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EDITORIALS

The Passing Show Of '43

DESTROYING GERMANY

Old George B. Shaw was the only man in the world that knew the power and the fighting ability of Russia.

When the Germans began the attack on Russia the opinion in Europe as well as in America was that the Huns would get a decision in six weeks. Old George Shaw, the 89-year-old Irish playwright, historian, philosopher, cynic, laughed.

He said Germany would be destroyed by Russia.

The great panzer divisions composed of the finest equipped and the most completely trained troops in the world swept everything before them.

Town after town, city after city, crumbled under the wheels of the giant German tanks, while in the air fleets of bombers pulverized all opposition.

Then they stopped.

Now after nearly two years the German armies, short more than a million men, are flying headlong back toward the German borders, broken and bleeding.

Since the last issue of the Reporter, the two largest bastions of the German lines have been smashed. Rostov and Kharkov are in the hands of the Russians.

Five Russian armies are blasting at the retreating foe, who leaves behind his dead with unmeasured material and supplies.

A newspaper correspondent at the front describes a "dead city" he saw. It was a city of 9,000 tanks and trucks abandoned by the Huns in their wild scramble for safety, and scattered around on the snow were thousands of Hun corpses.

Maybe old George knew what he was talking about. Germany is being destroyed.

ROOSEVELT AND THE CLIQUE

Since the increased Republican votes have come to congress out of the late election, the anti-Roosevelt faction is in the saddle. The President no longer has much influence in the body because Democratic "haters" by hooking up with the Republicans have got the dead wood on him.

No matter what measure Roosevelt recommends, just so he wants it, it is beaten.

The Republicans of course vote en bloc. The "haters" join them.

Here's samples:

The President offered request for 100 millions for incentive payments for farmers. Defeated by the clique.

The President nominated Edward J. Flynn as minister to Australia. Had to withdraw it, under pressure of the clique.

The President wanted top salaries limited to \$25,000 after taxes. Defeated by the clique.

The National Resources Planning Board was put in the appropriation bill by the President. Defeated by the clique.

Who constitutes the clique? All the Republicans, plus Wheeler, Clark, Smith, Reynolds, Byrd, etc.

THE TUNISIAN TRAGEDY

Mistakes can be forgiven everywhere except in battle.

There can be no alibi for failure when men's lives have to pay the bill.

Eisenhower is doubtless a great general. But somebody erred in Tunisia, and there is nobody that the blame can be fixed upon except the chief commander.

We know that the American boys are as brave as any soldiers in the world. They went where sent, not deigning to reason why, only to do and die.

The press reports say the Germans were able to hurl against our lines two divisions to our one, and panzers equipped with superior tanks.

If so, why?

If the forces the Allies have in Africa number 500,000 men, while the Germans number only 130,000, why should our forces be overwhelmed with a blitz twice their own power?

If there were super-tanks hurled by the enemy, why did we not have super-tanks to meet them?

If our boys were swamped with a surprise movement, why should our high command have been surprised?

Napoleon Bonaparte was the world's most successful tactician. If he figured 100 guns would be needed to do the job, he would use 500.

Overplus is pardoned, but underplus never.

General N. B. Forrest's slogan was: "Get there first with the most men."

Three Union generals converged to defeat Stonewall Jackson, whose army numbered less than a third of the enemy. But he defeated all three foes at Harper's Ferry.

Lack of initiative, foresight and preparation are fatal.

There must be no repetition of Pearl Harbor, and Tunisia.

There is no excuse for failure.

RATIONING PAPER

And now rationing hits the newspapers.

The supply of paper is scarce and growing scarcer every week on account of the shipping shortage.

The government is making regulations that will seriously affect every newspaper—great and small.

HOW TO BEAT THE BULLETS

In the long run, food will win over bullets.

Never in the history of this country has it been so imperative that we grow plenty of food of all kinds—wheat, corn, meat, potatoes, beans, peas, tomatoes and all that sort of thing.

They are talking it around in some quarters that if we don't raise it, we won't eat.

Manpower will be scarce in Stokes this year, but we believe that just the same the greatest food ever before will be gathered next fall.

The armies can't fight on empty stomachs—remember that.

THE ROCK OF ALL THE AGES

More Bibles and Testaments were printed by the American Bible Society last year than any year in the 127 years of its publishing existence. In 10 months alone it turned out 8,000,000. At one of its plants at Crawfordsville, Ind., for the last seven months the presses have been printing 10,000 Testaments a day.

Now the Christian government of the United States is putting a copy of the scripture in the hands of every boy who goes into the service, free.

Sinclair Lewis lately spoke intentionally opprobriously of the South as the "Bible Belt"

Mr. Lewis doubtless was ignorant that he was doing the South an immeasurable honor.

What kind of "Belt" would this irresponsible scoffer call Germany, Italy and Japan?

Scurrilous pulp writers like Lewis are responsible for most of the affected materialism with which many weak minds are infected. A weak mind often rejects what it can't understand.

The finite intelligence cannot fathom the radio, but it knows the enlightenment comes from somewhere. We cannot differentiate the violet and the rose, but we enjoy their wonderful beauties. Out in the illimitable spaces the morning stars sing together. There is harmony and peace. Science and religion go down the world hand in hand.

Old Voltaire, Rousseau, Tom Paine are dead, their volumes covered with dust. Unread except by those who are wise in their own pitiful ego.

The skeptics tried to destroy faith, with nothing to give in its place. Their criticisms were like ephemeral foam dashed at the base of the Great Rock, and then dissipated into the sea of eternity.

Bob Ingersoll was a smart Illinois lawyer who pitted himself against the judgment of the centuries. He died laughed at, as a buffoon who goes off the stage.

The last seen of Elbert Hubbard was when he and his co-atheist wife arm in arm staggered in horror across the sinking deck of the Lusitania.

For twenty centuries the Bible has stood the test. It is a safe guide for those who live and the one consolation for those who die.

It was the ever-ready companion and helpmeet for Gladstone, George Washington, Lincoln, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt.

When its detractors are forgotten in the oblivion of the countless centuries, it will still stand in its beauty and strength, the immutable and immovable Rock of All the Ages.

TRIBUTE PAID BY HUNS TO THEIR MOLOCH

The "superior race" called German pays an appalling price to its moloch—War.

In World War No. 1 the German losses were 4,259,000.

Now, according to the New York Times, the German loss is more than 4,000,000.

The Russians are exacting a staggering tribute from the Huns. Every day the figure of fatalities grows more sickening.

And the great powers of America and England are just whetting their knives.

The German people who backed the Kaiser and are now backing the wild man Hitler will strangle on the ashes of their roses.