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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, AUG. 10th, 1942



Putting First Things First

Representative R. L. Doughton in his address Friday before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club said in choosing his subject that he was giving consideration to the most important subject today—the war.

Representative Doughton as chairman of the Ways and Means committee which has just formulated a big war time tax bill in Congress is in position to know something about the magnitude of the present war and the awfulness of the world situation in general.

He stated the issue in the war for Americans as being victory or slavery.

It is just that, and the sooner the millions of individuals who make up the citizenship of America realize that fact the better it will be for the people of the nation, collectively and individually.

There may be objectives on the part of some individuals which take precedence over victory in the war.

If there remain such selfish people or groups, why can't they realize that without victory in this war no objective will be any good?

The more concentrated the war effort, the sooner the victory, and with fewer lives lost and less money and materials expended.

Therefore, it is concluded that it will be less costly in every respect to sacrifice everything necessary now for the cause of early victory in the war.

United China Relief

No people on earth have suffered more in the present war than the Chinese. For the past five years they have been resisting Japanese aggression.

Until December, 1941, China was alone in the fight against Japan. Against seemingly impossible odds, the Chinese people have through the years resisted valiantly without a suggestion of surrender. Thousands of Chinese soldiers have died rather than surrender to the Japs.

"Now China is our valuable ally in the war against Japan. China still has millions of men, many in poor condition and poorly equipped, but China is also a logical jumping off place for our ultimate offensive against the Japanese home country.

The United China Relief organization offers the people in this country an opportunity to help the Chinese in their great fight. Millions of Chinese are suffering for want of food, clothing and medical supplies, and the greater part of that suffering is the result of the war with Japan. The relief organization also gives us a chance to show our appreciation to the Chinese as a people for the help they are giving in the war against the common foe.

Government Spending

Congress has surprisingly made some progress in elimination of unessential government spending.

The CCC has been abolished. Although many believe that the CCC was the outstanding endeavor among all the new government agencies, it was found necessary to abolish it because of the lack of men to man the camps and the need to use money in the war program.

The WPA has been drastically reduced for the same reasons. Many believe that it should have gone the way of the CCC.

With the exception of training for war work, the NYA has been laid aside. No one argues that these agencies did not do beneficial work.

But the point is: The money and men needed to man these agencies are needed in the drive for early victory over the axis. If we do not win this war, instead of

having humane agencies we will have the gestapo, black shirts and other fiendish groups whose policies would be dictated by Hitler.

Now we must sacrifice many things for the cause of victory, in order to make sure that we in later years, and that generations after us, may have the privilege of living an abundant life, replete with freedom and opportunity.

Borrowed Comment

Studying Inflation

(Statesville Daily Record)

President Roosevelt is making a study of inflation. This supposed to be in preparation for action in some form or other, perhaps a new executive order, perhaps recommendations to Congress, perhaps both.

With the fact-finding facilities at his disposal, the President will not have to rely upon what every man knows. And yet, we wonder what his researchers will produce other than elaborate upon a few fundamental sets of facts?

First, the factories that used to make consumer goods now are making armament and munitions and supplies for the fighting forces. To do this, they are employing every worker they can get.

Therefore we have more money but fewer consumer goods. This year, as a nation, we shall have close to 110 billion dollars of income, but not more than 70 billion dollars' worth of goods on which to spend it.

That leaves 40 billions for savings, including war bonds, for taxes and for inflation. Out of that 40 billions we can and will pay excessive prices for anything we want and can buy, unless Leon Henderson can keep prices down. That will not lead to inflation. That will be inflation.

Second, Mr. Henderson has imposed ceiling on almost everything. But not on farm products and not on wages.

Third, prices already are very high. Paced by the sprint in agricultural commodities, the most recent basic commodity price index of the Labor Department shows that prices generally have risen more than two-thirds since August, 1939.

Fourth, the wages paid to workers—whether computed hourly, daily, weekly or yearly—are at an all-time high. Almost no group has failed to profit from this. The War Labor Board has set 15 per cent above the level of January 1, 1941, as the point at which wages are to be pegged.

Fifth, all these and other economic developments are based upon efforts to maintain the American standard of living, and it possible to improve it. But we can't do that until we have beaten Hitler. The standard of living depends upon usable goods, not on paper or metal bearing mystic symbols imprinted by the Treasury. The goods with which to maintain our standard of living do not exist, and cannot be manufactured so long as we are fighting the Axis.

In the words of a man who should know: "Our standard of living will have to come down." Who said that? President Roosevelt.

TRANSPORT PLANES

(Oxford Public Ledger)

Ranking military and aircraft authorities are advocating the construction of large transport planes for use in ferrying supplies to troops in outlying posts.

The airplane, developed to its present usefulness in the field of transportation and as a combat machine in less than 35 years, has possibilities in cutting distances and bringing the world closer together than yet has been imagined.

Airplanes are faster, they can deliver their loads quicker than trains or ships and they have been perfected to the point that they are relatively safe and dependable. Their range has been increased until the destination is almost a matter of choice.

