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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.

Roosevelt's War Message.
SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1945.

TOP OF THE MORNING

The older of two men was once urging upon the younger the claim of Christian work in mission countries, and the latter answered with an excuse that had a familiar ring: "But I have never felt any compelling call to give my life in that way." "Are you sure that you are within calling distance?" Was the disquieting reply "The Christian Herald?"

Now Is Time To Act

Petroleum products are again moving through the port of Wilmington. Even without tonnage figures no one can doubt it by merely comparing the absence of gasoline tank trucks during the war in Europe and their increasing presence on the streets today.

Favorable as this is, and despite the promise it holds of still greater movements of commerce as the sealanes open for cargo-carrying ships, it presents a problem to the City Council which should be solved once and for all without delay, not only for the accommodation of the growing volume of traffic but for the safety and well-being of the community.

Gasoline tankers, now as always, move through the downtown district and thickly populated areas without restraint at any hour of the day or night. Their noise is intolerable, particularly during hours properly dedicated to sleep, which they frequently prevent. This alone is sufficient reason to forbid them the use of streets lined with homes.

But it is not so serious, in the final analysis, as the threat of fire their presence both there and on business streets creates. An accident involving the overturning of a gasoline truck and the firing of its contents could come very near to wiping out the business district. Even though there is foamite at fire stations and some filling stations it is questionable if the quantity is sufficient to extinguish a flaming stream of gasoline gushing downhill toward Water street.

The need is not so much for means of combatting a gasoline fire in the business district, with questionable results, as for a truck lane outside the business district and away from closely-built dwellings.

The matter of a truck lane has been before the city administration since long before the war. In the brave new world to come it ought to be created where the hazard of accident or costly property damage would be minimized.

Plenty Of Butter

There is no good reason to continue rationing butter. There is plenty on hand to meet civilian demand and either it should be as point-free as coffee or the exorbitant point value substantially cut.

This is the view of Alfred Rich, business manager of the Butter and Egg Merchants Association in New York, who would seem to be very close to the true situation. He says the 24-point requirement is "ridiculously high."

There is sufficient butter, he adds, for the government to take it off the ration list. It may become a glut on the market in a few months because of the lack of points to obtain it. Mr. Rich frequently hears of shipments received for which there is no storage space.

This is typical of OPA administration. It will be remembered that not so long ago tons of butter had to be reprocessed because it had become rancid and was unseizable and unsaleable. Some of it finally found its way into the open market as second-class stuff and was never palatable. It will also be recalled that when the hue and cry was loudest in a former sugar "crisis" refinery warehouses were so overstocked vast quantities of Cuban raw sugar were shipped back.

As there is no reason to expect the OPA to do anything about butter, or anything else, we can only wait for Representative Anderson to take over at the Agriculture Department and bring a little common sense into the food program.

Where'd It Go

An inquiring home maker, visiting a meat counter and finding hog joints to one end and pig tails at the other, wants to know what became of the in-between.

Chiang Is Confident

Chiang Kai-shek, generalissimo of China's republican armies, is confident that Chinese troops can defeat all Japanese forces in that great area within a year if given sufficient supplies and equipment.

If the sample of fighting ability offered by Chinese soldiers in the battle around Liuchow and other parts of south-central China, where the enemy has been resisting and not merely withdrawing, is typical of the new Chinese armies and spirit, the generalissimo probably is not so far from the truth as many might think.

There would still remain the friction between Chiang's forces and the communists in north China to be overcome, however, before the American Pacific command could give his troops a leading role in the battle of China. With their help, or even possible leadership, the conflict on Asia's mainland doubtless would move faster toward victory, for they are hard fighters, well trained, and as wily as the Japanese. It is to be hoped that Doctor Soong's trip to Moscow will clear up much of the mystery enveloping the communist situation in China as well as Russia's policy on the war against Japan.

