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And Evening Chronicle

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1941

Copying Britain

By Hugh S. Johnson

"A FOX" said Mr. Aspin, if I remember my childhood, "lost his tail in a trap, but weaved. All the other foxes gathered round to feel sorry for him. He would come back and he would tell them how useless and what a burden he was to him and how much better he felt and better and faster he was since his tail was lost. From this he went on to urge that the rest of the foxes should get rid of their tails. But they refused and they just laughed and went away proudly waving their tails behind them."

I remember too some old nursery nonsense:

"Let us cut off our noses said Aaron to Moses."

"It's the fashion to wear 'em said Moses to Aaron."

SHOULD WE MATCH ENGLAND'S PACE?

Most official American visitors to England recently come back and say that England has practically abandoned automobile production—except a few for export—and, therefore, so should we. That England is spending more of her income for defense than we, taking herself more heavily and has converted more of her factories to production and that we should therefore equal her pace.

Of course, one of those things is any reasonable yardstick at all for our effort. Our goal and measure is what is needed. What have we got? How can we get more without utterly disrupting our economic system and destroying civilian morale?

None of those people approach this problem from that angle. After all these months they are only now beginning to begin to "commence" to find the answers. But what is England doing? It is a substitute for the thinking.

ENGLAND ISN'T SACRIFICING ITS LITTLE BUSINESS

I doubt if they know what England is doing. It is becoming clearer every day that they are not directly compare our total tax burden with hers. Spokesmen for England have been telling us that she didn't intend entirely to sacrifice her little fellow in business. Let us in England will indicate that she isn't doing it — and in this she is wrong.

Automotive problem is entirely different from ours. She is a smaller country with shorter distances and her people have never been so completely motorized as ours. Automobiles have re-distributed our population and revolutionized the whole scene of commerce and distribution of supplies and location of homes with relation to working places.

FACT FINDING WAS LONG DELAYED

This long delay in finding facts and laying plans followed by this long delay in carrying them out, is being followed by the boys who have been finding the facts and laying the plans. It is certainly a way out for them but it certainly casts doubt on the advisability of trying to imitate the power of economic life or death over so many communities, industries and nations.

It isn't as if there had been no model for a reasonable and timely approach to the problem. There were many—our own. The world was war-copied with greater or less success. But the world of Europe, which was the model, would have none of it—until just now.

Also it is revealed that the chrome mining act is being used as a portable outfit. Obviously, as soon as most of the ore is washed out of one section, the operators move on to another locality, leaving desolation in their wake.

It is quite possible that we shall shortly be at war with Japan and more deeply involved in the struggle against Germany. Under these conditions, our supply lines to foreign sources of chrome, principally Turkey and Africa, would be seriously disrupted. We should be forced to increase our domestic supply of the ore to capacity.

There are huge pockets of olivine, the chrome-bearing rock, in the Carolina mountains. Undoubtedly much of the effort to find a source of domestic chrome would be concentrated there.

Also it is necessary to resort to large scale hydraulic mining in this area. It will involve the marrying of another great resource, the cherished beauty of our mountains. Already men are digging great pits in the Blue Ridge, excavating the rhododendron burl from which pipes will be turned.

Beauty is not all we will lose. Water will fall in the mountains, will pour down hillsides denuded of vegetation and bring rushing floods down into the foothills, silt and gravel, will cover fertile fields. The flooding that struck only last year leaves no doubt about that.

Perhaps chrome can be stripped from our mountains, but we will pay a price for it.

Truth crushed to earth will rise again, and 50 million Frenchmen may not be wrong on the account.

As a rule, if a film incites warlike feelings in us, the other half of the double bill is a Mafie comedy. That makes us purr.

Labor's Secret Treaties

By Jay C. Hayden

WASHINGTON — One effect of the new American case of J. Edgar Hoover, who has been in the Government housing project was last last Spring, was practically a labor union, has been to crack open the question as to what is going on in the world. The deals between defense production officials and favored unions.

