

The Sunday Star-News

Published Every Sunday By The Wilmington Star-News At The Murchison Building R. E. Page, Owner and Publisher

Entered as Second Class Matter at Wilmington, N. C., Postoffice Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY CARRIER Payable Weekly Or In Advance

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SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1942 With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God.

—Roosevelt's War Message

Star-News Program

- To aid in every way the prosecution of the war to complete victory. Public Port Terminals. Perfected Truck and Berry Preserving and Marketing Facilities.

TOP OF THE MORNING

The words of Christ to his sorrowing men come to us to-day as freshly and as truly as on the night they were spoken.

Another Second Front

In addition to the bombing raids of the Royal Air Force, a second front is rapidly developing in Europe against Hitler.

More Rationing Foreseen

If present signs are a correct index to the future, the nation's rationing program has only started. Where it will end nobody knows.

Mustn't Fool Ourselves

With Hitler's U-boats operating in the St. Lawrence and off the mouth of the Mississippi, it is obvious that the enemy will balk at no task for the destruction of shipping in our waters.

No greater folly could be conceived than to assume that the submarine attack along the Eastern seaboard is being brought under control because sinkings have declined.

It is probable that the growing patrol service is having some beneficial effect, but it is far from par effectiveness as is proved by the presence of submersibles in the Gulf of Mexico and the St. Lawrence river.

Their increasing daring is not to be overlooked or discounted in Wilmington.

There is more reason to consider their activities a definite peril than to suppose ourselves exempt from any danger of attack.

It is a hopeful sign that in recent weeks the people of Wilmington have roused from their earlier indifference and are making progress in their defense effort.

Gas Attack

If worse comes to worst and the Nazis resort to poison gas, the prevailing opinion in London is that the British are in a much better position to withstand gas attacks than the Germans.

Were a gas attack alarm sounded there would be a rush for the shelters, they contend. The first to come would get in.

It is understood that Germany has practically enough masks to go around but has done nothing about distributing them on a large scale, and instead of giving them free to the people collects money for all disposed of.

Because Germany is so poorly prepared to withstand or weather gas attack, London is quite convinced that Hitler will not introduce chemical warfare on the Eastern front.

End the Smugness

The investment of \$2,000 idle money in war savings bonds was reported a few days ago when the investor's attention was called to the fact that if the Axis wins this war the money would certainly be confiscated.

It is surprising that this view should have escaped anyone's attention. Certainly it has been emphasized by the government, by newspapers, the radio and from the pulpit.

If this particular case means anything, it is that, despite all the publicity given to what would be the fate of Americans in event of defeat, the awful truth of their subsequent fate has not yet sunk in.

The slow pace of war bond sales during the earlier months of their promotion clearly indicated the reluctance of the American people to realize the possibility of losing the war.

It would be well for the American people to be guarding themselves, therefore, against the seductive and bewitching suggestions of a false optimism.

A NEW SOURCE OF CONFIDENCE

It would be a mistake to assert that Churchill's Sunday address was the only world-message he has delivered since becoming Prime Minister in which he voiced his utter confidence in the outcome of the war.

He has never indicated that he held to any other view than that his country and its associated democracies would eventually be returned the victors.

It was inconceivable to him that the principles for which these peoples stood would suffer repudiation and defeat in arms.

Faith, therefore—his faith in the faith of his fellow countrymen and those of America—created within him the sure foundations of conviction that, in the long haul, no matter what fearful disadvantages these have had to contend with, their right of the long-prepared enemy, theirs would be the crown of the conqueror in the end.

But on this last Sunday occasion, his address rang with this old confidence plus. He can re-assert as of old his consistent faith in the survival of right over wrong, of virtue over venality, of light over darkness.

Because it appears certain that rationing orders will be promulgated from time to time

and the people at large have already answered about all the questions that could be asked them, it would save time if the information already in hand were applied to all future registrations.