It would be fitting for China to have the star's role in the war drama enacted on the Chinese stage, particularly as it is this nation's policy to let the forces of Japanese occupied countries, or of sister countries with the same allegiance, free themselves as far as they are able to do so. The Filipinos had an important role in freeing the Philippines. The Australians are leading the attack in Borneo. Australians and New Zealanders have been mopping up on New Guinea. Inevitably the Dutch will have a major part in driving the Japanese from Java and other Dutch islands in the southwest Pacific. It would be only right, therefore, for the Chinese to lead the attack on the enemy on their soil.

But they could not do the whole job. The direction and manipulation of forces in China would demand the greater skill in modern warfare possessed by American commanders and the services of American forces trained on the battlefields of Africa and Europe, accustomed to the operation and maneuvering of armored equipment, and an unlimited number of American warplanes which would have to be manned by American crews.

It is heartening, however, to know that Chiang is ready to take the offensive in a big way after so long a time devoted to retreating in depth, if we but give him the supplies so essential to victory.

Pat Each Other's Back

The part the United States played in defeating Germany in the former World war was generally undervalued by the British people, many of whom viewed it as no more than token assistance.

This is why it is pleasant to find Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery saying that Britain was "finished" in 1941 and could not have survived but for the United States.

Upon several occasions Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain has in effect said the same thing. But this acknowledgement from the British commander outweighs Churchill's because it has no political implication and gives well deserved praise to the American forces who met and overcame the best Germany had to offer.

It is the praise of a great fighting man for great fighting forces—a fighting man who knows the part America played in turning Rommel back in Africa and the irresistible striking power of American armed might in France and Germany.

At the same time that we cuddle "Monty's" fine tribute to our hearts, we also must remember that in the dark days of 1941 Britain was our own front line of defense and but for her will to carry on we would soon have been Hitler's principal target.

So great was the German threat not only to Britain but to our own nation that anything less than our all-out effort to prevent her fall would inevitably have brought our own conquest, or if not that a long, costly, and possibly disastrous defense of our shores.

We had no choice but to employ our every resource in industry, natural resources and manpower in the war against an enemy who surely would have put us in bonds if Britain, down but not out, had not gone on.

Swallows Use Radar

The Power that notes even the sparrow's fall has endowed the lower animals with attributes man is but slowly understanding and putting to use. For example radar, one of the greatest forces harnessed for war purposes, has been used by swallows presumably since the first of the breed tried out its wings when the world was young.

Here is a story brought to our attention by a nature lover who vouches for its accuracy. Five tiny swallows, nest and all, tumbled down a chimney wall of a woman's home on Market street last Friday. Being a member of the Board of Charities she placed them under a Star-News in her backyard and fed them buttermilk through a dropper.

If there was any static on radios in Wilmington on Saturday, it may have been due to the radar these little swallows resorted to, which scientists say they have practiced for years in flight.

Every time a bird or plane passed over they set up a rat-tat-tat, as penetrating as anything that ever came out of a small throat. It was an S. O. S. which the mother bird was certain to get if even miles away. Sure enough on Sunday morning she got the message. Now they are under her care, and may soon be winging their way to South America.

Fair Enough

(Editor's note—The Star and the News accept no responsibility for the personal views of Mr. Pegler, and often disagree with them as much as many of his readers. His articles serve the good purpose of making people think.)

By WESTBROOK PEGLER

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NEW YORK, a matter that I intend to take up with myself one day soon is this little business of my attitude. Several acquaintances have said to me lately that, although to know me is to love me and I have a heart of gold, I do myself a great injustice and deny the world a measure of sweetness and laughter which it easily could absorb.

In consultation with my conscience, I have decided that there is some ground for this criticism but with several extenuating conditions, among them the undeniable fact that quite a number of communist and other left-wing publications and some of their orators have been downright mean to me. Moreover, in the last few years, I have heartily ignored as completely unimportant frequent intimations that I am anti-labor because I have run a temper over corruption and other excessive behavior and that I hate foreigners because I think we should bar the doors until we, ourselves, have jobs, opportunities and homes to live in. It has seemed to me that the questions whether I am anti-labor and whether I think all immigrants are devils are beside the point and tended to substitute a personality for issues as the subject of discussion.

