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Editorial Slant On the News

LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED

If you are gloomy over the bending of the Russian lines, and the present unlikely situation of the United Nations, recall March, 1918, when the world was trembling as Hun armies after 4 years of unbroken victories were crashing towards the channel ports.

France was bled white, England had lost the flower of her soldiery and was enlisting 60-year-old men for service.

Yet—look you—ninety days later the onrushing Germans were reeling, and six months later asked for the armistice.

American divisions were blasting through the Argonne forest and crossing the Hindenburg line, and soon it was all over but the shouting.

America, destined then as now the savior of liberty, has been at war only six months.

At the outset treacherously attacked, heinously unprepared, surprised and unready, this nation was not war minded.

Today an army of 4,000,000 men grows steadily and trains methodically.

With a navy strongest in the world, with an air force increased by 5,000 planes a month, with a steel production of 97,000,000 tons, twice as big as all Europe's production including Japan's, with manpower practically untouched, with unlimited food supplies, America has not yet thrown its colossal resources into the balance.

Russia's armies are slowly retreating but are intact. Russia's resources beyond the Urals are waiting. Russian manpower is far greater than Germany's.

Fourteen months ago Hitler was given 3 weeks to conquer Russia, taking Leningrad and Moscow.

Leningrad and Moscow have not yet been taken. Unconquerable Russia reels but does not fall, and never surrenders. As the enemy creeps forward he pays in unmeasured blood and unnumbered dead and wounded.

England has suffered defeats on many fronts, but yet no English land is occupied by the foe. The great British fleet still rides the waves. The great British air force daily and nightly blasts German industries. British manpower is still practically unused.

The resources of the axis are at their peak. Germany has shot its bolt, and it falls short. The conquered populations of France, Poland Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece, are yet unconquered, and await the day to rise to the help of the armies battling for freedom.

Hitler and his co-assassins will meet the fate that a God of justice holds for those who would enslave their fellow man and plunge the world into agony, tears and blood.

Alexander, Caesar and Napoleon rode toward world victory through seas of stiffened corpses.

They never reached their goals.

Today these tyrants sleep beneath the dust of the centuries and their empires have crumbled into the oblivion of forgotten ages.

The time is drawing near for the turn of the tide against Germany, and it will be a crimson tide of destruction—burning, resistless, inexorable.

Let no American heart grow weak in this day of disaster.

Behind the dark cloud the sun of victory and freedom is shining.

Soon it will burst forth in its brilliance and beauty and healing.

THE STUPENDOUS INCOME OF THE UNITED STATES

The Commerce Department Tuesday issued an announcement that the first half of the present year showed an American income of more than 52 billions of dollars, and that as the latter half always exceeds the first six months, the year 1942 will probably show an income of far more than 105 billions.

The yearly earning power of this nation therefore overtops the entire national debt.

If the government is on the brink of bankruptcy, as some would predict, expenditures far beyond even war costs must be incurred.

GERMAN SPIES SHOULD BE SHOWN NO QUARTER

With our boys going to the front to risk their lives on every battle front to save the liberties of this nation, a short shrift and no quarter should be accorded the German spies.

The President is reviewing the case of the eight saboteurs caught with the goods.

The people have already considered the case. Their verdict is the firing squad.

The atmosphere of this free land is too pure to be poisoned by the breath of German spies.

Let them meet the fate which would be certain if they were Americans caught spying in Germany.

AUTUMN AUGURIES

There's a saffron tint in the poplars, the katydids have come, and early corn is hardening in the sheath.

Squirrels chatter in the big hickory woods, the owl hoots from the dead pine as he winks at the moon, and ribaldry floats down the valley echoing from the tobacco barn on the ridge where the night vigil is kept over the sweet commodity that coaxes in the cash—atta boy!

In the weeds that grow in the stubble by the leaf-dyed stream that ever chants its lullaby, apricots are ripe. Muscadines blush in the vine-entangled thicket. Young rabbits, getting grown and bold, gambol in open places. The rattlesnake that lies where grazing cattle tread, whose hate is turned on everything and whose bite is swifter than light, is still blind. Look out for him.

August is the hinge on which the year turns toward Autumn, the season of melancholy and memories.

BIG INCREASE IN CIGARETTE PRODUCTION

The Department of Agriculture this week forecasts a big increase in cigarette production.

Thanks to wise government control of production in response to the wise request of the growers themselves, and thanks to the wise provisions of lend-lease demands from Europe, the position of the tobacco farmer is highly favorable.

The markets in this belt soon to open for the purchase of an excellent crop, will scatter a prosperity around second only to the golden eras of 1918-1919-1920.

BORDER BELT MARKETS OPEN WITH PRICES STILL HIGHER

The 16 tobacco markets of the Carolinas border belt opened yesterday with prices \$4.50 to \$16.25 higher than last year's opening.

The U. S. Agriculture Department says the prices are at the highest levels for years.

VICTORY THROUGH AIR POWER

In his book "Victory Through Air Power," and later in articles published in the newspapers and magazines, Major Seversky shows that victory may come quickly to the United Nations when they control the air.

Seversky says fleets of warships are out of date and that the battleship is obsolete.

These great machines which require two or three years to build and which cost around 100 million dollars each, are helpless against land-based planes.

It is noted that the government has slowed up on battleships, and has adopted instead a program of airplane carriers.

The writer says this policy is wrong, that the carriers themselves are also helpless against the land-based plane.

Seversky advocates huge planes that can fly to Germany and back home without refueling—land-based machines that carry tremendous loads of bombs and are capable of great speed and power.

He proves his case by showing that while Germany has practically no navy, yet the great navies of Britain and America cannot approach the German-held coasts for fear of the land-based German planes.

In the war so far, he points out, practically all the warships of Germany and Japan that have been sunk by England and America were the victims of airplanes.

Somebody has said that the only thing the battleship has done in this war was to sink.

This newspaper has always believed that the salvation of this nation is the airplane, and more than three years before this war started, advocated the building of 100,000 of the finest and best planes in the world.

At that time Congress was humming and hawing over a program to produce "3,500 planes by 1942"—in the then distant future.

Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Borah, Mr. Johnson of California, Mr. Vandenberg, Mr. Reynolds of North Carolina, and various other isolationists in the Senate—men without vision or guts—were bitterly fighting every gesture toward sea, land or air preparation.

Wheeler declared later—and was vociferously applauded—that if Germany could not reach England across 30 or 40 miles of channel, how foolish to fear she could ever reach America.

When victory comes to the United Nations it will come on the wings of an invincible air power.

STOKES FARMERS DOING THEIR PART TO WIN THE WAR

In the long run food wins wars. It is the urgent desire of the government that ample supplies of food be raised, as this country will have to feed the great armies now being trained as well as supply in a large degree the people of other countries.

The farmers of Stokes county are doing their part loyally, and rarely if ever before have there been such crops of wheat, corn and vegetables of all kinds produced in this county.

Incorrect Date