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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1945.

TOP OF THE MORNING
A star's the largest fire we know:
It will not dim or die.
Yet no one ever sets his shoes
Under a star to dry.

A candle finds the needle eye,
A heart fire dries the shoes,
Often the showiest things are not
The things we need to use.

CLARIBEL AVERY.

A Complex Problem

The city election scheduled for May 8, in which a new Council will be chosen, will also be a run-off election to determine which of two candidates who failed to secure the necessary votes in Monday's poll will join the other four who were selected and join them on the Council.

That there may be no confusion among the voters on May 8 it is to be said that while six names will appear on the ballots only five can be elected. To vote for six would void the vote.

At the top of the ballot will be four names—James E. L. Wade, Ronald W. Lane, Robert S. LeGwin and W. E. Yopp. These candidates came through with flying colors in the Monday primary to all intents and purposes, they are on the Council for the next two years. The May 8 election is but a formality by which they will be advanced from nominees to office holders.

The other two names appearing lower on the ballot, and separated from this group, are Robert R. Romeo and Garland S. Currin. They failed to receive enough votes Monday to be accredited nominees. By virtue of running next below the successful four, they are entitled to a run-off.

Be sure to vote for only one of them. Wilmington voters are to be congratulated for turning out on Monday in such large numbers despite the inclement weather. The total was larger than in any previous primary since the new form of city government was instituted. Let us hope it indicates an awakening to political responsibilities among a people which for years has neglected the privilege and duty of voting in municipal elections.

Movement Must Go On

The County Board of Commissioners has refused to call an election for a junior college, for which an enabling act was approved by the recent Legislature, but the movement must not be allowed to die for that reason.

A junior college is too important in the further educational and cultural development of Wilmington and all southeastern North Carolina.

The Board of Education, which sponsored the bill introduced and put through the Legislature by Rep. J. Q. LeGrand, may be expected to carry on, and it is hoped that the public will get solidly behind the project so that the Board of County Commissioners, seeing the wide sentiment for the college, will reconsider its action of Monday and order the election.

Jefferson And Truman

The Greensboro Record notes that in these first few days of President Truman's administration the "game of analogies" is already off to a head start. He is compared with Jefferson, for example, because of his talent as a pianist. Jefferson was an accomplished violinist. Thus they are alike in musical accomplishment.

And the Record cites the St. Louis Post-Dispatch which points out that Jefferson also walked to and from the Capitol. Mr. Truman has given the Secret Service men assigned to protect him fits and convulsions trying to keep up with him.

These comparisons are interesting, but there is one attribute of Jefferson which we doubt the keenest search will duplicate in Mr. Truman. Jefferson had an inventive soul and we are indebted to him for the swivel chair, without which no office is complete.

Lights Go On In England

The blackout in England, instituted on September 1, 1939, when Germany attacked Poland, is lifted at last, save for a five-mile coastal strip. The light on Big Ben shines again. Britons may once more light up their home without drawing black curtains at all windows and outer doors.

We in America can't realize what this means to the people of England. We had our blackouts, and grumbled at them, even disobeyed them shamefully, but the war was so far away and the chance of enemy attack so slim the whole proceeding had little meaning for most of us.

But for the English blackouts meant the difference between life and death. The Luftwaffe was coming over nightly. Their only hope of escape was to keep their towns and cities so dark enemy planes could not spot their objectives, for though the Royal Air Force performed wonders of defense it could not prevent some planes breaking through and leaving death and destruction in their wake.

Coventry, London, hardly a city in England escaped the terrible toll levied by the Luftwaffe during the period Hitler and Goering believed they could bring England to its knees by air attack.

Now it is all past. Hitler is beaten. Germany is a defeated nation. The cruel danger of night attacks by buzz bombs has largely been overcome. England is safe again, even at night. And the lights go on.

Certainly no better morale-builder could be found, unless it might be to parade Hitler through the streets at the end of a chain dressed in monkey clothes and holding a cup with a hand organ furnishing the music.

Clean The Plate

Persons who eat at restaurants complain that the variety of food is dwindling and portions shriveling. While their complaint is justified, it may be noted by inquisitive observers that by over-ordering or ordering what they do not like many persons leave considerable food on their plates which goes into the garbage can and is sheer waste.

