Fair Enough

BY WESTBROOK PEGLER

The Star wishes its readers

to know that views and opin-

ions expressed in this article

are those of the author and

may not always harmonize

with its position.-The Editor.

The Wilminston Stur

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MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1941

Consolidated City-County Government under Council-Manager Administration. Public Port Terminals. Perfected Truck and Berry Preserving

and Marketing Facilities. Arena for Sports and Industrial Shows.

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TOP O' THE MORNING

You spoke one day, a cheering word, And passed to cher duties; It warmed a heart, now promise stirred. And painted a life with beauties. And so for the word and its silent prayer You'll reap a palm sometime-somewhere. -DANIEL GARNETT BICKERS.

Two Facts To Be Faced

Hardly a day passes without new and sweeping German claims of losses inflicted on British shipping. On Friday Berlin declared that planes had sunk or damaged 28 ships totaling 146,000 tons. A week ago, in his latest speech Hitler announced that 215,000 tons had been sunk in the preceding two days. During last week there were similar reports of German

In a sense there is nothing new in this. From the beginning of the war the Nazis have credited their submarines and bombers and mines with far greater destruction than the British admitted and, indeed, than neutral sources were able to check. If the German figures are anywhere near accurate then Britain is already close to defeat. And that is not

But it seems that recent communiques have been more on the exaggerated side than usual They have been coming closer together moreover, and they have certainly been louder. Is there a purpose here that goes beyond the necessity of keeping up German spirits?

There could be, for it happens that the senate is debating the lease-lend bill and the question of how to get American help to Britain, once the supplies have been produced, bears on the fate of the measure. The a gamble than the country can afford. opposition has asserted that the powers granted the President will be used to transfer warships to Britain, or to convoy American merchant ships to British ports. A great deal has been made of this possibility.

issue before American eyes, which is more than likely, it is just as well. It ought to be recognized now, rather than later, that policy of all-out aid to Britain may require delivery of the supplies once they have been produced. That is the fact, and it should be faced. Another fact, which must be faced. now or later, also, is that if we fail in all-out violations." A reasonable construction of this aid to Britain, by whatever means it may be designation is that drivers taken into custody necessary to get them delivered we will cer-tainly have to take up the war against the dictators where Britain, because of that fail-with danger. Some were speeding; some were tions. —R. H. Cross, British minister of ure is forced to stop.

Air Line Crashes

In taking time out from the lease-lend bill debate to discuss safety in the air, the senate showed a justified concern over the series of fatal mishaps on American commercial aviation lines since last summer. The record should cause sober thought among all those who have any responsibility in the matter.

There have been five accidents involving loss of life to air passengers in a little more port that crashed near Atlanta on Thursday safety for themselves and for all others lies raised the death toll to 52. True though it is that more persons are traveling by plane than ever before, and over greater distances, the toll is high.

It is more than a striking coincidence that the last four transports to crash with resultant

that the regulations imposed by governmental aries for their living even while they are doing authorities include adequate precautions just as patriotic service.

Senator McCarran's assertions that the transfer of the Civil Aeronautics Authority to the Department of Commerce has resulted in "confusion and chaos" in the regulation of air lines deserve to be weighed. The senate attention to these charges in making a comprehensive and thorough study of the situation as a whole.

On Watch

It is good news that the house military affairs committee has been investigating army contracts for some three weeks and has al- prominence for it. ready, according to representative May, discovered "several mistakes." The committee is to be commended for its vigilance, and the naval affairs committee might well follow its example.

However, this disclosure will not silence the demand for a special congressional committee to keep tab on the whole defense program. The house military affairs committee cannot do that, since its authority is limited, and that is true of the naval affairs committee and the corresponding committees in the senate.

There is a need for a special body to keep watch on the whole program. This is true, somewhat paradoxically, because there never has been a program in the true sense of the word. The whole affair has been improvised, and it has been subject to constant revision as it went along. Granted that no one can be with only the foggiest notion of how the money is being used.

It is the business of the executive department to do the planning, of course, but that does not relieve congress of its duty to consider all proposals and then act as its judgment dictates. Congress is partly responsible for the orderly progress of the progam as well as for taking precautions against waste and loss

Probably the President should take the first step by creating an adequate planning agency to advise him. But the absence of any such machinery ought not to deter congress from establishing its own machinery to bring some order out of the present chaos.