Initial tests of planes designed and constructed for use in carrying military supplies of all varieties have demonstrated their worth, and so the next major undertaking is preparing the factories and securing the material for the construction of these sky-giants.

As Tokyo's warehouses bulge with silk and the shoddy uniforms of the soldiery are hard to explain. One would expect Japan to be the best dressed pauper in the war.—Detroit News.

According to a current writer thousands are engaged in trying to solve the transportation problem. In some cases, no doubt, it may be worked out by rule of thumb.—Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch.

Abnormal Absurdities

By DWIGHT NICHOLS, et al.

GOOD NEWS! WAR WILL END IN SIX MONTHS

We hadn't believed it until Friday, but there can be no mistake about it now. The war is to be over in six months!

A certain young man was drafted last month, and that certain young man had never been on a job more than six months in his life. Being drafted means being in the army for the duration of the war.

If that does not mean that the war will be over in six months, what does?

IRONCLAD POTATOES

The inimitable W. G. Harrison, who formerly fixed typewriters, adding machines, etc., and did some magistrating here and who now lives at Lansing in Ashe county, has written us that he is growing ironclad potatoes, presumably for national defense.

We quote his letter: "Owing to existing circumstances over which I have no control, under our present crisis and the rationing of commodities necessary to our existence to the welfare of the human family, we are not only complying with our nation's rulings, but, have resorted to the raising of iron-clad potatoes, allowing nature to assist in our efforts to comply with the rulings of our country's leaders."

"I enclose herewith specimen of our product that you may see that I am not trying to hand you fish, but the real potato as proof of nature's help in our efforts."

"Should you want seed of this special potato, kindly notify me at this place and I will be glad to help you out in potatoes, raised in my garden, but no tires or gas or sugar as yet as I have not completed harvesting my crops. I am living in hopes that I may find all that I am looking for."

"Now Dwight, you tell one and prove it, this is the very best I can do this time."

"P.S. This is an Ashe county product. (exclusive)"

The enclosure with the letter was a sure enough ironclad potato. An Irish potato had grown within a coil of heavy wire.

An unobtrusive gentleman in the museum was gazing rapturously at a huge oil painting of a shapely girl dressed in only a few strategically arranged leaves. The title of the picture was "Spring." Suddenly the voice of his wife, snapped "Well, what are you waiting for: Autumn?"

IS A FRIEND OF YOURS GETTING MARRIED?

Instead of the aluminum, kitchen, or various other showers in vogue before the war, the "smart" event today is a war savings bond or stamp shower. Actually you'll be giving two gifts—one for the shower and one that will net the couple dividends on their "tin anniversary." Ten years from now they can cash in their bonds.

The steel in a one hand corn-sheller would make three six-inch shells.

Farmers May Get Wheat Insurance

Wheat insurance is available to the farmers in Wilkes county for the year 1943. This wheat insurance provides protection for farmers against loss in yield of wheat caused by drought, flood, hail, wind, frost, winter-kill, lightning, fire, tornado, storm, insect infestation, animal pests, plant diseases, excess or deficient moisture, incursions of animals, and other unavoidable causes not specifically mentioned herein, and guarantees 75 per cent of the normal yield.

It is the understanding that the cost of this insurance will be only approximately 0.4 bushel per acre, or about 50c per acre, at the present price of wheat. This can be deducted from the soil-building payment.

Wheat growers who are interested in this insurance are urged to contact their local committee-man or the County AAA office.

Panama Canal Call For Skilled Workers

The expanding program at Panama Canal has created an even greater demand for skilled workers, the Fourth United States, Civil Service District announced today. Once again the call has been issued for Boat-builders, Boiler-makers, Copper-smiths, Machinists, Rive'ers, Ship'nters and Shipwrights to fill important vacancies in the canal zone.

The pay ranges from \$1.48 to \$1.52 per hour with time and a half for overtime. Healthful living quarters are furnished at reasonable prices and meals are temporarily obtained at government operated restaurants. Room and board should not exceed \$50 or \$60 per month. In addition employees are given transportation from the point of residence to the canal.

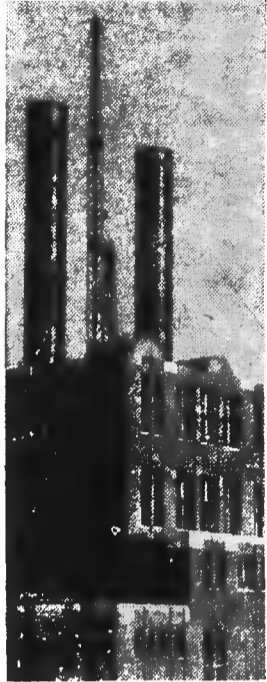
All qualified workers, in good health, may now patriotically give their skilled services to the War Effort. Apply to the Secretary, Local Board of United States Civil Service Examiners, or the Manager, Fourth United States Civil Service District, 920 F St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Nazis can buy only bread that is four days old — because the harvest is uncertain.

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THURSDAY FRIDAY

EXTRAS: "THE BOMBER" "THE VENDETTA" "The Bowling Alley Cat" Cartoon TODAY

Liberty