

FOUR

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FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1943

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

Our Chief Aim

To aid in every way the prosecution of the war to complete victory.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Thinking of our own faults moves us to look to God for help, while thinking of a neighbor's faults seldom inspires to think either of God or the things of God.

—PELL.

Pattern of Axis War

Rommel's counter-attack in North Africa probably may be accepted as the pattern of Axis warfare during the remaining phases of the conflict. He has orders, we are told, to fight it out until he has won or has no men left.

The war in Europe and in Africa has entered a defensive stage for the Axis. It is improbable that Hitler can undertake another major offensive.

While there is reason to be gratified that Hitler has at last been brought to this, it must be remembered that the offensive army, wherever engaged, must expect heavy losses.

Air Power Proved

When the American aircraft industry was undergoing the change from peacetime to war production it recognized that we had no designs which could equal Nazi planes in speed, climbing power and fighting strength.

How well this has been done is illustrated by the results of American bombing raids over Vegesack and Wilhelmshaven. The tally sheet shows 80 enemy planes destroyed, 29 probably destroyed and 32 damaged.

The inspiring thing about these battles is that the forces engaged were German and

American. The United States Air Force, which for training purposes has largely operated with the Royal Air Force and been tremendously advantaged by the experience thus gained, is obviously ready to go it alone.

The Totalitarian Threat

Eric A. Johnson, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and a member of the citizens' committee working with Economic Stabilizer James F. Byrnes, sounds a warning of a condition to come which could completely disrupt our cherished way of life.

Says Mr. Johnson, in an address before the Institute of Arts and Sciences at Columbia university: "There is some danger that our country may go totalitarian." He goes on to explain that the more deeply the government becomes involved in the business of the people the looser will become the grip of the people on their own affairs.

This is what is happening to us now, in a limited but portentous way, through the operations of bureaucratic agencies which have deprived the people, not only of many Constitutional rights but even of selecting the agents who destroy these rights.

When bureaucracy first arrived it was accepted as essential in the successful prosecution of our war program. And because conditions favored its spread, it easily found new frontiers of control and restraint.

In our proper system of government, officials are the stewards of the people. In the bureaucratic system which has sprung up, they are dictators, served by corps of gestapo agents lacking only authority to order executions to be the baneful equivalent of the Nazi group so named.

Inadequate Shipping

One of the greatest problems begging solution is getting tools of war to the places they are most needed and commodities for home consumption delivered. If we could transport all the tanks and planes and other equipment and materials piled up at American wharfs to battlefronts without further delay the Allied timetable would move with greater smoothness.

Cuba sugar is a fair example of what is happening in the commodity markets still open to the United States. Lawrence Berenson, president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce is authority for the statement that the island has enough sugar to meet all our demands, enough even to make rationing unnecessary.

Cuba, he points out, produces five million tons of sugar. Consumption in this country totals only six million tons. He says that this government purchased four million tons from Cuba in 1942, which added to supplies from Puerto Rico and Hawaii, plus our own production could be sufficient to meet all domestic demands.

The relations of forces on the Soviet-German front have changed. The fact is that Germany is becoming more and more exhausted while the Soviet Union is more and more developing its reserves and becoming ever stronger.

Today the great successes of the Russian front have led thousands of Americans to throw their hats in the air and proclaim their victory is just around the corner. We still face reverses and misfortunes.

We must pool our supplies with those of the experienced and with trained troops of Britain and our other allies who will form a part of the invading armies and gladly share the burden of fighting and dying.

Tragic Comedy

If the people of this country really wanted to control inflation, they could do so. The country is faced with rising prices. Why? Read the headlines in the newspapers of a single day. A million and a quarter railway workers demand further wage increases. Hundreds of thousands of coal miners demand additional wage increases. One faction

of shipyard workers announce they will withdraw their "no strike for the duration" agreement if a National Labor Relations Board decision favors another labor faction.