And while this is going on millions of people throughout the world are starving—scraping gutters for scraps and seldom finding them.

Without relieving the Office of Price Administration of an iota of its responsibility for the scarcity of food it is still true that we are a wasteful people.

The Army has a rule in its training reservations. It may only be a practice and not an actual rule at all, but it does as well. The soldier must eat everything on his plate. If he fails to do so, the sergeant in charge of the company mess calls him back and says to it that he does. Lining up for his next meal the recruit is not likely to ask for more than he can comfortably consume and enjoy.

The same practice should be in effect in all public eating places. When ordering your next meal at a restaurant, do your part by cutting the meal to your capacity. Maybe, if everybody does the same thing there will be fewer starving people in the world.

Russo-Polish Treaty

This new treaty Russia has made with the Warsaw Provisional Government by which the two nations pledge friendship, mutual aid and postwar collaboration proves that Stalin proposes to dominate eastern Europe exclusively and in his own way. What its effect will be on the proceedings of the San Francisco Security Conference cannot be clearly foreseen, but it may be explosive.

Great Britain and the United States have not recognized the Warsaw Provisional Government of Poland, but have stood out for inclusion of the Polish Government in Exile at London in any regime to be set up at Warsaw.

If Washington and London back down it will be a sign that Stalin has more power than Britain and America unitedly have and will exercise the dominating influence in postwar Europe.

The Russo-Polish treaty is a daring step by Stalin.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

BLUEBIRDS—BEAUTIFUL BUT DUMB

Last Sunday when I was walking from my home to church (4 miles by the road) some birds were looking for nests. That was especially true of the bluebirds, which examined holes in trees and the mail and daily newspaper boxes along the way. I saw one make a careful inspection of a box rather low down on a pine tree, where, to my knowledge, two mother birds have been yanked out and killed by a house cat. Yet the birds persist in using the box. I am told that for years that same thing has happened. Bluebirds seem to be fascinated by cylindrical newspaper boxes, and nest in them, and lose their little ones to cats and mischievous children. My observation makes me think that bluebirds, like some persons, have more beauty than sense. H. E. C. Bryant in the Chapel Hill Weekly.

POLITICS AND POLITICS

According to Webster's International Dictionary, the word, "politics," has more than one meaning. "The science and art of government" is one of those meanings. Unfortunately it has another, understood not only by Webster but also by citizens generally. Webster expresses it this way: "Artful or dishonest management to secure the success of political candidates."—Winston - Salem Journal.

Russia and Democracies

(This article appeared last week in the Christian Science Monitor)

By PROF. HERMAN FINER
Visiting Lecturer in Political Science, Harvard University; formerly Reader in Public Administration, University of London

The formidable time for decision is upon us. Next week, thirty nations will enter on the decisive stage of determining the organization of our peace. The keeping of the peace everywhere depends on the lasting collaboration of the Big Three of Yalta. With their mighty power goes their mighty responsibility. If their ways should part, as the failure of the League demonstrates, they will be forced to security to form defensive and therefore hostile coalitions.

Security is not the only issue; there is justice. But concern for justice, domestic and international, has rarely been known to flourish in war or preparations for war. Peace, therefore, is the highest interest of all peoples. A dreadful responsibility lies upon the governments and peoples of the democracies to render possible, or at least not to prejudice, the friendship of the Three. A like responsibility devolves as sharply on the rulers of Soviet Russia, even more severely perhaps because their people are not altogether free to direct or moderate the course of the Soviet's foreign policy.

There are qualms in the consciences of many in this Republic about the righteousness of collaboration with the Soviet. It is a matter for the profoundest anxiety. There have even been more or less open suggestions that war with the Soviet is some day inevitable, and, for democracy's sake, desirable. This is a deeply disturbing state of mind, though not unpleasant to Nazis. In too many cases it is not disinterested, and, of course, deliberately refuses to seek light on Soviet Russia.

There are others, however, to whom it is a matter of conscientious doubt whether cooperation of the Soviet and the democracies is possible. They sense a difference of purpose and political methods, and therefore a moral difference, between them. They are genuinely perplexed by the recurrent self-reproach: If our form of government is right, then the Russian must be wrong, and if their system is wrong, how can it be possible for us to work together? The Soviet view of liberty, civil rights, and freedom of conscience utterly contradicts ours. Their form of economic enterprise is alien to ours. Soviet practice in foreign affairs seems at times to be swayed by a relative rather than an absolute regard for international obligations.