I think, however, that my little embarrassment has been the result of conditions that have had a similar effect on all of us, such as the long depression, which was a nice, up-to-date euphemism for panic, our politics, the Roosevelt experiments in gentle revolution and, finally, the war, and the concurrent decline in sports and other grim frivolities on which we used to expend our passion. In other words, aren't we all and, so, why pick on me?

It has not been altogether good for us that we discovered the United States Constitution in these years since the passing of the era of wonderful nonsense and the Monroe Doctrine and took to reading the opinions of the United States Supreme Court, some of which have been no less acrimonious than my own or those of Harold L. Ickes.

As I look back now, I recall that my late colleague, Heywood Brown, who really was a friend in the old days, foresaw his sense of humor and, I thought, his sense of fairness when he became a man with a message or crusader and that a couple of professional humorists of my old acquaintance who used to produce joviality on schedule have gone into profound sulks, emerging only on rare occasions when they are feeling uncontrollably nasty over some momentary issue at which times they prostitute their gift of gentle mirth to excite hatred.

It may help my explanation to point out that even actors, God help us, not content with the undeserved privilege of the vote for which they, like sculptors and cartoonists, are obviously unqualified, have become statesmen and that Joe Louis, a great prizefighter and exemplary character, has been exploited to make us aware that Negroes and white people suffer mutually from lack of acquaintance and mutual aloofness. I dare say that if we could track them down we would find that the grotesque herd of professional wrestlers whose hilarities in a thousand rings around the country used to rouse our citizens to harmless and fleeting hatred as they threshed and whinnied in the sly mockery of their trade are now political, ideological and economic partisans of genuine ferocity and given to debates on the poll tax. Our professional baseball is ersatz where it is not defunct and comedians in the shows step out of character to give little canned recitations, done by a press-agent in the United States Treasury, reiterating familiar reasons why we ought to buy war bonds rather than luxuries, with the notable exception of theatre tickets which, of course, are prescriptions for our morale. And, as a measure of the distance we have wandered off the beam unconsciously, a proportion of our people, and I do hope I exaggerate their number, have taken to formulating their individual political prejudices and foreign policies from material which they discover in that once harmless, if sometimes irritating, institution, the published gossip of the gaudier saloons.

Accuse me, if you will, of endorsing backwardness, indifference and ignorance but let me ask, in return, whether we were not much happier when our rages involved questions whether the referee gave Tunney a long count in Chicago or Dempsey hit Jack Sharkey low or Babe Ruth would have hit sixty home runs in the days before they quit stuffing the official ball with possum fuff and substituted that of the kangaroo. Are we happier for knowing the history and all the interpretations of the Fourteenth Amendment or for having heard angry men and women of both sides call one another liars, communists and Nazis in the last presidential campaign? In this connection, let me say that, in poring over some of the back numbers for September and October recently, I concluded that the vote was dictated not by intelligent decision on political and moral issues but by a private, vindictive hope that one or the other would be crushed, discredited for all time as a historic mountebank and driven to obscurity in desperate humiliation.

As I say, I have taken inventory and found quite low my stock of merry jape and ready wit and am considering steps to correct this but, for the defense, if it be any defense to say that one has practically the entire human race as partners in crime, let me ask again, aren't we all?

Editorial Comment

The Voice at the Vatican

Frank Sinatra, The Voice that has caused millions to squeal or swoon, depending on whether it is so dulcet and slightly off-key notes happened to be heard by squealers or swooners, was received in audience by the Pope Friday. By his own admission, the voice was "speechless," which probably wasn't altogether a bad thing, at that. Afterwards Sinatra described himself as "amazed," "thrilled" and "thrilled." The reaction of the Pope hasn't been learned but we dare say His Holiness is neither squealed nor swooned and that he is getting along as well as could be expected.—Roanoke, Va. Times.

