

THE EAGLE

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PLEASANTER MARCH 15THS

The best sign that something will be done about simplifying income tax reports was the disclosure by The Associated Press that Washington's leading tax man—Chairman Doughton of the House Ways and Means Committee—had to engage an expert to make out his September 15 return.

It is a relief to most of us, who couldn't make heads or tails of that September 15 tax blank, to realize that the man who had most to do with inventing it agrees it is beyond understanding. For if Mr. Doughton himself had to call in an expert, the Treasury can hardly blame us poor laymen if the figures we submitted are out of line.

Another good sign is that Chairman George of the Senate finance committee, after viewing the Treasury's proposed blank for our final report in March, sent it back to the Treasury with the recommendation that it be made more understandable.

There are probably many new income tax complications in store for us, but it is encouraging to know that the men in the driver's seat are beginning to talk about simplification. If the trend keeps us, there may be a March 15 in the distant future when we will be able to figure out what we owe the government by common arithmetic instead of by pure guess-work.

LITTLE THUGS COUNT

If we turn up the heat in our homes on a cold day, or leave an electric light burning over night, or drive the car a few more miles than we have to, the waste may appear so insignificant that it isn't worth a second thought.

But actually it is just those little things which may prevent maximum war production. For we must think of such conservation in terms of the cooperation of millions of homes—not just ours.

It is estimated, for example, that by a reasonably economic use of coal for heating in all homes, there would be a saving of over 20,000,000 tons annually; a 10 per cent reduction in domestic and commercial use of electricity would save over 4,000,000 tons of coal and more than 75 million lamp bulbs, and a 10 per cent reduction in the use of manufactured gas would save over 1,000,000 barrels of fuel oil.

Right now the government is carrying on a conservation program in which we are urged to cut down our use of coal, oil and electricity as well as of gas, the telephone, water and oil items related to transportation. The facilities are the life blood of war industry.

There cannot be too much policing or rationing of the use of these items, so it is up to us to conserve them voluntarily. If we burn a little less light at night, turn down the heat a couple of degrees, only use the car when we have to and refrain from making that long distance phone call we had in mind, that's about all there is to it for us. But to the industry it's a matter of production life or death.

The Federal government has been spending millions of dollars building power dams, ostensibly for flood control, navigation and irrigation—with electric power development by the government a "by-product" of such projects.

Time has proved, however, that the dams were primarily to create a gigantic government owned electric power system. The flood in Oklahoma last spring exposed the fallacy of "flood control" as an argument for power dams.

Elmer T. Peterson has an article in the Saturday Evening Post of August 21, entitled, "Floods are unnecessary." Accompanied by Hugh H. Bennett, Chief of the United States Soil Conservation Service, Mr. Peterson toured the flood ravaged areas in Oklahoma and Arkansas. The outstanding point of his article is that water must be controlled locally on the land where rain falls, before it runs off causing erosion and floods. Control is accomplished in numerous ways—by countless little dams; by terraces that follow slope levels; by thick-growing vegetation in strip crops, always at right angles to slopes; by solid fields of farm crops that erect billions of tiny dams made of roots. These are but samples of the scientific practices which have proved wholly effective in preventing of floods by holding water where it falls.

At the confluence of the Grand, Verdigris and Arkansas rivers, said Mr. Peterson, "the awful evidence of the flood prompted me to ask why the \$25,000,000 Pensacola dam on the Grand, which had been promoted as a combined flood control and power project, had failed so completely in controlling the flood. The people of Oklahoma and Arizona had been told that the dam would go far toward controlling floods. But the facts as brought out by such spokesmen as R. N. Graham of the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce show that the Grand river furnished half of the 670,000-second-foot flood crest at Muscogee because, when the flood hit its Pensacola dam the reservoir was practically full—the controversy boiled down to the proposition that it takes a full reservoir to produce power, whereas, it takes an empty reservoir to protect the lower valley from floods. The Federal managers of the dam wanted to keep it full, so it could produce power when the flood came it was necessary to open the gates immediately and the raging Grand river produced a flood in its lower valley and in the Arkansas river as if there had been no dam at all."

Mr. Bennett explained that so-called flood control, which permits soil erosion, will fill all dams with silt so they will be useless in from 25 to 50 years.

An Unbeatable Team



ABOVE the HULLABALOO



OVERCONFIDENCE

Overconfidence has probably lost as many battles and wars as any other contributing factor. Hitler was so sure he could invade England at any time after Dunkirk which was convenient to him, that he put off the attempt until it was too late and thereby probably lost the war. He was so sure he could put Russia out of business that—according to hearsay—he overrode the advice of his general staff and committed practically the same error which defeated Napoleon. Overconfidence was probably a contributing cause in the loss of Singapore; and there is reason to believe that the lack of caution it engenders made possible the success of the Japanese assault on Pearl Harbor. Military history abounds in tragedies, collapses and defeats caused by the fatal disease called OVERCONFIDENCE.