Persons having ration cards, for example, ought to be required only to present them in order to obtain a card for the newly rationed commodity. To go through a new inquisition every time a rationing order is put into effect would be a needless waste of effort, time and patience for registrants and the registrars.

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Because Germany is so poorly prepared to withstand or weather gas attack, London is quite convinced that Hitler will not introduce chemical warfare on the Eastern front.

The situation may be as the British believe and their position may be sound, but it would be highly dangerous to assume that what they know of German plans for combatting gas attacks is the sum total of Nazi provisions for safety.

Editorial Comment

A CRITICAL WEEK Charlotte Observer

This is likely to be one of the most critical and decisive weeks of the war in the world down under.

While the best informed advice splits as to what the Japs had in mind in sending a flotilla of fighting planes and ships into the Coral sea where they were repulsed by American and Australian naval and air forces, the best suggestion would seem to be that they were at least making a new adventure against Australia itself.

As long as Australia remains in the hands of the United Nations, Japan will continue to live under constant menace of being counter attacked.

The occupation of that country, however, would greatly solidify and secure the phenomenal gains already made in the far Pacific.

And if this were the strategy of movement which brought the clash in the exotic Coral sea, it may be taken for certain that the enemy will be back as quickly as it can bring reinforcements into action.

The circumstance that this first contest has clearly and decisively gone to American and Australian forces in no sense is to be construed as intimating that the victory is final or conclusive.

Japan has enormous reserves upon which it can draw in order to return to the action and when its possible resources in both planes and fighting ships are thrown into the engagements, the Allied defenders will be strained to their utmost to match blow for blow with the enemy.

It would be well for the American people to be guarding themselves, therefore, against the seductive and bewitching suggestions of a false optimism.

Japan is proving itself to be an enemy of convincing shrewdness as well as of military might and powerful resources.

At the moment this enemy has only been bruised, and for the moment.

The test of decision as to the respective capacities of the two forces in the teamwork of planes and ships on those faraway seas may be within the time-compass of mere days.

Fair Enough by WESTBROOK PEGLER

NEW YORK, May 16.—Far be it from me to stir up mischief between two ladies who have been getting along beautifully for years and years, but I find that Mrs. Frances Perkins, our cherished Secretary of Labor, and Mrs. Roosevelt have developed a very interesting difference of opinion and wonder if they would be good enough to decide publicly which lady is right.

In a recent published contribution to the sum of human wisdom, Mrs. Roosevelt took the position that unions, with their rakeoff of more than one thousand million dollars a year, should not be compelled to publish audited financial statements and said the reason they are not "anxious" to do so for the benefit of the general public is that "when they are not well established, this information would inform employers immediately of certain of their weaknesses."

Mrs. Roosevelt said further that "most of the unions that I know publish a report of their financial status to their members and do so in more accurate and simple form than most business corporations."

I would like to point out the escapes in this connection. Mrs. Roosevelt does not undertake to say that all unions or most of them publish such reports, but says this is done by most unions that she knows. That is a vague term.

Important Difference How many unions does she know? It is my impression that she knows very little about unions and she may be speaking of, say, only a half-dozen of them.

A case in point might be the Electricians of the AFL. If we grant that the international is straight we still know that one of its biggest and richest locals, the one in Chicago, is governed by one of the foulest crooks in the whole rogues' gallery of predatory unionism.

I point out also that Mrs. Roosevelt does not say unions are weak now, but attempts to suggest that they are weak even with their rake-off of a thousand millions plus, per year.

She says "when they are not well established" and so forth, and the whole effect of her answer to a question is a political stall.

Mrs. Perkins' Views Well, what does Mrs. Perkins say on the same subject?

Addressing the national convention of the AFL in Seattle last September, Mrs. Perkins, after saluting the boys with the usual political maharkey, told them as follows: "The scrupulous account for money, regular independent and public audits of all moneys, including insurance funds, dues, assessments and so forth, should be done voluntarily rather than under compulsion. With the trade union basic right protected by statute, surely no moneys need be expended except as authorized by the membership for purposes which can be stated in a public accounting without embarrassment."