FBI Wants Men

The alacrity with which the house committee has reported favorably on the plan for an emergency fund for the Federal Bureau of Investigation is at once a tribute to the exrecognition of its value as an agency of na-

In times like these, the FBI cannot discuss against spying, sabotage and other tricks of the Fifth Columnists. It is enough for it to at the President's side? say, as J. Edgar Hoover has said, that the situation is "well in hand." This is all the people heed to know.

Mr. Hoover has asked for the addition of several hundred men to his staff. This is not an extravagant request and every indication points to early acceptance of it by congress. As the defense program grows in size there is increased need for the kind of surveillance which only experienced investigators can give. Not to insure, to the greatest possible degree. against subversive activities is to take more of

Traffic Accidents

That accidents are common on our roads is But if the Nazis intend to keep the convoy law is prevalent. North Carolina provides no to have Falla head his testimony list and face peace in utter helplessness, exception in the record of the country as a whole. Accidents in traffic, many involving the loss of human life, are happening with alarming frequency in Tarheelia as well as else-

They are due chiefly to what a traffic expert in another state calls "dangerous moving necessary to get them delivered we will cer- were deliberately disobeying the law, and in great efforts now underway and contemplated ignoring stop signs; some drove their cars shipping

on curves past other cars proceeding in the same direction, and some were passing on the wrong side.

It is unlikely that any of the offenders were ignorant of the law or the rules of the road. The assumption is that all who were engaged in "dangerous moving violations" were deliberately taking chances, knowing the risk they were running.

Failure to respect the law and heed its injunctions is liable to bring trouble. Autoisis ought to realize that the responsibility for

Editorial Comment

PEERS AND PAY

Raleigh News and Observer Three British peers, including Viscount Halifatalities have met disaster just short of their fax, Ambassador to Washington, are serving in destinations. Landing an airplane has always the British diplomatic corps without any salbeen the most hazardous part of flying it, of aries, according to a white paper issued by the been the most nazardous part of Hying It, of government in London. In Washington some course, but the experience of the last six rich men also are serving as "dollar-a-year" months indicates that the problem is still un- men. Such services may be generously given but the special honor paid to rich men who How it is to be solved must be left chiefly does not do honor to the services to der locracy to experts. But congress has a duty to see of just as able men who depend upon their sal-

In any democracy the dollar-a-year system against flying in weather that makes landing is wrong as it sets apart as a sort of peerage precarious and require improved facilities for men who happen to be rich enough not to need blind and semi-blind landings that cannot be pay. That has nothing to do with the value of their services. Indeed, foregoing a governmental salary at a time when governments are spending billions for arms is so trifling a matter that it deserves no consideration at all.

Nobody should be given office space who is not worth pay and anybody who is worth pay in the Federal service should receive it. After receiving it, any person wishes to give it to investigating committee ought to pay special charity or the government or any other cause; that is his right. But there should be no line drawn between men who need their salaries and men who do not. The only line should be drawn in accordance with the quality of service rendered.

Most dollar-a-year men make the most trifling sacrifices in comparison with those of a good many young men who are on the Federal pay roll at around \$30 a month and in the Government's clothes. They are giving years out of their youth and receiving no special

Washington Daybook

WASHINGTON, March 2-This is the tale of Falla, the most famous dog in America

Falla is a jet black scottie. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt calls him the "wigglingest bundle of fur you ever tried to lay hands on." President Roosevelt calls him "Falla."

His formal name is "Falla of Murray Hill." It was appropriated from one of the President's old Scottish ancestors. Falla of Murray on the side, though he admittedly Hill, so the story goes, was an outlaw in the didn't know much about it and I told him. "I thought you disdays when being successful as a Scottish out- finally gave up his practice and liked cats.' law was as much of an achievement as being elected President of the U. S. for a third term. Falla came to live at the White House something less than a year ago. He was a gift from one of President Roosevelt's Dutch-

ess county relatives. The President doesn't say from whom and blamed, because the situation changed almost he doesn't say anything about Falla's parfrom day to day the fact remains that con- ents, ancestry or kennels either. The reason gress has been spending billions of dollars is obvious. Many persons would pay fabulous with pride if they could say:

'My purp is a sister (brother, cousin, nephew niece) of the dog who lives at the White House." The only thing I could dig out was that Falla was born in Indianapolis, of pretty royal scottie blood.