Truly, if we want earnestly enough to collaborate, we can. The chronically bitter issue is whether we ought. Collaboration would imply a compromise on our part, and there is a moral blemish, something repulsive, in compromise. It affronts conscience and self-respect, for it is equated with hypocrisy and disavowal of our own moral standards. These doubts must be satisfied, for the obligations attending the current security proposals are severe. They entail military commitments. They must be continuing and automatic, and so require a foundation in the steady conscious loyalty of the public.

Is compromise proper, and is it possible? It depends on whether we can distinguish legitimate from illegitimate compromise and support the former. The legitimacy of compromise in international politics can be illuminated by reflecting on the frequent challenge whether Soviet Russia is a democracy. Many among the friends of the Soviet Union declare quite sincerely that it is a democracy because it seeks the people's welfare and permits the expression of opinion. The assertion cannot possibly be maintained against the crucial test: Can Stalin and his Council of People's Commissars be popularly voted out of office? Stalin would be the first to laugh the apologists out of court if they were so politically callow as to answer, Yes.

Do Soviet electoral arrangements allow even of the proposal of a ticket in opposition to the Communist leaders, or public criticism of Stalin's character, intellect, ambitions, and policy, such as has been exercised about leaders in England, even in "the darkest hour"? We all know the answer: It is a moral negative.

Hence, it is no service to the U. S. S. R. or world peace to waver about and about on these issues, for that only introduces a flavor of hypocrisy, which corrupts compromise. The Western world, in long and bloody self-sacrifice, originated and developed democracy, and has the right to declare what it is. It has no alternative but to say that Soviet Russia is not a democracy.

The Soviet Government is in many other respects highly beneficial to the people of Russia, and even a lesson to the Western world. But decidedly it is not a democracy. For democracy is government by the people, for the people, and the Soviet excludes the former. In Western opinion and experience, therefore, it is no long-run guarantee of the latter. Nor, to get the perspective right, was Russia a democracy before 1917.

A compromise is only legitimate and morally acceptable if it does not dim our power of recognition. Our first duty as democratic citizens is to truth and not to acquiescence and dissimulation. If for the sake of a quiet life we deny the evidence of our senses and moral acknowledgments, we commit two sins against the light. We would appear cynical and would therefore hollow out and adulterate the basis of our own democratic method. What a government does in the name of its people that government teaches its people to name. If it says to another government, "I cannot persuade you to accept my good, therefore I will pretend to accept your evil and even suggest it is my good," it thereby authorizes a demoralizing example in public, business, and domestic life.

Nor is that the full extent of the damage done by illegitimate compromise. Those who disavow their own moral experience lose the respect of those whose co-operation they solicit. They dissipate the influence on their partners in peace of sincerity, self-respect, and responsible strength of mind. They cease to speak their own true language, which above all things is essential as a moral lever to move the exponents of very different systems and purposes of government. How else, since the voice of the people in the Russian system and has not the accents of a master, is it practical for them to be prompted to examine the validity of their own convictions?

An illegitimate compromise consists in the surrender of mind and moral sincerity. The abdicating mind, because it is despised, ceases to play on the other man's mind and affect it.

A compromise must not be the adulteration of what we perceive to be true. But in international politics compromise is not adultery if, clear as to our intentions, and open but polite in our mind and views, we nevertheless offer to adjust our respective wills to

Your War--With Ernie Pyle

BY ERNIE PYLE

OKINAWA—(by Navy radio)—
It's marvelous to see a bunch of American troops go about making themselves at home wherever they get a chance to settle down for a few days.

My company of First Division marines dug in at the edge of a bomb-shattered village. The village was quaint and not without charm. I was astonished at the similarity with the villages of Sicily and Italy.

The town didn't really seem Oriental. The houses were wooden one-story buildings, surrounded by little vegetable gardens. Instead of fences, each lot was divided by rows of shrubs or trees. The cobblestone streets were just wide enough for a jeep. They were winding and walled on both sides by head-high stone walls.

A good part of the town lay shattered. Scores of the houses had burned and only ashes and red roofing tile were left. Wandering around, I counted the bodies of four Okinawans still in the streets. Otherwise the town was deserted.