They all blame the farmer who is short of machinery, short of farm labor, unable to pay war wages, but charged for everything he buys on a war-wage scale.

Can the result be other than higher prices instead of lower? The situation would be comical if it were not tragic.

Unless we, as individuals and collective groups within the nation, show less greed and more love for our country, it is a total waste of time to talk about controlling inflation—no power on earth can stop it, until the explosion comes.

Inside Washington

(Westbrook Pegler, whose articles customarily occupy this space, is on vacation. His articles will be resumed upon his conclusion, on April 22.)

By CHARLES P. STEWART

Anthony Eden, the British foreign minister, undoubtedly will have by the time his stay in this country ends, more of an all-around acquaintance with official and journalistic Washington than the average American who spends most of his time in our capital.

There are executive, legislative and miscellaneous bureaucratic circles among the sojourners at our seat of government. These subdivide into smaller groups of specialists and they do not intermix much.

Consequently if they get upon intimate relations with each other, outside their unrelated spheres of activity, it is largely by accident. Lawmakers likewise classify in assorted categories. They are all on speaking terms with one another, of course, but they tend, for close relationships, to divide up along party lines and geography.

Eden's mission was to knit the United Nations unbreakably together, for both wartime and post-war purposes. He undoubtedly did not anticipate serious difficulty in accomplishing this aim so far as Britain and we Yanks are concerned, although, at that, we do have some few isolationists.

Now, Britain, of all things, is anxious to tie Russia into the contemplated United Nations alignment. It is more essential to John Bull's than to Uncle Sam's welfare to maintain the best possible terms with Moscow.

Furthermore, Britons generally have not hitherto been quite as hostile to Communism as the overwhelming majority of Americans have been. In fact, London and Moscow framed up a pretty effective treaty between them, and Anthony Eden was the British foreign minister who framed it.

Eden's visit to our shores, then, was undertaken not alone to consolidate Washington-London relations (both for war and for subsequent peace), which should be particularly difficult, as I have said, but to smooth out current Washington-Moscow friction.

Eden is just the bird to do this. He understands the Yankee temperament to perfection. His personality is 100 per cent attractive and it is exactly the sort we go for.

Naturally, Eden's first contacts were with state department functionaries, but after that he lost no time in getting Washington newspapermen to see him. He did not begin by talking international politics.

Eden is as slick at influencing American executives and legislators as he is at appealing to the average American kitchen mechanic, he ought to win the country easily in the course of the few weeks he is scheduled to be here.

Quotations

It is now largely a choice between married men and vital workers. We are scraping the bottom of the barrel on single men.—Manpower Director Paul V. McNutt.

The relations of forces on the Soviet-German front have changed. The fact is that Germany is becoming more and more exhausted while the Soviet Union is more and more developing its reserves and becoming ever stronger.—Josef Stalin.

Today the great successes of the Russian front have led thousands of Americans to throw their hats in the air and proclaim their victory is just around the corner. We still face reverses and misfortunes.—President Roosevelt.

We must pool our supplies with those of the experienced and with trained troops of Britain and our other allies who will form a part of the invading armies and gladly share the burden of fighting and dying.—Economic Director James F. Byrnes.

Clothing rationing has not even been discussed—let alone under consideration in this shop—and that's a fact. There is no intention to ration unless it becomes absolutely necessary.—WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson.

We must disarm Japan on the sea after the war. To keep her disarmed for a long time afterwards we must have the bases from which to operate. We must have sufficient bases to prevent future aggression in that quarter of the world.—Navy Secretary Frank Knox.

"DIVIDE AND CONQUER"



Raymond Clapper Says:

Eden May Give Story Of Territorial Plans

By RAYMOND CLAPPER

WASHINGTON.—Both the American and British governments appear to lean against making any definite territorial commitments until the war is over.