OTHERS COME AND GO

Aside from the squirrels that scamper around the White House lawn and the pigeons that bum a luxurious living along the White House paths, Falla has in a bid for the only permanent animal resident in the Roosevelt administration.

Jack and Jill, two beautiful brown cocker spaniels that belong to Mrs. John Boettiger, daughter of the House of Roosevelt, have been popular guests, but their tenure never was long. There was another scottie, but he was a snappish sort and had to be packed off to the country before he had got to first base ket of kittens on his arm, which he count of himself. "Yes, sir," in Presidential affections.

With Falla it's different. There hasn't been a day that he hasn't wagged his way a little deeper into the President's heart, and if there is any one on the White House staff who has ever thought, "Darn that dog!," it never has been uttered in a whisper any one could

One of the ceremonies of the President's cellence of the past work of the bureau and day is giving Falla his evening meal. No not subservient as dogs are. They The crowd, I am bound to adone else dares cut in. Mrs. Roosevelt commented recently that Falla is rapidly becoming a one-man dog. There's no doubt about it. Who else would have had the effrontery in detail what steps it is taking to guard to try to crash the President's third inaugural by hopping without invitation into the limousine and perching proudly on the back seat

HAS TRAVELED FAR

Another thing about Falla is his rapidly ncreasing travel mileage. He has been to Hyde Park so many times he knows the post-war period lest defense in trees there as well as he knows those on the White House lawn. And when the President made his last Caribbean cruise, Falla ployed sailed with the Skipper, as first matey. He got seasick, too, and like all the others he the made a dash for the rail. Fortunately, he called upon representatives of inwas caught before he slipped over for a dustry, technology and government dogpaddle in the briny.

is the nation's First Pet, it could be found in America against a post-emergency the amount of fan mail he gets. I'll bet you crisis." It said: there isn't a glamour boy in Hollywood who wouldn't be proud to do so well.

In addition, Falla has such a surplus of allocation, employment and train- has announced. luxuries that he couldn't use them all if he ing are tested in the terms of our outlived the oldest living scottie. There isn't a manufacturer of flea powder, dog biscuits, unless every single defense action not to be wondered at, since disregard of the curry combs or collars that wouldn't be happy is tested in those terms, we shall most of these pass out generous samples, unable to shift our entire economy just in hope.

> If the democratic world had been successful in preventing the growth of the proletariat. in building our defense; we the people must there never would have been such a thing as the rise of the totalitarian state. -Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney. Wyoming.

It would indeed be inconsistent to make the

TRYING HARD NOT TO STEP ON ANYBODY



Man About Manhattan

By GEORGE TUCKER used be a little Frenchman named of character that many of us would Herbert (pronounced A-bare) who do well to copy. They are affectionhad a pet shop on Park Avenue ate and clean. They are the world's and who was a sort of veterinarian finest pets." devoted his time exclusively to selling dogs.

enumerating their qualities.

If it happened that he was selling Scotties he would have a per- ing through Sixth avenue the other fectly marvelous song and dance afternoon, near 46th street, I heard about the superior qualities of a familiar voice and saw a great these animals as against setters, crowd of men jamming the doors spaniels and Boston bulls. But if of one of those innumerable "cirhe happened to be selling bull- cus" halls that line that section of dogs or bird dogs he had an equal- this somewhat bizarre neighborly glib sales talk in their favor. hood. He used always to wind up comparing dogs against cats, which were "insolent, cold, vicious, un- through the door and caught a grateful, and altogether selfish." glimpse of a little fellow before

of sight and I didn't see him again pupples and the kittens. He was landed in Greece and what Turkey at the department of commerce, and until one night about two years serving as the master of a flea cir- has decided to do about fighting. the odd part of it is that, although the odd part of it is that the odd part of it is the odd part of it is that the odd part of it is that the odd part of it is the odd part of it is that the odd part of it is the odd part of it is the odd part of it is that the odd part of it ago. To my surprise he had a bas | cus and giving an eloquent acswore were fullblooded Angoras said, "smartest things alive, fleas. within easy bombing range of the angular continent by day coach and which he was retailing for \$5 Agile, quick, on their toes. Not at per. "one of the discouraging all like cats, which rip the rugs in Greece, British planes need fly things about life as we live it to shreds, or dogs which do nothtoday,' 'he told me, "is that people ing but lie around waiting for cannot, or will not, realize what somebody to scratch their ears They are the kings of the earth. cats.' They personify grace. They are

after you beat them, as dogs do NEW YORK, March 2.-There Cats have a pride and a loftiness "This is quite a change in you,"

