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DOUGALD COXE, Editor-Manager

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Competition For Kaiser

Henry J. Kaiser may be getting most of the publicity for his wonder-works out on the West Coast, but down here in North Carolina there is a shipbuilding company at Wilmington which has been doing pretty well with shipbuilding all along.

They've both been working on cargo ships of the Liberty and Victory types, mass-production models. Now from the warship builders there's arising some competition for speed records too.

The Bethlehem Steel Company has just turned out a neat little job, a 1,300 ton destroyer escort, in 25 days, to set a new world's record in construction of this class of ship.

The record surpasses Bethlehem's own speed mark of 45 1-2 days for a destroyer built in the last war. The first ship of this type required 302 days to build and the next 206. Built for speed and quick-handling firepower it will soon be doing convoy duty in the service of the British Royal Navy.

Lend-Lease To The United States

Though it has been going on ever since the United States entered the war, it was not until last week that we of the United States were given an idea of how much lend-lease aid we had been getting from others of the United Nations. The announcement that we have secured as much as one billion dollars worth of goods from Great Britain probably came as a surprise to most Americans.

Though, no estimate has been given, it also stands to reason that Russia, China, Australia and those African states have been letting us have considerable quantities of goods as our armies have required them.

Critics of these mutual-aid agreements who try to make it appear that Uncle Sam is giving and giving without a possibility of recovering but a small part of these lend-lease articles of war have lost at least a big part of their argument.

Seen' Oursel's - - -

Henry J. Taylor, NANA correspondent who has been traveling over a good part of the globe recently, says that few folks outside our country think we are not really doing our share in the war. And he says that a lot that we are doing is but confusing the minds of many of the people we are trying to aid.

Writing in the *Readers Digest* he says, in part: "Once you leave our shores, the only voices you hear speak about a Better World Order are either German, Japanese or American. The American governmentalists in Washington are in strange company . . . We cannot solve Europe's basic problems or 'make the world free.' The destiny of Europeans is within themselves. And so is the destiny of their world-wide colonial system . . . Eighty per cent of the colonials of the world could not, or would not, use freedom to maintain freedom. Eighty per cent of the world's people are not ready for what we are talking about . . . America's social theorists, tying themselves to our war effort in the colonies of our allies, are creating vast confusion and disturbance abroad. There folly is working against every solution which our allies may find for their own problems in their own lands."

In this article called "Boondoggling on a Global Basis", Mr. Taylor says we have upset the life of the Eskimos in Labrador with such high wages that none of them will work more than a few days at a time. This has happened in Bermuda, in Australia, and wherever we have set up bases. Bolivia, he says, is alive with politicians of the "American Boondoggling Corps" as are others of the Latin-American countries.

Condemning labor racketeers, Mr. Taylor writes: "The government's policies abroad are undermining the morale of our troops. This is not the time to pay an American workman \$1,000 a month to fix electric wires on the airfield at Accra while privates of the United States Army, working on the same field, are paid \$50 a month. . . . This is not the time to play into the hands of labor racketeers who require that any skilled American civilian electrician working overtime in Algeria be paid more per month than General Eisenhower is paid. . . . They (our soldiers) believe that a great injustice is being done by our government in permitting labor extortion in this war. . . . These soldiers will return bitter and mad, and they will demand a reckoning."

"Our citizens cannot give to the world (1) freedom of speech and expression, (2) freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, (3) freedom from want, and (4) freedom from fear. The whole conception of giving or infusing the Four Freedoms universally is preposterous. It is not idealism. It is sheer political buncombe, and is so recognized abroad."

"On the narrower question alone, the question of 'freedom from want,' anyone must know that the politicians of every country in the world will be pulling on us in a tug-of-war to get the most out of America's international WPA, exactly as

our local mayors camped in Washington to get the most out of our WPA at home. We will be asked to provide 'freedom from want' to at least a billion people, most of them in primitive surroundings and 400,000,000 of them in Europe. One hundred and thirty million Americans are in no position to do this. The promise of the United States is utterly fantastic.

"Yet this airy approach to reality is promulgated at the very time when the solemn and high purpose of the United States should be to have the people of all the world believe in us—what we say, what we do, and what we intend to do."

"By immodest promises and visionary plans many of our leaders immensely increase the possibility that the people of America will wash their hands of everything outside the 12-mile limit, good or bad, at the earliest possible moment as they did after the last war."

"The fundamental error of our theorists is that they have never understood the place which integrity has in all the ramifications of life. They believe that to say a thing is the same as to do it, as though speech were capable of modifying the tendencies, habits and character of people, and as though verbiage were a substitute for will, conscience and education. They proceed by bursts of eloquence or of lawmaking; they believe they can legislate the nature of impulses, and in so doing they produce disintegration."