That may be one of the important points clarified by the visit of Anthony Eden. In view of Mr. Eden's conversations here, it may be taken as significant that Prime Minister Churchill, in his Sunday broadcast, said that nothing could be more foolish than to argue now about frontiers.

That is exactly the position President Roosevelt took a year ago when the question of recognizing Russia's claims in Eastern Europe was up. Now Secretary Cordell Hull seems to reaffirm that position when he endorses what Prime Minister Churchill says about avoiding details pertaining to the peace arrangements now.

So far as known, the Soviet government has not pressed the territorial question directly and officially since it agreed to defer the subject a year ago under the Molotov Agreement, entered into on the insistence of the United States.

Nevertheless, Moscow is determined. Nobody here or in London is deceiving himself that Moscow will not insist on retaining the three Baltic states, for instance. They have been formally annexed in the Soviet constitution.

All persons having a Victory Garden are urged to register with the OCD, Room 416, Tide Water Building.

If you hear or observe anything suspicious in character report it promptly to: Wilmington Police, 5244. Wrightsville Beach Police, 7504. Carolina Beach Police, 2231. Carolina Beach Clerk, 2001. Captain of the Port, 2-2278. County Defense Council, 3123 Sheriff, 4252.

HOW TO GRIND AN AXE. If an axe blade gets hot when being sharpened, it may lose its temper. Stop grinding and let the ax cool naturally; the rest will do you good.—Rural New Yorker.

Civilian Defense Timetable

BASIC TRAINING COURSES
New Hanover High school room 109, at 8 P. M.

FIRE DEFENSE A
Monday, April 5 and every two weeks thereafter.

GENERAL COURSE
Tuesday, April 6 and every two weeks thereafter.

GAS DEFENSE B
Wednesday, April 7 and every two weeks thereafter.

FIRST AID 10 HOURS
Discontinued until further notice.

SPECIAL CLASSES
Auxiliary police course on Tuesday nights, at Trailer Camp Office. Sgt. Thomas B. Hughes, instructor.

BEHIND HITLERS LINES
There are now more than 130 underground papers with a circulation of 500,000 in German-occupied Belgium.—Philadelphia Record.

TROT IT OUT!
An Oklahoman urges the eating of crow meat and says it tastes like roast duck. Trot some of it out, brother, and well give it a fling.—Greenville, (S. C.), News.

MOON SONGS
Being but a mere reflection of the sunlight of the emperor, Tojo likens himself to the moon. We fancy our songwriters will pass this one up.—Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch.

AWAITING THE SEQUEL
That melancholy song, "I Had a Comrade," was featured on the German radio to emphasize the tragedy of Stalingrad. Listeners are waiting eagerly for the sequel, "I Had a Fuehrer."—New York Sun.

The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY
"Between the Thunder and the Sun," by Vincent Sheean (Random; \$5)

Vincent Sheean is publishing another personal experience book today, forsaking the field of the novel after a none too successful invasion thereof. Mr. Sheean's function is to write about himself and his experiences; he does this beautifully, and the process seems to release the juices of his imagination.

"Between the Thunder and the Sun" is a quite silly which gives the wrong impression of the book. There is nothing flossy about the text—quite the contrary. It is the story of Mr. Sheean's world from the pre-Munch days when the Salzburg music festival was one of the world's greatest gathering places for people who knew little or nothing about music, right down to "our war" as Mr. Sheean has seen it. The prose is extraordinarily good, the sources usually unimpeachable. The author is definitely on the right side.

He reaches exactly the conclusions the rest of us have reached, too, which would seem to

As Others Say It

MANPOWER SCARCE

Probably the most fruitful manpower source in the entire country is in the great army of civilians employed by the federal government. A large part of such employment is unnecessary, affording fat jobs for the "faithful" and escape from military service for many able-bodied men.