The statement has been made repeatedly that the Currier bid was rejected because it collided with a stabilization agreement between Sidney Hillman, co-director of OPA and APL, building trade unions by which the labor organization made concessions in return for exclusive recognition.

EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION NOT REFERRED

Consultation of the text of this agreement, as announced by Mr. Hillman July 24, however, fails to disclose any reference to exclusive recognition of the AFL union. It simply specifies rules as to hours, wages, including time and a half for overtime, and other working conditions. In return for which the union agrees that it shall be no stoppage of work on account of jurisdictional disputes, or for any other cause, and that all grievances and disputes shall be settled by conciliation and arbitration.

Currier's bid was low by \$431,000 on a \$970,000 job. He charged that he was turned down, first, because he employed CIO rather than AFL labor and secondly because his houses are pre-fabricated, another feature to which the AFL union objected. There has been no official denial of this statement of fact. On this basis Thurman Arnold, Assistant Attorney General, advised John C. Calhoun, Federal Works Administrator, that he might be acting illegally if he accepted a bid higher than Currier's. Now the Truman Committee of the Senate investigating Defense spending has jumped into the situation and the whole issue seems to be stalled pending its inquiry. Completion of it is a house vital needed for defense workers appear a long way off.

ARNOLD DEBATES LABOR DISCREPANCY

Mr. Arnold, who heads the anti-trust division, has been shouting from the house tops for more than two years that labor union discrimination constitutes one of the biggest drags on American industrial production. In a speech last month Arnold asserted that "labor union restrictions on production, which have nothing to do with wages or hours or conditions of labor, are today costing the American consumer over a billion dollars a year. They are increasing."

"I am talking," Arnold said, "about hold-ups and bottlenecks in housing, and in food and in fuel and in transportation, created by the legal right to enforce strikes and boycotts: (A) to influence price fixing agreements and free channels of distribution; (B) to eliminate small competitors and owner-operators; (C) to restrict the use of labor-saving devices; (D) to keep more efficient materials off the market which might interfere with static jobs; (E) to prevent self-employment; (F) to make arbitrary classifications of jobs which retard the efficient use of labor; (G) to tie up huge industries in the struggle to determine which of two unions will dominate the field."

COURT RULES UNIONS ARE EXEMPT

While Frank Murphy was Attorney General, Arnold launched a powerful labor union which claim industrialists for violation of the anti-monopoly laws by collusion in one or more of the above listed practices. The Roosevelt appointed majority of the Supreme Court, however, by a 5 to 3 decision, a chronicle which puts the responsibility for its continuance strictly up to Congress. If the Truman committee is looking for a job, really useful from the standpoint of legislation, it will broaden its inquiry into the Currier incident to cover the whole broad question of labor union "interference" with defense production.

SMALL BUSINESS MEN OFFER COMPLAINTS

The committee has only to call Mr. Arnold as a witness to record an array of facts bearing on this subject. Since the Currier case was first published, the anti-trust division has been receiving as high as a hundred complaints a day from small business men telling of similar things that have happened to them.

If, for example, the stabilization agreement, invoked in the Currier case, was designed to insure uninterrupted operation on defense housing projects, Mr. Arnold is armed with ample proof that it hasn't worked that way. Letters coming to the Department relate numerous instances in which building projects have been interfered with by disputes between unions despite the promise in the stabilization agreement that such stoppages on this ground no longer will be resorted to.

Keeping Sea Lanes Open

By Raymond Clapper

ONE MAY only look at some elementary facts as to our attitude of raw materials to see that we must be able to keep our sea lanes open. The world that is what we actually mean by freedom of the seas.

You don't hear much about this problem. But it is important in lubricants and for crumbles. We are mostly dependent on the sea for the electrical industry, chrome largely from India. Manganese and cobalt are essential for making hard steel. For manganese we are dependent to a considerable degree upon India and Rhodesia, with limited amounts in the Philippines and Brazil, and perhaps some will come from Russia. Chromium, except for Turkish and Russian production, comes mainly from Africa. We are the world's largest producer of one per cent of our requirements. We are dependent upon Manila hemp for the vast quantities of rope needed for the navy and merchant marine. It is difficult to find substitutes that will not swell at sea.