Though governments may change and par of foreign affairs we stand together, that is, doing no disadvantage to the political party opposite.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill.



CIANO'S DIARY

Hitler Talks, Il Duce Listens; Second Fiddle Role Depressing

MARCH 18 — MAY 9, 1940.—Hitler summoned Mussolini to the Brenner Pass in March, 1940, after which, while the Italians were expected some new German move in the Balkans, the Fuehrer launched his armies against Denmark and Norway, Count Ciano, Mussolini's son-in-law, records in his intimate diary.

Ciano's account is the first available eyewitness story of one of these famous dictators' sessions which always left Mussolini depressed because Hitler did all the talking. The end of the Norwegian campaign found Hitler complaining that victory had been so speedy it had been impossible to engage the major British forces and destroy them.

Ciano wrote: MARCH 18—"It is snowing at Brenner Pass. Mussolini is waiting for the guest with a sense of anxious pleasure. More and more recently he has felt a fascination for the Fuehrer. . . . He tells me that he had a dream during the night that tore the veil from the future, but he does not say what it was. This has happened on other occasions, he says. Once he dreamed of fording a stream, and woke to learn the Fiume question was about to be solved.

Fuehrer Talks, And Duce Listens "The Hitler meeting is cordial on both sides. The conference is more a monologue than anything else. Hitler speaks all the time, with more calm than usual. He gestures rarely, and speaks in a quiet voice. He is well physically. Mussolini listens with interest and deference. He speaks little and confirms his decision to move with Germany. He did not find in Hitler the intransigence Von Ribbentrop had indicated. . . . The meeting has not changed our positions substantially."

MARCH 19—"At heart Mussolini resented the fact that Hitler did all the talking. He wanted to tell him many things but had to remain quiet most of the time. As a dictator, or rather the dean of dictators, he's not in the habit of this."

MARCH 20—"Before leaving Summer Wells (representing President Roosevelt on a survey of peace possibilities) spoke clearly to Blasco d'Ajeta, who is a relative of his. Even without an offensive, Germany will be exhausted within a year. He considers the war already won by the French and British, with the United States prepared to guarantee this victory with all the weight of her power."

MARCH 25—"Teleki (Hungarian prime minister) has avoided an open position one way or the other, but has not concealed his sympathy for the Western Powers and fears German victory like the plague. . . . The Germans offer us some anti-aircraft batteries immediately. Mussolini plans to send for them."

MARCH 27—"Teleki at dinner asks me abruptly, 'Do you know how to play bridge?'"

"Why?"

"For the day we shall be together in Dachau concentration camp."

MARCH 29—"This report (on living conditions by an Italian who spent a month in Germany) has

not modified Il Duce's outlook substantially, but he has admitted Germany is enjoying no bed of roses, and that failure of an offensive or a prolonged war would mean defeat and collapse for the German regime.

"I don't understand why Hitler doesn't realize this," he said. "I feel that Fascism is wearing down, wear and tear that is not serious but noticeable, yet he does not feel it in Germany, where the crisis is assuming rather alarming proportions."

Duce Vents Wrath On Church Again

MARCH 30—"Mussolini for the first time is irritated with Catholicism, which he blames for 'having made it from becoming national. When a country is universal it belongs to everyone but itself.'"

MARCH 31—"Word reached me that Il Duce has in mind to dismiss me from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I do not believe it. Mussolini is indignant with Sumner Welles because he told Chamberlain that Il Duce . . . appeared tired and perturbed. We learned this from one of the usual telegrams shown us by the British embassy."

APRIL 2—"Violent change in favor of war."

APRIL 5—"Last night I saw the German film of the attack on Poland. . . . It's a good film if the Germans wish merely to portray brute force, but it is bestial for purposes of propaganda."

