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EDITORIALS

## Current Comment

### WHO IS WINNING THE WAR, ANYHOW?

On the Red Army's 25th birthday Josef Stalin made a speech in which he said that "Russia's fighting millions, bearing alone all the weight of the war in the absence of a second front in Europe—

"Have started the mass expulsion of the Axis from the country and have put out of action in 20 months 9,000,000 enemy troops, including 4,000,000 killed."

Continuing, Mr. Stalin said:

"The Russians in 3 months have routed 112 enemy divisions, killed more than 700,000 troops and taken 300,000 prisoners, a total of 1,000,000 men, besides 7,000 tanks, 4,000 planes, 17,000 field guns."

No one will discount the epic struggle made by the brave Russians, who have written their name in history as among the toughest fighters of all time.

But Joe Stalin is venturing far afield when he says "Russia is bearing alone the weight of the war."

The world knows the terribly tragic spectacle of German armies eating their way across Russia when American lend-lease came to the rescue with thousands of planes, tanks and food.

Without this material assistance the Russian soldiers could not have stood against the panzer divisions of Hitler.

To come down to brass tacks, no nation is justified in boasting that it alone is winning this war. It is the mutual assistance given to each other that is enabling Russia, England, China and America to crush the Axis menace.

Without the British fleet that has constantly guarded the Atlantic lanes, American help could not have reached England and Russia. Without the Russian manpower England must have been crushed. Without American production, Russia, England and China would be today conceding that most terrible of all consummations—a Hitler peace.

### SPRING IS HERE

Beautiful Spring has come.

We heard it today laughing, prattling, singing, skipping.

We saw it in its pristine beauty and carelessness, its petite naughtiness, its lovely tresses caressed by the playful wind.

Its name is Martha-Ann, hyphenated personification of the charming season of bluebirds, butterflies and daffodils.

Two little girls playing together all the day long—Martha Wilkinson and Ann Marshall—romping over the meadow, hunting the first violet, baking mud pies, building tiny houses with sticks and pebbles, chasing the ducks, watching the bombers go over—talking about their papas—papa Marshall way up in cold Boston training at Harvard University to fight this cruel war—papa Wilkinson faraway in Africa where the purple skies bend down to kiss the Mediterranean.

Was ever anything lovelier or sweeter than innocent carefree childhood, the little kids who are of the Kingdom of Heaven.

### MENACE OF THE HOME FRONT

The victory of America in the war is seriously threatened by the vicious sinister clique operating in Congress.

The administration is throwing everything to the winning of the war regardless of cost, you might say. Can cost be a consideration when freedom is the stake?

The saboteurs—a bi-partisan vicious sinister clique—are throwing in everything to balk Roosevelt—to hell with victory in the war.

Winning of the war is secondary to winning over the President.

The clique is composed of Republicans en bloc, with some exceptions, and a handful of vengeful Democrats, Roosevelt haters. Republican Senator Taft has sounded a warning that too much of this thing will injure the war effort.

But birds like Byrd, Wheeler, Clark, George, Reynolds—pseudo Democrats and synthetic patriots—are much less concerned over the appalling Axis menace than about the "bureaucracies of Washington"—their excuse for fighting Roosevelt.

In the unthinkable victory of the Axis, it is really doubtful if the cactus Senators Wheeler and Nye would be so severely discomfited. On account of their loyalty to Hitler's interests in the past, they may envision Quisling loaves and fishes.

### ALL SET FOR THE SEA BLITZ

Dispatch from Washington says the new 45,000-ton battleship Iowa hits the water this week, the finest, deadliest boat in the world, commissioned in New York recently, seven months ahead of schedule—

And that its sister ship the 45,000-ton New Jersey will be ready in two months.

Highest naval experts say the Iowa or the New Jersey either could have defeated the whole German battle fleet at Scapa Flow in 1916, when the British and the Huns shot it out in the North Sea.

These latest additions to the American fleet carry armored resistance which airplanes can't dent and whose guns will efface all probable resistance on the oceans anytime the Japs want a fight.

And then when we think about the 35,000-ton French Richelieu recently added to our navy, the way ahead must hardly look roseate to the rat admiral who promised to dictate peace in the White House at Washington.

### EVER WELCOME VISITOR

More and more parents, sweethearts and friends are sending the Danbury Reporter to the boy in the distant camp or across the seas.

You may send him the big daily that prints the news of the world, but betcha he had rather have the old home paper that tells the short and simple story of home sweet home, where the sun shines brightly on the beautiful Stokes county hills, and at night the moon beams softly on the old plantation.

The Reporter is only \$1.00 for 52 visits, postage paid to anywhere.

### CONFOUNDING THE CRITICS

Roosevelt slipped another smooth one over his critics the other night when he spoke over the radio.

The occasion was the Democratic dinners and Washington's birthday.

The President was to make a political speech, his first since the late elections. He was to use the opportunity for a sly bid for a fourth term, and to unleash hidden forces and propaganda for the 1944 designs.

There was a fume in the wind. He had fouled all other speakers by dominating the air. Mean knives flashed.

Then what happened?

The President in his broadcast didn't mention politics at all, but read the Epistle of Saint Paul and the Sermon on the Mount. Sentences that electrified all the world.

The enemy was amazed, disappointed and confused. Each hater went way off and sat down.

And did not learn, and they have not yet learned that the thing they most greatly feared had already ensconced itself in the hearts of the people—the Fourth Term.

It is there—pluck it out if you can.

### NEWS IS BETTER TODAY

Let no American be discouraged at the late reverses on the battle front in Africa.

The news is much better today. The Americans and British are driving the enemy back and making him pay dearly for his temporary successes. In the meantime the big tough British 8th army is steadily drawing nearer to Rommel.

All in all, the situation is now favorable on all fronts. The Russians continue to smash the Huns, killing and capturing them by the thousands. In the Pacific the Americans are superior in the air, on the land and sea.

The giant production of American planes, tanks and ships is slowly turning the scale against the Axis powers.

### THE FIGHT FOR FOOD

The battle is on for food in Stokes county.

Hardly ever before since the memory of man started functioning have there been more preparation for things to eat.

Thousands of men, women and children are getting ready. Tools are being sharpened and slick mules are switching their tails in anticipation.

Cattle, hogs, milk, butter, poultry and eggs, corn, hay, beans and potatoes, tomatoes and cabbage, lettuce and carrots and onions, squash, okra, green peas—the menu is tempting and saving.

Food will win the war. Food will whip the Axis. Food will keep us healthy and hale and happy.

It is reported from Washington that Ex-President Hoover may be called in to take care of the food situation. He will be the very man for the job, being experienced in the fine art of short rationing.