WE NEED SMALL QUANTITIES OF MANY THINGS

These and many more items do not bulk large in quantity. But they are as essential as rubber and tin, of which we hear so much. They must be obtained thousands of miles from American shores. Germany was compelled to lay its stocks of these materials before the war, or in some cases to devise substitutes at enormous cost and effort. One reason this World War is being fought is that Germany is trying to break through and get access to these supplies, many of which are under British or allied control in various parts of the world. That is why Germany must break British sea power before she will be content.

Through many years we have insisted upon the right to travel the oceans so that we could have access to these numerous materials which are essential to a modern industrial nation. Because the British and ourselves were playing ball we had little difficulty. Germany, especially after the last war, had great difficulty in obtaining materials. If Germany is defeated this time, a more equitable distribution of these materials will be necessary if any kind of peace is to be expected.

SPREAD OF WAR MIGHT CUT US OFF

In the meantime it seems desirable that we keep in mind our necessity of being able to go and get materials which we must have. In normal times we had no difficulty. As it happens the combat zones laid down have not interfered to any appreciable extent. But if the war were to spread we should find that we were not able to travel in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans our defense industry would quickly feel the pinch.

Germany has sunk much British shipping around Africa and the Indian Ocean. Thus far we have been spared, except for an occasional attack such as that on the Robin Moor. That is our good luck. If, however, Germany should decide that our shipping must be checked as she is attempting to check British shipping, then we should have to resist or else accept a blockade that would cut off these essential materials.

AIDING BRITAIN IS NOT THE ONLY FACTOR

The question is not only one of aiding England. That was not a factor we should still have a large stake in keeping the seas open. And as a matter of fact the realistic reason for our interest in aiding England is exactly that one of keeping the sea open. The British Empire controls many of these raw materials which we need. We ought to get into partnership and obtain our rights in these materials which are so vital to us. In any case it is essential that we maintain our rights, with so much of the maintenance of the world open so that we can bring them in.

Those are some of the practical realities underlying the oratory in these times.

Who Charges?

The True Face Is Yet To Deal With Its Betrayers

The bone-dust of Judas Iscariot and Benedict Arnold and of all whose names history has set down irreversibly as traitors need be adding in their graves at the news from Vichy France. There, at the order of Chief of State Petain, himself in deadly danger of being judged by history a traitor to his country, a special court will assemble to try five members of the state for leading France to defeat against Germany.

The five: Leon Blum and Edouard Dauterive, former ministers; Maurice Gamelin, one-time Allied generalissimo; Guy de Chamberlain, former Air Minister; and Jean Bismont, former Administrator of French Defense Industries.

Next, bumbling and lax to an incredible degree these men may have been, but the common denominator of their crime is far less reprehensible than the treachery, the bumble truckling to the conqueror, the character traits which certainly the worst of traitors lack. Certainly the worst of traitors lack Leon Blum ever did was to daily in the name of liberalism and to choose Russia, the Russia that today is battling the Nazi juggernaut with epic heroism, as an ally on whom France might call for aid in Germany's aggression.

No court of justice will try these men, but in Vichy France justice, too, has bowed down before the commands of the Nazi masters. The verdict against them will be reached in Berlin, not by the pained blood of those who remain faithful, but by the whole world, guilty of the certainty, and it may be that the punishment, in order to cover the unpopularity of their former compatriots who now entreat upon them, will be excessive. But Frenchmen everywhere will not be deceived, nor fail to consider that the traitors of the hour are the traitors of the hour, and that the traitors of the hour are the traitors of the hour, and that the traitors of the hour are the traitors of the hour.

Senator Soaper Says:

Looking to the day when fuel runs low, the talk now is of bottling upmining — not to be confused with the bottling up of the Carolina mountains.

Though some may like them, the 117 biffaloes offered for sale by the Government are not for sale for all. One man in a meat is another man's bison.

Whatever they find to be the average mental age of the new American soldier, it will shade the first sergeant's estimate by 5.7 years.