"Dingle (identified only as 'legal adviser of the embassy in London') brought a useless and general message from the Prime Minister (Chamberlain), one of those messages of good will destined to remain unanswered. But more important is his depressed tone, his nervous search for a compromise, his lack of faith in victory."

Denmark, Norway

APRIL 8—"There is alarm in Budapest. . . . On the excuse that Russia will move soon in Bessarabia, Germany intends to occupy the Romanian oilfields and asks free passage through Hungary. The price for this permission would be Transylvania. . . . Hungarian liberty would come to an end."

APRIL 9—"They did not march on Romania."

"At 2 o'clock this morning, a secretary of the German embassy arrived with a letter from Mackensen, asking to be received at 7. Nothing else. He arrived at 6:30, pale and tired, and communicated Hitler's decision to occupy Denmark and Norway, adding that the decision was already being executed."

"Mussolini said: 'I approve Hitler's action wholeheartedly. . . . This is the way to win wars. . . . I shall give orders to the press and to the Italian people to applaud the German action without reservation.'"

APRIL 10—"News of the German action in the north has had a favorable echo among the Italian people, whom Mussolini describes as 'a prostitute that prefers a winner.' . . . Mackensen came to see me with a little baby. His wife had had a son. . . . I covered him with felicitations, since there is now nothing else to do."

APRIL 11—"An urgent message from Hitler to Il Duce (last night)

Today he has prepared a warm answer: 'beginning tomorrow, the Italian fleet will be ready, our preparation on land and in the air is gaining pace. . . . I remain skeptical. . . . He returned from a conference with the King (Victor), which did not satisfy him.

"He said: 'The King would like us to intervene only to win the broken pieces. I hope they won't break them over our heads first. . . . To make a people great it is necessary to send them to battle, even with a kick in the seat.'"

Ciano was ill until April 20, when he reports a conversation with Prince Phillip of Hesse, the King's son-in-law.

APRIL 20—"He talked about the imminent offensive, and said Hitler blames only the bad weather for his inability to celebrate his birthday (April 20) in Paris."

Date For Entering

APRIL 22—"This morning the date for Italy's entry into the war was changed to the spring of 1941 because Norway had postponed a solution and moved farther away the center of European operations."

Reichsmarshal Goering still was sulking because Ribbentrop had received the ornate Collar of Annunziata, Italy's highest decoration.

APRIL 23—"I speak of it to Il Duce. We mustn't make the voluminous half-dictator of the Reich suffer longer. Mussolini authorizes me to write a letter to the King, relating the pitiful situation of the tender Hermann."

APRIL 25—"Mussolini accepts the nomination of Alfieri (as ambassador to Berlin, succeeding Altolico, who was recalled at German request). . . . Il Duce gives him instructions. He repeats his faithfulness to the pacts, but says he will enter war only when he has a 'quasi-mathematical certainty of winning it.'"

APRIL 26—"The answer to Reynaud (French premier who had suggested a meeting with Mussolini) is ready, a cold, cutting and contemptuous letter. . . . Il Duce (Continued on Page Eight)

Daily Prayer

FOR A QUIET WALK

In a troubled time we dare to pray for a quiet walk of life O God, our Father. Without panic, fret or fear we would go through the days as those who trust in the Lord. So sure of Thy goodness and wisdom and care would we be that our hearts may at all times remain serene and steadfast. We know whom we have believed, and we would rest in Him. Thus would we become, by Thy grace, O God, centers of strength for our families and friends and neighbors. By our peaceful hearts we would bear witness to Thy power. Deliver us, we beseech Thee, from the tyranny of daily news, that we may not be either unduly exalted or cast down; since we are sure that Thou wilt give us the ultimate victory. Seal our lips against idle and disturbing talk about the war; and help us to carry on, in quietness and confidence, to the glorious end. This we ask in the name of the unaffrighted Christ, who shared His peace with His friends. Amen.—W. T. E.