"The obligation to assist toward a better world and the value in doing so are obvious. Our duty however, is to be useful, not according to our desire but according to our powers. We should recognize our own limitations and abandon the impertinent idea that a world is to be built in the American concept. We should put a limit on our total postwar aid, both in time and in dollars, and require that any aid should be restricted to whatever nations took certain elementary steps in their own behalf. Only thus can we make good our promises. Only thus can we maintain our own integrity and win the respect and friendship of the world."

"The global concept, stimulated by the war itself and by the new idea of the world's size in the Age of Air, is one of today's basic developments. It is one of the great generating thoughts in the history of man. But how could anything be more evident than that the process of achieving universal freedom and prosperity must be slow, and that to promise it overnight is a great disservice to the world? Our policy of exaggerated internationalism is as dangerous, foolhardy and destructive as narrow isolation."

OPINIONS and SENTIMENTS From Other Editors

Speaking of Great Mistakes

The Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky.

William Green's statement in Louisville that Stabilization Director Vinson's veto of an 8 cents an hour raise for non-operating railroad employees was "the greatest economic mistake in the history of the world" is exaggeration stretched beyond the point of hyperbole. Even allowing some rhetorical license to a supercharged speaker, how is the president of the American Federation of Labor going to describe, for example, the labor decrease of the Hitler regime if the language he has applied to Mr. Vinson's order is even remotely applicable? Or has Mr. Green forgotten altogether that the enemy of this country these days is the Axis instead of the Board of Economic Stabilization?

He goes further. He says that whatever policy the rail workers adopt, the 6,000,000 members of the A. F. L. will support it. In other words, if the rail workers throw overboard the no-strike pledge, so will the A. F. L. What is that except a promise to stand behind the rail workers in whatever course they take, however reckless?

'Give Us Oleo'

Letter in the Milwaukee Journal

In spite of all that may be said, I believe it little short of a crime that we are unable to substitute margarine for butter at this time. If the armed forces or Russia or Greece or Africa need our butter, let them have it. We can go without. But why deny us the use of margarine?

In Denmark, the greatest butter-producing country in the world, there is (or was) more margarine used than butter.

There were 300 margarine factories in little Denmark with its 3,000,000 people. No one disputes that butter is richer in food value but, when one cannot get butter, margarine is an excellent substitute.

A Power No Hate Can Break

Signal Hill Tribune, Long Beach, Calif

Some military leaders went so far as to say our soldiers must hate the Germans and Japanese to fight them successfully. But it was found impossible to teach hate.

Doesn't the significance lie in what is hatred? The Axis nations hate whoever, or whatever, obstructs their domination of the world. The Allies hate the awful crimes of totalitarianism against the freedoms of mankind. This impersonal condemnation of evil is native to democracy. In a war between the ideologies of "hymns of hate" and the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," our reliance upon the "terrible, swift sword" of truth is a power no Axis hate can break. Freedom is more than an habitual acceptance of a way of life. It is the very stuff of life itself.

Modern Canute

San Francisco Chronicle

Walsh of Massachusetts insists the Navy is a man's organization and should be kept so. It was Canute, the other time, who tried to sweep back the waves.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS
 By PAUL MALLON



Released by Western Newspaper Union.

CONGRESS HAS PLENTY TO KEEP IT BUSY

WASHINGTON.—As this is written congressional leaders are planning to quit until January, allowing a six or eight-week mid-war vacation for themselves.

They have been saying (not very loudly, of course) there is little important legislation to be handled before the big appropriation bills come up in January, and that the trouble with the country now is, there are too many laws.

No more important work could be done than to have the members of each congressional committee assigned to meet daily from now until January solely in search of waste in expenditures. An earnest effort might save billions.

Example: The Breakers hotel at Palm Beach, huge, world-famous hostelry, was taken over by the war department a year ago at an annual rental of \$350,000. The rent, of course, was not made public, nor has any mention been made of the detailed use to which the hotel has been put, excuse for its acquisition was that it would be used as a hospital. Now, nearly a year later, approximately \$900,000 has been spent on it. I understand, but only three floors have been occupied and never has the place accommodated more than 150 patients.

The waste is obvious, colossal, inexcusable, every cent of that money could have been saved by using vacant civil hospital space in that area.

A week ago, the army site board had a meeting at the Breakers and decided to make this lavish, rich man's hotel into a permanent army hospital, although a few miles away at Boca Raton, the army already is paying \$50,000 a year rent for a project which would make an inexpensive and ideal substitute. The Boca Raton club has about 400 rooms, spacious grounds on the ocean, low rental, and is quiet. The army, apparently, always does things the hard way.

This incident no doubt can be duplicated a million times in a million different phases of the war effort. The details of such waste naturally are not publicized by the army, in fact are covered by supposedly military censorship, although no military information is involved. Only if congressional committees start pursuing inept officials may the truth be known.

