

THE PILOT

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ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONS - - - WHAT CAN I DO?

The following essay, one of the finest articles of its kind that has come to our attention, was written by an American soldier and was the prize winner in a contest open to both British and American soldiers.

"I'm strictly a G. I. Joe, patiently working and longing for the day that this war is over and the lights go on in Times Square and in Piccadilly Circus.

"There will come a day when all G. I. Joes will be returning home to their Josephines, back to the bustling city, or the quiet spot in the country; back to Bangor, Me. or Bellaire, Ohio, or Burbank, Calif.

"After this war we'll probably say that we have had more than our share. Just like the boys of '17, we'll say, 'God keep us from another one.'

"Mere wishes and soft words will not be enough. Isolationism will be just a memory after this war, what with airplanes, radio and television. Unity between countries will be necessary for us to survive, just as unity among the states is necessary for the United States to survive.

"We shall have to enlarge our thinking and to revise our geography books. We shall have to know the countries of the world as we now know our states. We shall have to get along with the British, just as the North Carolinians get along with the South Carolinians, the Ohioans with the West Virginians.

"For in unity with the British, and other countries as well, there will be strength and the force to prevent another war. The sooner this realization comes to all of us, the more substantial will be our plans for lasting peace.

"As for what I can do to achieve this aim, I know that I am going to appoint myself as a committee of one (and this I urge every other American in this country to do) to maintain and expand my relations with the British.

"No matter how you may feel about the British, or whether you criticize this and that about them, this one convincing fact remains: 'In the final analysis, and taking all things into consideration, the British are far kinder to us than we are to them.'

"This has been demonstrated to me on numerous occasions. Once, in a Midlands town in the dark of early morning, a work-bound villager walked three blocks out of his way to direct me to a railway station during the blackout.

In London, I asked a British soldier walking in the opposite direction to tell me where a certain hotel was. He did better than that. Over my protests he turned about and walked me to the hotel and pointed to the door. These were several instances in which 'You Cawn't miss it' were true, for in each case I was taken to the very door of the establishment I was seeking.

"Another time I was on a train from Liverpool to London when one Englishman gave me his morning paper as he left the train at the first stop. I protested that he had not read it, but he simply said, 'You have a long way to go, and nothing to read.' With that he was gone, but he left behind a grateful and respectful Yank.

"I am a newspaper reporter, and I expect to tell what readers I have about the British. In fact, I started doing these things long ago. It's not a case of waiting until the war is over it's a matter of starting now!

"I, as an American citizen with a hand in the control of our government, am going to advocate anything that will enable the English to know us better or vice versa.

I am going to propose, or get behind the first man who does, a system whereby thousands of English students can come to America for a year of study while thousands of ours go to England.

"This will accomplish wonders. Even now, Americans who have met Royal Air Force men in training in the United States rave about what grand boys they are and how fine it is that they have come to America to know us a bit better. God grant that the Yanks over here are leaving as favorable an impression with the folks that we meet here.

"I am going to argue with anyone who runs down the British, because I think he is wrong. Sure, the British talk 'funny' to us. They have words and expressions that we never heard of; but until we reached England they had never heard some of our own 'funny' talk, such as 'put it on the cuff.' 'I'll take a raincheck on it,' and even 'candy'.

"My angle is this. If all of us sit down and realize, calmly and sanely just what we're up against in getting a lasting peace, then we'll want to maintain good relations everywhere. And we might as well start working on that resolve right now.

"There are and have been, hundreds of thousands of Yanks here. Every single one of them is an ambassador, and when he returns home he can do a lot of good by simply telling the truth—how well we were treated.

"He can go home and gripe about not getting candy at the shops, or about eating too much mutton, or not having ice cream; but he should realize that he is being unfair and harsh if he does that. And he is not thinking.

"England is only seven minutes away from the nearest German bombers. England has been battered, and has proven that she can take it—and dish it out, as well.

"America loves that quality in everybody. The English have it. So do we.

"The English eagerly want to get along with us. We really want to get along with them. So let's start. Not tomorrow, or even when the war's over, but RIGHT NOW.

"United, after this war England and America can keep any country in the world from getting war-ambitious. That means lasting peace, and that is why we are here, and it is why we are not through with our job when we get home."

GRAINS OF SAND

Negroes are asking to be allowed in professional baseball.

The magnates say there is no rule keeping them out— A phony answer. Better tell them they aren't welcome and why.

The problem of the negro in baseball won't be easy to solve— Especially when the club is travelling.

But until it is solved— We can't quite claim the game is the national pastime.