British Elections

By LOUIS F. KEEMBLE
United Press War Analyst
The chief interest of Americans in Great Britain's general election, one week from now, can be stated rather simply. It is whether the new government will tend toward politics the left or right.

Neither of the two principal parties has claimed convincingly that there will be any great differences in Britain's conduct of foreign affairs or attitude toward the post-war peace organization. Both are for unqualified friendship with the United States and Russia. Neither promises to be any less vigorous in restoring Britain's position in world trade, shipping and commercial aviation.

On domestic issue, the conservative party headed by Prime Minister Winston Churchill and the labor party, led by Clement R. Attlee, promise the same things, only by different methods. They are for such fundamental measures as adequate housing, food, employment, and health and social insurance.

What American observers are watching with the liveliest interest is whether Churchill, whose policies they know, will be returned to power. Otherwise it will be the labor party, with a broad social program and definite ideas on state control. The issue has been put, broadly, as the difference between private enterprise and state management.

The lack of clear distinction between the two party programs in foreign affairs makes the election resemble, in a way, the Roosevelt-Dewey campaign in the United States last year.

Churchill, like President Roosevelt, has the advantage of a widely-respected personality and of war achievement. Having led Britain through the defeat of Germany, he wants to continue until Japan is beaten and post-war problems are on the way to solution.

Despite Churchill's prestige, dispatches from Britain agree that it is likely to be a close race. It must be remembered that it is the first election in 10 years, and that hundreds of thousands of young men and women will be voting for the first time. Their reaction cannot be gauged accurately.

Churchill recently appealed to the electorate for a substantial working majority in the House of Commons, hinting that he would be unable to function in the best interests of the country if independent or unaffiliated members hold a balance of power between the two big parties. He also mentioned his dislike of going to the Big Three meeting without knowing his strength at home. (Although the election will be held on July 5, results will not be announced until July 26, when overseas returns have been counted.)

It has been rather a hectic campaign, for Britain. In the absence of any juicy issues, some phrases have been raised. The conservatives have tried to scare the country by picturing a labor victory as meaning a socialist triumph which would amount to revolution and establishment of a gestapo in the tight little Isle. Most Britons were amused.

Churchill himself denounced Prof. Harold Laski, the labor party's famous left wing political scientist, as a sinister "back room" power who would guide foreign policy by dictatorial methods. Labor retorted by picturing Lord Beaverbrook, the vociferous newspaper publisher, as Laski's counterpart behind Churchill and the Tories.

All in all, in campaign methods and results after the votes have been counted, the British general election is much like one of ours. Some comparisons and differences are:

The new House of Commons will have 640 seats, as against 435 in the U. S. House of Representatives. The House of Lords, unlike the Senate, is not elective and has little real power, being mainly consultative or advisory.

The leader of the elected party becomes Prime Minister, an office which corresponds in actual practice to the presidency. The Prime Minister's salary is about \$30,000 a year; that of the President \$75,000. Members of the British cabinet get about \$20,000 a year, and of the American, \$15,000.

An American representative gets \$10,000 a year but a British M. P. only \$2,400. A striking difference is that the leader of the opposition party in Commons gets an official salary of \$8,000 a year—a recognition of the important part played by the opposition.

In campaign expenditures, a candidate for Commons may spend sixpence (ten cents) for each registered voter in a constituency, or five pence (eight cents) in a town constituency. For an average constituency, that would be a maximum of \$7,000. The federal Corrupt Practices Act in the United States puts a limit of \$5,000 on candidates for the House and \$25,000 for the Senate.

The biggest difference of all is that the British government is not put into office for a definite period like the inflexible four years of the American system. A British government can be tossed out of office by a vote of no confidence in Commons on a major issue.

For that reason, one British observer has likened the coming British general elections to the American turn Churchill to power, knowing that its decision can be reversed within a month, if necessary.

The counterfeit squad of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Mediterranean Theater recovered \$500,000 worth of phony 1,000-lire notes.