Let us go back and run over that again. Mrs. Perkins calls on the unions to give regular, independent, public audits and says the unions are now in such a strong position that their strength, not their weakness, can be stated publicly without embarrassment.

Of course, we all know that they are the greatest single political power in the country and the greatest single financial power as well and it has been shown that they are infested with low rascals and vicious adventurers and here, nevertheless, we have Mrs. Perkins pleading with them to be nice voluntarily as an alternative to compulsion. She knows, of course, that she might as well request a skunk to smell pretty, contrary to the nature of the brute, but at least we have here wrung from her an admission that the unions are not weak and could not endanger themselves by revealing their riches.

"Whatever secrecy or veil may have been effective in the early days when the unions were struggling to survive is certainly no longer effective," Mrs. Perkins said. Reading these expressions side by side I feel a suspicion that one of the other of these ladies does not know what she is talking about, or that one or the other is trying to kid the public. A bill to require such accounting was passed by the house, but was killed in the senate by direction of the President. This provision, of course, would have been the first encroachment on the most gigantic racket in American history.

HAPPY RUDOLF The happiest man in that Happy Nazi Family must be Rudolf Hess no longer compelled to shout "Heils" with the others.—Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal.

of their ideals, but now he is born to add thereto a new hope born of the tangible resources of might and force with which the Allied Nations can adequately match the resources of the enemy.

In a word, CHURCHILL has the confidence born both of the resources of faith and the resources of arms competent to give the Axis blow for blow in the air, on the sea, on the land.

And only now have these latter resources of material armaments come to be factors upon which the democratic peoples can rely for sure and complete victory.

UNCORKING IT



Interpreting The War

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON Wide World War Analyst

Mid-way of this crucial year of 1942 has been ushered in by a deepening new crescendo of battle and sudden death.

No continent or sea is untouched by a war that has no limits. Mankind everywhere has no certain refuge from the hardships of war or the horrors of destruction that falls unheralded from the sky or leaps unannounced from the depths of the sea.

Yet in the midst of the ever-mounting conflict of conquest loosed upon the globe by the Axis blossoms one hope in the hearts of men who love freedom more than life. It is that this final tumult will prove the beginning of the end, that somehow, somewhere it will be made clear before winter that the Axis war lords are being needed into the pit of destruction they have dug for themselves.

Basis of Reality? Is that hope just another fond delusion in the minds of peoples dragged unwillingly into the vast struggle? Or has it some basis of reality, of possibility, to help brace Allied courage and resolution?

Nowhere except in Russia has an expectation of 1942 victory been authoritatively voiced. And it is in Russia, now aflame with battle action on a scale that staggers the imagination yet is only a mere curtain raiser for what is to come, that the answer must be found.

There now is little doubt that Hitler's week-old lunge eastward in the Crimea heralds the opening of his promised summer campaign to annihilate Russia.

The most hopeful indication is that Red armies are fulfilling the pledge of their leaders to strike back effectively. They have already given as well as taken hard and telling blows. It is Nazi legions, not the Russians, which are being hurled into this climatic clash now with the bitter taste of defeat for the first time on their lips.

Losses Weapon On the basis of meager and utterly conflicting Russian and German disclosures as to the progress of these first clashes of the 1942 campaign it is impossible yet to gauge the battle trends except in one crucial respect. There is every early intimation that Hitler has a lost in Russia the weapon he used effectively to carve out his previous stunningly swift victories on the continent, the trump ace of the marked deck with which he plays the game of war—surprise.

Russian reaction to the Crimean drive is to attack simultaneously at many scattered points. The major purpose obviously is to pin Nazi reserves to defensive positions.

Red leaders are taking full advantage of the limitless manpower reserves at their command. Their strategy also must be governed by what they know definitely of the winter wastage of German manpower in meeting endless and scattered Russian attacks.

The Russian winter offensive—substantial as was the aggregate of Russian territory released from the grip of the foe, primarily was a battle of man-power attrition.