Brer Anacy, The Rascal

English Countryman

Brer Anacy, who holds to Jamaican Negro folklore a position equal to that held by Brer Rabbit in America, is almost unknown outside his own country. He is a spider, and in the folklore of the west coast of Africa the spider has a secure pre-eminence.

Anacy is the Achaean word for spider, and according to one tradition the human race is descended from the spider. In Jamaica Brer Anacy is a person who has assumed the characteristics of a spider, and so buys a gun, enmeshes a silver, marries, lights a fire, dies his ground.

A reciter of Anacy stories ends with the word "Jackerdoo" (I don't mean anyone listening to me). Anacy makes no pretense to goodness, truth or honesty, and gains his ends by craft and duplicity. Jamaican Negroes will say, "Brer Anacy, he's the biggest rat on earth." He is supported by other characters such as Brer Horse, Brer Dog, Brer Fox, Brer Crow, Brer Hawk and Brer Lion. Crow represents birds; among fish.

Baron Petrillo

Apparently His Hand Is More Potent Than a Baton

Mr. James C. Petrillo, who exercises approximately the same amount of power over the musicians of the United States as a ruler over the world, was yesterday, Oct. 17, the subject of a notice in the New York Times. The notice was a notice of his death. The notice was a notice of his death. The notice was a notice of his death.

Gang War

One "Big Boodle" Would Be Troublesome

The story going around town is that in one Big Boodle and several smaller ones. The Big Boodle, they say, is out to monopolize the illegal liquor traffic in Charlotte, has told his smaller competitors to buy their bottled goods from him, or else.

That's the story, they explain. Charlotte's third bid of midnight runfins is little more than a fortnight. Twice before has been peppered with buckshot. Wednesday night an empty car parked on West Hill Street was riddled with pistol bullets. Nobody killed yet.

All of which sounds as if Charlotte, while enjoying the advantages of big game, is not immune to the disadvantages of a metropolitan. Few American cities have grown beyond 100,000 population without developing a disproportionate large upswing in organized crime, racketeering and graft. In most instances this lawlessness was tolerated as an inevitable accompaniment of bigness.

Chicago realized almost too late that racketeering was bigger than law. It was running the city. It took Federal intervention to break the rackets, and still the Chicago situation is far from desirable.

At this crucial stage in its development, Charlotte would do well to lay the foundations for a perpetual war against organized crime. Once the politicians get the upper hand—largely through public apathy—it is all the easier to cut them down to their level.

A Dangerous Theory About Large Feet

New York World-Telegram

The so-called "father of daylight saving time" the venerable Robert Garland, former Pittsburgh congressman, has just come out with a theory that won't do his brain any good.

Mr. Garland, holding a report that American soldiers in 1941 are being sent to Europe in the dark, says that daylight saving time is a dangerous theory. He says that daylight saving time is a dangerous theory. He says that daylight saving time is a dangerous theory.

A Little Bit North Of South Carolina

Raleigh News & Observer

Walter Winchell reports "It could only happen in the movies, eh? Well, it happened over at a New York afternoon paper where the city desk was supposed to assign a photographer to cover the war maneuvers in South Carolina."

Instead, they sent him to North Carolina, about 400 miles away.

This is what is known as Manhattan geography. The U. S. A. is across that river and the situation of states and what is going on in them in military and other affairs is too far off to count. Up there they can even pronounce the names of Russian towns, but the notions about the relative location of North Carolina and South Carolina, not to mention the maneuvers in them are a little vague.

Visitin' Around

Blaze

Big news item. Marshall Smith-Reed and Mrs. R. N. Smith and baby motored up on Charlotte Sunday to spend the day with Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Smith. Mr. Smith is a doctor in the Charlotte-Thurston Baptist Church, of Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. Smiths and baby stood the trip well.

The Rev. and Mrs. R. N. Smith also motored up from Charlotte to visit Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Mr. Smith is a doctor in the Charlotte-Thurston Baptist Church, of Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. Smiths and baby stood the trip well.