The people have fled to their caves in the hillsides, taking most of their personal belongings with them. There is almost no furniture in Japanese houses, so they didn't have to worry about that.

After a few days the grapevine carried the word to them that we were treating them well so they began to come out in droves and give themselves up. I heard one story about a hundred Okinawa civilians who had a Jap soldier among them, and when they realized the atrocity stories he had told them about the Americans

were untrue, our MPs had to step in to keep them from beating him.

Our company commander picked out a nice little house on a rise at the edge of town for his command post.

The house was very light, fairly clean, and the floors were covered with woven straw mats. A couple of officers and a dozen men moved into the house and slept on the floor and we cooked our rations over an open stone cookstove in the rear.

Then the word went around for the men of the company to dig in for several days. Two platoons were assigned to dig in along the outer sides of the nearby hills for perimeter defense.

The boys were told they could keep the horses they had commandeered, that they could carry wooden panels out of the houses to make little doghouses for themselves, but not to take anything else, and that they could have fires, except during air alerts.

They weren't to start their daily mop-up patrols in the brush until the next day, so they had the afternoon off to clean themselves up and fix up their little houses.

Different men did different things. Some built elaborate houses about the size of chicken houses, with floor mats and chairs and even kerosene lanterns hanging from the roof.

One Mexican boy dug a hole, covered it with boards, and then camouflaged it so perfectly with brush you really couldn't see it.

Some spent the afternoon taking baths and washing clothes in the river. Some rode their horses up and down. Some foraged around town through the deserted houses.

Some went looking for chickens to cook. Some sat in groups and talked. Some just slept.

An order went out against wearing Jap clothing or eating any of the local vegetables, pork, goat, beef or fowl. But this was before the order came out.

The marines had dug up lots of Japanese kimonos out of the smashed houses and put them on while washing their one set of clothes. If you ever want to see a funny sight, just take a look at a few dozen dirty and unshaven marines walking around in pink and blue women's kimonos.

A typical example was Pvt. Raymond Adams of Fleson, Tenn. He had fixed himself a dugout right on the edge of a bluff above the river. He had a grand view and a nice little grassy front yard. Out there he had driven stakes and built a fire. He hung his helmet over the fires like a kettle and was stewing chicken. He had taken off his clothes and put on a beautiful pink and white kimono.

Later a friend came along with a Jap bicycle with one pedal, and Adams tried without much success to ride it up and down a nearby lane.

If there ever is a war play about marines I hope they include one tough-looking private in a pink-and-white kimono, stewing chicken and trying to ride a one pedaled bicycle through a shattered Japanese village.

Private Adams is married and has a boy eight-months old he has never seen. If the baby could have seen his father that day he would probably have got the colic from laughing so much.

The Literary Guidepost Daily Prayer

By W. G. ROGERS
"SURRENDER ON DEMAND," by Varian Fry (Random House; \$3).

The title of this important, exciting book comes from a clause in the Franco-German armistice, by which Petain's government agreed to give up to Germany any Germans (a word which eventually included anti-Nazis of any nationality) designated by Berlin and found within the jurisdiction of the French police.

In 1940 some Americans, headed by William Allan Neilson and Frank Kingdon, formed an emergency rescue committee, raised funds and sent Fry to France as agent. He organized several underground railroads to get the men and women sought by the Germans out of the country.

In some individual cases his mission failed. In others he succeeded, and the world as well as America benefited greatly. Among those he helped to save were the writers Konrad Heiden, Franz Werfel, Heinrich Mann, Lion Feuchtwanger and Andre Breton, the harpsichordist Wanda Landowska, the art expert Charles Stirling, the painters Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst, Andre Masson and Marc Chagall, the sculptor Jacques Lipchitz, many other professional men and liberals in politics.

Callers at the villa which was

Gems, Alleged Smuggler Seized By Miami Agents

MIAMI, April 24—(AP)—Charles E. Wyatt, supervising customs agent in Miami, said today a shav- ing cream tube containing 1,006 minute diamonds was seized by agents here last night with the arrest of a man identified as Sam Nivisch, 40, of the Bronx, New York.

Wyatt said the diamonds were found in Nivisch's possession while his effects were being examined at the 36th street airport by Inspector A. H. Malcolm. Nivisch had arrived a few minutes before from Havana by clipper.