New Zealand Digs Heels In For Major War Stroke

As Japan's threat to the southwest Pacific grows, New Zealand—the eastern island neighbor of Australia—digs her defense heels deeper into her homeland soil and braces herself against invasion, says the National Geographic Society.

Before the days of long-range bombers, aircraft carriers, and submarines, New Zealand, clinging like a barnacle to the under side of the globe, was securely isolated from aggressor nations by miles of cool blue seas. It lies 1200 miles southeast across the Tasman Sea from Australia.

A land virtually cut in half by Cook Strait, it stretches 1,000 miles from the northern tip of North Island—with its semi-tropical climate, volcanoes, hot springs, and modern cities—down through the rugged, timbered, sky-piercing Southern Alps of "Little Switzerland" to the southern tip of South Island. It has more variety of scenery for its size than any other country in the world. Its climate has everything but extremes.

The inhabitants have the lowest death rate, the lowest infant mortality rate, and the longest life expectancy. There are no extremes of wealth or poverty. One out of every five inhabitants has a car. There is one telephone to every two homes. The 3,300 miles of railroads are government-owned.

The British Dominion is as large as the state of Colorado. Its population of slightly more than 1,600,000, mostly of British and Irish descent, about equals Detroit's. A third of the inhabitants are concentrated in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch.

Last year New Zealand counted her Japanese population on the fingers of one hand with two fingers to spare. One was a storekeeper, another a captain of a river drifter and the third, a teacher of publicized. One out of every four largest exporter of dairy products (milk, mutton, and lamb; it is the largest largest wool exporter. Britain depends heavily upon it for food and raw materials. During over 50 per cent of her exports. During the two years of war, British received 24,400 tons of butter—enough to form a wall the height of a man and 400 miles in length. One half of wool for every person in the Dominion, or 1,600,000 bales; 210,000 tons of cheese, or 1,000 miles of crates end to end down the combined length of North and South Islands; 593,000 tons of meat—also traveled the 13,000-mile route to wartime Britain.

But while New Zealand, through her exports, feeds her mother country well, her own armed forces depend almost entirely upon outside countries for the tools of war. The battle moves down the sea closer to her home shores, her defense pace quickens. Almost every man and woman of military age now serves in some war capacity.

From the once peaceful pastures and bustling cities, thousands and four hundred thousand men and women have been mobilized in the armed forces. Sixty thousand soldiers serve in foreign fields. Forty thousand women are in the Women's War Service Auxiliary.

The Dominion still is a youngster. It is little more than a hundred years since the English first hoisted the Union Jack there. In addition to the two main islands—North and South—Stewart Island off the coast of South Island, and the Cook Strait islands approximately 2,000 miles northeast of the capital city of Wellington, several smaller islands off the eastern coast are included in this British possession.

Sunday School Lesson

By WILLIAM E. GILROY, D. D. Editor of Advance Text: Matthew 22:41-23:11

Our lesson presents what has become the question of the ages, and at the same time tells of the deep story of religion.

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reality of a man's religion. Is he essentially a good man, fair to his fellowmen, generous, kindly, manifesting all those fruits of the Spirit which Paul enumerated with such delicate care? The religion is not a matter of mere conformity to some teaching of man; it is a consecration of one's life to the God of love, whose character and saving power are manifest in Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus made the conflict between hypocrisy and formalism on the one hand, and the religion of love and goodness on the other, so unmistakably plain that it is strange that men should not have profited more fully from that teaching. The spirit of the scribes and Pharisees of old continues to be far too manifest even in our modern world, and those who make the greatest profession of being God-chosen quite frequently give the little evidence of having seen God and made His love the dominant beauty and power of their lives.

Here, then, we come to the long question that is impossible to avoid—What think ye of the Christ? The answer is found not in some dogmatic or doctrinal formula, but it is manifested in the heartfelt acceptance of the example and way that Jesus exemplified. We cannot only think of the Christ, but we can find the strength to follow in His footsteps if we will avail ourselves of His power to save.