"That was because I was ignor-

ant and didn't know any better, His ancestors must have been he said. "But now I have come to circus ballyhoo artists, for he nad realize what incomparable fellows wonderful spiel, and after he these animals are. Dogs are all my supplies and communications lost his shop he used to stand right, but they run to a line. They before the Nazi war machine rollaround in front of night clubs and are all the same. But now you ed unopposed into position to bring wages and hours, so perhaps he may hotels with puppies in his coat take cats—their personalities are crushing force to bear on the be excused for not putting on his pockets and in his arms, giving as complex as people's. They have Greeks, to cow the Turks, and ultieloquent oral appreciations of a sense of nobility that dogs do not mately threaten Suez. man's-most-faithful, friend and possess. To me there is no comparison between the two."

When I shoved my noggin a glass cage of insects I easily Well, Herbert finally dropped out recognized our old friend of the incomparable companions cats are. No, sir, not at all like dogs or

He'd take fleas every time. do not grovel and lick your hands mit, was much impressed.

AFL Wants Nation To Chart Course For Post-War Period

The American Federation of Labor league and the American Federa- the Balkans. urged today that the nation char' tion of investors, non-governmenits economic course now for the tal organizations, urged paring dustry centers turn into ghost down of non-defense items in the were put under full Nazi military towns filled with despairing unem- national budget.

"American Federationist," to join with labor "in an intensive If any further proof were needed that Falla and constructive effort to insure noke Rapids, will preside over the

> post-emergency requirements and to a sound peacetime basis, unable to meet the peacetime needs for Pre-School Clinics full production, trade and employment.

Plans also should be made now for foreign trade, the AFL said, adding that if this was done the United States would be able to provide commodities to other nahandicap of wholesale destruction elius Harnett school. of their industrial equipment and depletion of their resources."

Meantime, two other organiza- second one this week to be held at tions expressed concern over cur- 2 o'clock Friday afternoon March rent situations in the defense pro- 7 at the Hemenway school rent situations in the defense pro- 7, at the Hemenway school.

WASHINGTON, March 2.-(R)-1 gram. Both the national economy

The AFL, in its current issue of Term of Civil Court Will Be Opened Today

Judge R. Hunt Parker of Roatwo-week March civil term of New "Unless our programs of taxa- opens at 9:30 o'clock this morning, third of the production has gone tion, public works, housing, factory T. A. Henderson, clerk of court,

> The docket comprises 30 civil actions, including 15 the first week and 24 the second week. The regular motion docket will be called Friday, March 7.

Will Be Started Here

Dr. A. H. Elliot, health officer, has announced that a series of preschool clinics in the city and county schools will get underway at 2 tions suffering "from a lasting o'clock this afternoon at the Corn-

Two clinics will be held weekly through Friday, April, 17, with the

War Interpretive

BY EDWARD E. BOMAR

the Rumanian oil fields-if reports now that the statute of limitations of the raid are substantiated-could surely must have run against a st be the spark to ignite a general emn violation of a warrior's oath Balkan conflagration which Adolf truly and faithfully to preserve and Hitler logically should be eager to defend the United States constitu avoid just now.

Such an attack would attest a British decision to strike at ene-

Many Factors

Limiting factors are so numer- now a major general and directo ous, however, that military leaders the Army's bureau of public rela likely will not attach as great im- tions, and he wears a black suit and portance to the move as will the looks as if he were fixing to clear British public. Unless this or sub- his throat and say, "brethren, sequent raids should touch off the us bow our heads in two minutes Balkan powder keg, Britain is in pious meditation." a difficult position to inflict by air | General Tooey Spotts of the a alone really telling damage to her corps, recently back from London foe in southeastern Europe, im- goes around wearing some tweed portant and vulnerable as the oil thing that he picked up over youde fields are.

course of events in the Balkans for is practically an okie. But the will be the first definite indication all go around pretending to be gro whether a British army is to be cers, morticians and veteran clerks

the German war machine's fuel is Royal Air Force, From their bases less than 300 miles to reach Polesti, center of Europe's richest oil They say the main reason for this producing area.

Indications are, however, that the R.A.F., does not have the planes available in sufficient numbers to take full advantage of the situation. Probably 200 of all types at the most have been sent to States Army has no occupation other Greece, with fighters rather than bombers most numerous, neutral reports estimate. On the other hand, military men credit the vision of more than 1,200 planes in observer has discerned, is that

Germans Prepare

control, the Germans have been preparing for raids by establishing air bases and setting up antiaircraft guns.