Chinese Counterattack Japs in Western Hunan

CHUNGKING, April 24—(AP)—Chinese counterattacks have been flung against the main column and two flanks of the determined Japanese drive through western Hunan province, and bitter fighting raged in defence of the routes of strategic Hsiangshiang, U. S. 14th Air Force offensive base, the Chinese High Command announced tonight.

Methods of Canning Will Be Discussed

A discussion on modern methods of canning and a motion picture, "Can All You Can," will be presented at 10 a.m. Friday in the Home Demonstration Agent's office at the custom house.

All food conservation leaders and any others interested in home canning are urged to attend, Miss Ann Mason, agent, announced.

A common purpose. For we recognize that our friendship supports the supreme common good at this historic stage—peace and security. These will be the parents of future justice. Besides, there are, in fact, social values in Soviet government and history, which give promise of better things, compatible with our continued friendship and offering the opportunity of a two-way lend-lease connection of influence and instruction as we go along on our several ways. Is cooperation between the Soviet and democratic systems feasible?

Interpreting The War

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON

(Associated Press War Analyst)
A second Russian-American junction in Bavaria to slit the dismembered German Reich apart north and south from the Elbe estuary to the Alps as it is already bisected from east to west on the Middle Elbe is fast taking shape on the war maps.

Just where or when it will come, whether near the Hitlerian mountain lair of Berchtesgaden or north of that in the valley of the upper Danube, is not clear. There can be small doubt, however, that a friendly Russian-American foot race is on to be first to clamp a steel trap on the Rfweisgibberbrettesgaden Nazi citadel and perhaps snare the master Nazi himself.

That can be read into disclosure that General Patton's lunging Third Army advance guards have reached beyond Regensburg, Danubian transportation hub less than 100 miles air line from Salzburg.

Nazi bulletins placed the southern prong of a twin Russian drive from the Vienna gateway even closer. Storming through difficult Alpine terrain threaded only by motorways and highroads, a Red Army spearhead by German report at Fisenzer, just over 90 miles due east of Berchtesgaden. It has swept beyond its northern companion-piece pushing westward up the Danube valley and last reported within 50 miles of Linz. The goal of that northern thrust could be either Salzburg and Berchtesgaden, or a junction with Patton's men somewhere south of the Danube.

That would split all that is left of Hitler's Reich in German hands into three major segments, north, central and south, for final mopping up purposes. It would also end any possibility of a prolonged last Nazi stand in the Bavarian redoubt.

So far as the Allied front from the Elbe estuary to the Regensburg area on the upper Danube can be traced at this moment, it represents a north-south bisection of Germany on a more or less straight line of which a Russian-American junction south of the Danube at Salzburg or some point north of it would be an extension.

Yalta terms appear to have something to do with delay in the awaited official three power announcement of the first Allied-Russian junction in Germany. Press advices from the American fronts indicate observer belief it has already been achieved. There seems no other logical explanation of the delay except that agreements reached at Yalta as to Russian and Allied agreed zones of occupation in Germany have some relation to the matter.

Keep an emergency kit in your desk drawer. It should contain soap, towel, makeup, nail polish and remover, cleansing cream and a comb.

Don't Drive a Booby Trap

Watch Out!

Pretty fancy 'phone, isn't it?—not like the ones back home! That's why the Germans wired it to a mine, made it into a Booby Trap. But American soldiers don't fall for it—they've been taught to spot Booby Traps.

Watch Out!

Lacking proper lubricants, your transmission and differential gears can chip or score—cause you plenty of sudden trouble. That's why Shell Dealers check up on gears—every time they give your car a Shell Lubrication—make sure you're safe!

PLAY SAFE... Get a Safety Shellubrication Today

Shellubrication is a scientific answer to the effects of Wartime Stop-and-Go driving on your car. It's a 35-point inspection and maintenance system developed by Shell engineers—performed by specially trained Shell Dealers.

Shellubrication requires the use of nine different types of lubricating equipment—six different testing devices—fourteen kinds of maintenance tools, eighteen different, specialized Shell lubricants!

In giving your car a Shell Lubrication job your Shell Dealer inspects the danger spots—checks 35 "break-up" points as he works! And finally he gives you a record of service and a written guarantee covering both workmanship and materials!

Make a date for SHELLUBRICATION Today!