necessary to place soldiers in certain strategic positions. These forces are very rarely composed of volunteers; usually such tactics take place on an extremely small scale.

The undue hardship encountered by these prisoners, not only to safeguard military information, but to maintain even an animal like existence, can be imagined by the many "series and pictures" released by the American public of Japanese and German atrocities. While these prisoners were going through the hell of a torture for withholding information, forced labor in front line areas, and in the rear areas, they were being treated as human beings.

We know from our experience in the military that democracy is achieved only to the extent that the majority believes in it. Vigilant citizens are the only ones who strive to make it work—Congress, the President, R. I.

I can—and must—try to finance even my own life, but I can't back out of it. After all, there is a bottom to the American four barrel wheel. I think so, or not.

—Bartlesville, Okla., Enterprise.

Our occupation of defeated Germany will be a real test of our long as we maintain vigilance over German industry.

—Major Gen. Robert Wells Harper, U. S. Army, childless. (Almost as many as the paleface.)

—Ironwood, Mich., Globe.

## Loans

To B

WASHINGTON  
report on "bad debt" property to the House secretaries. The House members' ways were open to the House members' ways. The House members' ways were open to the House members' ways.

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