The enemy's recapture of Moscow is the biggest flaw in the winter's record. Its position as the railway hub of the south gives the holders a big initial advantage in the preparations for the next battle. But the German inability to cross the Donets is evidence of the Red army commander's overcome the handicaps under which it labored when the enemy struck back, overextended supply lines, railways out of commission, the unseasonable mud. The stand on the Donets robs the enemy of the additional success he needed to gain the full initiative.

NEW AMBITION AT HARVARD

Now that Harvard is going in for instruction by mail, Harvard students will be fired by a second ambition—to lick stamps, as well as Yale.—Boston Globe.

NOTE ON MILITARY DISCIPLINE

College professors teaching service students under the new military training program must observe certain rules of punctuality and military discipline, the Army decrees. One wonders whether the system will be harder on the students or the individualistic profs.—Winston-Salem Journal.

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Interpreting The War

By GLENN BABB

It is three weeks now since the German high command boasted that its resurgent army of the middle and upper Donets river, a front of 150 miles. In spite of some of the most desperate attacks of the war, into which the Germans threw fresh divisions and a formidable concentration of tanks and planes, the line of the river still holds.

Therefore there seems to be justification for the belief that the German counteroffensive in the Ukraine has just about run its course. Yesterday Moscow reported a slackening of the enemy's pressure along the Donets and even the Berlin communique described the fighting there as of only local importance.

German success in the Ukraine comeback, while considerable, has not been complete. It prevented the winter campaign from being an unmitigated Nazi disaster, salvaged a portion of some of the choicest territory gained in 1941, but it left unanswered the question whether Germany or Russia will hold the initiative when the spring phase of the war in the east opens.

The turn which came when Hitler's generals threw 25 fresh or reformed divisions into the Ukraine was not sufficient to change the winter's balance from one greatly in favor of the Red army. It halted the Russians short of a climactic victory which might have capped one of the most remarkable series of triumphs in military history. But Stalingrad, the worst single disaster to befall the modern German army, in itself was sufficient to make the winter one of Russian success. In addition, the Red army has cleared the valleys of the Volga and the Dnieper and all the Caucasus but a dwindling bridgehead on the western fringe. Apparently favored by former footing after the first thrust, the Red army now is engaged in reducing that and Novorossisk, key to the German position in that sector, is in danger again after six weeks of relative quiet.

The enemy's recapture of Moscow is the biggest flaw in the winter's record. Its position as the railway hub of the south gives the holders a big initial advantage in the preparations for the next battle. But the German inability to cross the Donets is evidence of the Red army commander's overcome the handicaps under which it labored when the enemy struck back, overextended supply lines, railways out of commission, the unseasonable mud. The stand on the Donets robs the enemy of the additional success he needed to gain the full initiative.

The indications are that the Red army's drive on Smolensk is doing as it encounters conditions similar to those which took the punch out of its advance through the Ukraine a month ago. Mud and slush has enveloped the valley of the upper Dnieper. Moreover, the Moscow communique tells of increasingly bitter Nazi resistance in long prepared positions.

It may be that the Germans intend to stand and fight for Smolensk and that they have just about reached the line they chose for this purpose when they abandoned the Rzhev-Ghatsk-Vyazma salient. Today's front may be approximately that from which the spring drives, westward or eastward, are to be launched.

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Daily Prayer

FOR SPIRITUAL - MINDENESS

We are being disciplined into citizenship, O Lord, by the stern events of these days. In simple confidence we look anew to Thee as our Father and our God, confident that Thy vast plans belong only good for us and for the whole world. We would escape from our daily cares into a consciousness of Thy power and Thy care and Thy love. Down in the dark valley of our world would the brightness of Thy face. Teach us to meditate upon Thy character. We pray for heavenly-mindedness. May every thing that befalls us lead us to closer fellowship with the Savior who endured the uttermost for our sake. Help us, we beseech Thee, to cast out of our lives all that is alien to Thy pure and beneficent will. Thus would we be soldiers of our God, as well as soldiers of our Country. Amen.—W.T.E.

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