Someday it will be solved, And baseball will have negroes— And some of them will equal Jesse Owens, the Midnight Express, and Joe Louis, the Brown Bomber— In skill and popularity.

Nelson Hyde, former editor of this information sheet but now holding forth on the staff of the Evening Bulletin, Philadelphia, writes THE PILOT:

"I expect to be down for a couple of days at Christmas time, so will see you.

"I want to find out if Wallace Irwin is paid \$2.50 in real cash money— "Or in a credit on Dorn's or Patch's.

Things have changed, so I don't know about these things.

On Monday, December 13th, 13 cases were tried in Moore County Recorder's Court.

The Public Speaking

To the Editor: I don't like letters, but they are the only means of comment on so many-sided a subject as "Army Invasion" without causing an immediate interruption, argument or fight.

As one who tried, and gave up, I feel able to remark with understanding and impersonal feeling on conditions arising with the great number of soldier dependents arriving every day in this small town.

We feel a wish to welcome them, we are sorry that the town does not offer them accommodations according to their needs and desires, we sympathize very much with them for wanting to be with their husbands, we stand aside in grocery stores to let a stranger in town be taken care of. We send less to cleaners because of the tremendous extra amount put on two small establishments, that used to care for us well and comfortably.

We reduce our laundry, not to burden the small business that was ample for our requirements. We are glad to take milk every other day and half the amount we need because so many more people must be served by the same source of supply.

We are asked to open our extra room space to let people have homes. The amount of rent asked barely covers expenses of giving the use of our personal things and the extra cost of each added person in a house. Damages are not paid for and extra privileges are asked and given.

It is war time and we must help, but is help all one way? The expressions are heard often, "you don't understand" and "we, in the army" and references made to "you" and "us" as two opposite groups. I wonder if these people do not know that we have our boys at far off places and many at the front, that makes us anxious to give to those still here all the comfort we can.

The town is crowded, and demands are insistent for service and places to live and eat. The prices asked by restaurants and for rooms is small for what is expected and available. Now there seems to be agitation to lower the amount that can be asked for a room or apartment. But the cost of each extra person in a house is barely covered already and sometimes more than the amount paid—and the house owners' expenses have risen but army pay is not reduced.

Some people would like to know what advantage to the town it will be to lower the rents and let a greater number of people come in;—and where will they eat? and how will their needs be supplied?

The one way to remedy the overcrowding is to make the cost of a room to live in higher, so that fewer people will travel to towns without facilities to care for them and so reduce the dining room congestion.

tion, the over work of laundry and cleaners and grocers, to say nothing of maternity wards and A. B. Cs.

If families must come to where the men are training, it should be under army regulation and allowance, and no family should move without permission, when suitable accommodations are guaranteed either in government run hotels or apartment houses for army use. But if someone should prefer living in a private home and can afford that luxury then let them arrange such, according to what is at hand. And so eliminate the conditions meeting poor uninformed discouraged people arriving in a small country town with no place to go—as well as letting up on the uncertain, crowded and hazardous train rides.

A personal aspect comes up, when comparison is made of the renters' ability to pay for what they get in relation to the kind of place where they are willing to live, and the cost of upkeep and desirability of the place that is offered to rent.

But when those whose homes are "invaded" ask the lowest possible amount that will cover extra cost of having increased number of people living in their house, see these same people out-laying money for large amounts of liquor, cokes and smokes, clothes and gasoline, all of which are restricted or denied Southern Pines people because they are "not in the army"—the home people are inclined to reserve their hospitality for family and personal friends only.

But in reality, our own boys are much more "in the army" than these who are still at home, though we enjoy none of the special privileges that our overnight visitors have.

So why is it necessary or even advisable to take from him who hath not and give to him who already hath—and make it impossible for the people with a home and no money to entertain visitors who want a home and can and are willing to pay for value received.

Signed— Anna B. Prizer

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The pause for people on-the-go DRINK Coca-Cola 5¢ BOTTLED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY BY COCA-COLA BOTTLING CO., ABERDEEN, N. C.

Sunrise Theatre SOUTHERN PINES, N. C. Shows Nightly at 7:30 and 9:15 P. M. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 Saturday, Dec. 18 This is a new picture. We won't know the name or who is the Star player until Saturday. Sunday, Dec. 19 Warner Baxter and Margaret Lindsay in "CRIME DOCTOR" Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 20, 21 Lum and Abner in "SO THIS IS WASHINGTON" Wednesday, Dec 22 Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake in "IT'S A GREAT LIFE" Thursday and Friday, Dec. 23, 24 Edward G. Robinson and Marguerite Chapman in "DESTROYER"

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