A further consideration is that the Rumanian oil fields have de- as suburban taxpayers and leader veloped into far less importance of the P.-T. A. than they were credited with in the earlier stages of the European flaming tank or well is sufficient Hanover superior court which conflict. Actually, only about a thus far to Germany, it is believed. largely because of transportation

More needed by Germany than loaded into barges for transport u Rumania's gasoline is lubricating loaded into barges for transporting the Danube. There is the Iron Gall trom South Russia with the Danube. oil from South Russia, which is Gorge of the Danube where ship shipped through Poland over a ping could be damaged or demot route beyond the range of mass alized from the air. bombing.

Altogether there is no likely reason to believe the Nazi juggernaut are vulnerable at many points. is in peril of being brought to a complete halt for the time being bridges across the Danube and the because of raids on its Balkan fuel bridges across the Danube and passes over tanks

general harrassment for British gets. bombers to carry out, nevertheless, as long as they are based in for really telling blows in this part Greece, or in Turkey, should the of the world are hundreds of bomb Turks enter the war. The battle of Britain has demon-

ing can not be stopped and a single front until next year.

WASHINGTON, March 2. though some of the soldiers of the new Army and some of the young

Navy flat-hats are setting new stand. ards in bearing and dress which followed low the influence of the Sloppy Joe Army of France, the high-ranking officers of the staff are in no position to pull any snoots at any of them. George Marshall, the chief of staff, a general who could go around with four stars on each shoulder is so bashful that he doesn't wear his soldier suit regularly, and any officer who should dress up in the quaint costume of his trade in Wash. ington, except for a fancy-pants party at the White House or a high. class scuffle at the home of some refined millionaire, would be accused of insufferable swank and might be sent back to the soldiers for making himself conspicuous in public.

In a way these officers, of whom it seems that there are some huge number in the capital and in New York, recall the stories of Adolf Hitler's tourist invasions of Norway and Rumania, in which swarms of Nazis masqueraded as salesmen, buyers and fugitive intellectuals, and sud. denly emerged from their hotel rooms attired for the fray.

Cappy Wells Cappy Wells, the press officer who nade football publicity for West Point in the days when it was decided to let the public know that those young men in gray were cadets and not letter carriers, has been brought on from Louisville, where for several years he exercised his rank of major over two enlisted men

and a lady civilian clerk. Boosted to lieutenant colonel new the Cap still goes around in mufti, and, now that I think of it, I be lieve the only time I ever saw him with his stuff on in all these years was one day at General Smith's garden party in June week, when the general noticed a spot of powdered sugar on the tip of his nose and inquired genially, "been in the flour barrel, Capt. Wells?"

How do you suppose that infantry soldier got powder on his nose?

Well, June week is a festive time at West Point, and did you ever dip your bill into a tall frosted glass of refreshment containing mint leaves dusted with powdered sugar? That The British bombing attack on was how, as I can safely tell you, tion, including the foul amendment.

Philip B. Fleming

Philip B. Fleming, graduate manager of sports at the academy then. is a brigadier now, but serving in the Colonel Robert C. Richardson who was commandant of cadets

and the town is full of rank and if Of deeper significance to the portance, and anyone less than a ma The Rumanian source of much of they look prettty imposing in the in a slow train and hadn't undresed for a week.

> is that they don't want to give cor gress the jumps strutting their rank around the government buildings and the second reason given is that they like to be able to drop in for a dram at the hotels without creating an impression that the whole United

There is a little more truth to second excuse than to the first. the real reason, as this keen, trained mufti they can go baggy or hall shaved and don't have to suck it u and pull in their ears as an example For weeks, since the oil fields of fine military bearing to the lall and the enlisted personnel.

But that is life for you, ain't They fret and grind through sch and eat their hearts out for slow, gradual gains in rank, and when they get up there they go around posing

to light up targets for showers incendiary missiles.

South of Ploesti and even cl tc Greece is the Danube Port Giurgiu, where oil normally

transported by rail lines and these Aside from these, the pontoo which Nazi troopers poured into There is plenty in the way of Bulgaria are natural military tar

What the R.A.F., needs just no ers and the fighters to protect them -which Britain does not hope to

Oil from Germany likewise