With taxes nearing the endurable limit and repeated bond drives necessary to raise money for the vast expenditures (amounting to \$277,400,000 a day in September), the necessities of economy assume an importance beyond any other pending subject.

The appropriations committees have hired additional clerical help to sift expenditures for waste, but the drive for economy has lacked the energy necessary to make it mean something substantial. This is a job not for one committee or clerk, but for the whole congress represented on every committee, dealing with civilian as well as military expenditures.

Other duties will be shirked if congress slips away. Appearance of CIO's Philip Murray seems to have slowed down or stopped the movement for a sales tax, at least temporarily, but something should be done about the present incomprehensible tax system. Congress cannot just go away and let the tax complexities gather dust on the committee desk.

The question of food subsidies also must be straightened out. A compromise settlement between congress and the administration probably will have to be made.

The lend-lease investigation must be ardently pursued. Congress does not lack business, but rather the will to work out the business it should do.

INVASION OF BURMA

Our heavy bombings in Burma have caused a general expectation of invasion. True, the Indians and Chinese have been training and building armies for some time for the purpose. But invasion will require an enormous store of equipment which can be accumulated only gradually. Comments from India are apt to be more accurate. They suggest our air activity is directed mainly toward breaking up an expected Jap attack on India. The Japs recently moved a considerable force from east to west Burma, as if to threaten an attack.

Guiding fact to be remembered about the Stalin-Hull news from Moscow is that the Russian newspapers exist, not primarily for the purpose of giving out news, but to further the interests of the Soviet government. Commenting upon the trend of the talks, therefore, probably will remain quite useless until official announcements are issued afterward by the participants.

Mr. Hull is primarily interested in trade, not in military matters, and Russia will need goods of every character after the war.



POOLE'S MEDLEY

By D. SCOTT POOLE

Hitler tells the Germans if they show any white feathers he will kill them. If they obey Hitler and protract this devastation of fire and sword, they should suffer in some way, and they will.

A few days ago, a cartoonist pictured a miner shouldering his shovel and walking away from his job; and a soldier deserting the army, and slipping away, under it he wrote: "Just alike." The difference is, the soldier may be shot for deserting, and the miner gets more wages. That should not be.

The man who deserts an important post in time of war is a deserter, and should be treated as a deserter. Those miners who refused to return to their jobs when the President of the United States ordered them to go, are traitors to their government, and should be treated as such.

Every man and woman who registers to vote in an election takes the oath of allegiance, and they perjure themselves when they violate that oath by being untrue to their oath.

I opposed woman suffrage, because I believed it would only increase the cost of elections without changing the political status of the country, and it has proven to be almost that way, way. There are a few who vote as they please, but only a few.

Every writer has his pet phrases. Roe repeated "pique, piquancy, piquant". I have noticed how frequently speakers repeat "psychology, psychological, etc." I studied Mental Philosophy, and was satisfied with what I discovered.

They planted 30 acres of cotton and

ten acres of corn to the mule for some years, and they usually made but little more than debt. Their crops were not well fertilized nor cultivated. Then they reduced the acreage to 10 acres of cotton and five acres of corn, and they did better.

Had prices been "ceiled" at 20 cents for cotton and \$1 for corn, and wheat \$1.50, the country would have been prosperous and out of debt long ago. Had the currency of the country been inflated a few billion dollars, the balance of the World War I would have been paid before the present unpleasantness started.

I am not sure, but I believe the students of Raeford Institute used to study "Morals and Good Manners," and that is one subject we all might study with profit, even for our old age, and the younger folk, especially need to study that book.

Soon after Raeford Institute opened its doors, students from other counties were attracted by its advantages. Students at Kelly's Union Home School near Carthage in Moore county nearly all from other counties. Kelly whipped grown young men like he did smaller boys.

I saw a man over in Fayetteville who was about as tall as "Pet" that Bowden boy who grew up here, or rather just above Timberland. Bowden, or Bowdown was six feet ten inches tall.

Big John Dawkins, who grew up near the South Carolina line below Rockingham, weighed 375 when he was 18. He weighed 575 pounds before he died. He lived after he was grown near the Richmond-Montgomery county line road, four miles west of Jackson Springs. When he died, they built the floor of his coffin first, laid the corpse on that floor, and built the coffin around it. They tore off one side the house to carry that corpse

(Continued on Page Eight)

OUR DEMOCRACY by Mat

"Money is a good Servant,
 but a bad Master."
 - OLD SAYING.



OUR MONEY SERVES US WELL WHEN WE USE IT WISELY. AS WE ENLIST IT IN ACTIVE SERVICE, — PUT ALL WE CAN INTO WAR BONDS, LIFE INSURANCE, SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, — IT SPEEDS A QUICKER VICTORY, — WILL HELP TO WIN A BETTER TOMORROW FOR US IN THE PEACE.