President Roosevelt in a recent message to congress on the progress of the war warning continually of the danger of thinking the war is won—or nearly won. The President has as profound a knowledge of history as almost anyone who is not a professional historian, and when he warns us that we could lose all the advantages which we have so far won in this struggle—he knows what he is talking about. His knowledge of the past proves to him that wars have been frequently lengthened or lost by the feeling of assurance of one side or the other that the battle was won. He knows that hundreds of thousands of added lives have been claimed by the military holocausts of the past because of the relaxation created by the feeling that "we can't lose now."

We have never heard the President crow about how we are driving the Germans and Japs off the face of the earth, because he knows how fatal to our cause this attitude can be. It is almost frightening by contrast to listen to some few of the radio commentators who declaim about the computations of some of the "Allied blastings." Judging by most optimistic of our blasters, there cannot possibly be a German or a Jap still alive—and certainly they have no airplanes left. As we read and listen to this wishful thinking it becomes difficult to forego the pleasant feeling that it is safe for us to relax a bit, on the home front, because, "it won't be long now." Well, that is just exactly how

OVERCONFIDENCE

the Nazis felt after Dunkirk when France had been knocked out, and Britain had her back to the wall. That feeling—and the little conceit that they could overrun Russia and later swallow the British Isles—may have lost the war for them—provided—lost the profit by their lesson, and the other thousand lessons of military history.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau doesn't mince words about overconfidence and the resultant relaxation he calls it: "this foolish, childish overoptimism." He warns that the attack on Italy is only the "beginning of the war" as far as the United States is concerned and states that if and when we conquer Italy we will still be nowhere near Germany. He lists the Allied material losses in Sicily as high—in some cases—as 54 per cent.

If we are to make certain of winning this war within a reasonable time we have got to keep punching our hardest right now while we have the initiative in our hands. If we let the enemy catch his breath for one little moment the struggle can drag along interminably. Our soldiers provide the money to buy the will do the punching if we will weapons with which to punch.

To the People of this Community:

DRIVE DEPENDS ON YOU!

Would you take a free ride on a wounded soldier's back? That's exactly what you would be doing if you did not do your duty in the Third War Loan.

Your idle weight would be felt by him on the battlefield. Every civilian counts in this kind of war. Every civilian must make his energy and his dollars work for victory.

Keep in mind that while our national goal in this drive is 15 billions of dollars, this money is being borrowed from you and you. You are, as an individual, the deciding factor as to whether we reach this goal. An extra \$100 War Bond becomes an extra rifle, extra bullets and extra fighting power of every type.

THE EDITOR

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D. C. (CNWS)

—Although the new session of Congress faces many gigantic tasks, so far congressmen have shown more interest in revising taxes than in any other one subject. This undoubtedly results from the interest in this subject shown by the "home folks" who are said to have complained about the tax setup every time they got the ear of a congressman during the congressional recess.

At the time congressmen were preparing to return to Washington and making last-minute checkups of the sentiments of their constituents, the constituents were busy trying to figure out the tax report which they were supposed to file by September 15. It was therefore the subject uppermost in the minds of most people during those last few days of having a congressman on the home grounds. There fore when the congressmen returned to Washington they were full of that subject and immediately urged their friends on the mittes to hurry up and simplify House and Senate finance committee tax program.

Consequently, before congress had been in session a week, Senator George, head of the Senate finance committee, and Representative Doughton, head of the House finance committee, went to work planning on planning or simplifications and asked the Treasury to help. What will result is still uncertain, but one almost sure change will be the combining of the regular tax with the Victory tax.

Although the Treasury seems to agree that simplification is in order, it is more interested in the passage of additional taxation. The President has asked for enough additional taxes to bring in an extra 12 billion dollars next year, but statements by Senator George and Representative Doughton make it seem unlikely that taxes will be raised to that extent—an increase of almost 33 per cent in the total amount of revenue now obtained through all forms of taxation. Mr. George predicts that five billion more is about as much as congress will agree to raise through additional taxes. It also seems unlikely that new taxes will be enacted before the end of the year, although they will be expected to apply to next year's income.

Some plan for the mandatory purchase of war bonds is still in the wind, but the success of the Third War Loan drive has forced the Treasury cool to any forced savings plan. So long as it finds

Battlefront of Sacrifice Is Urged Upon U. S. Women to Aid 3rd War Loan Drive

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The women of America are going all-out to make a success of the Third War Loan Drive—"Back the Attack" to the limit. For weeks they have been organizing to do their share toward raising the Treasury's unprecedented goal of 15 billion dollars in War Bond sales to non-banking investors.

In order to lay the groundwork for this intensive organization far enough in advance of the drive, Miss Harriet Elliott, Associate Field Director of the War Finance Division, in charge of women's activities, made a swing around the country during July. Regional conferences were held in Atlanta, Dallas, San Francisco, Denver, Cleveland and Boston.

"Women have been called to the battlefronts of sacrifice at a time when their brains, energies and money are most needed," says Miss Elliott. "Buy Bonds—by sacrifice," is the order of the day. If every woman in America would pledge herself to do without everything she possibly can, and carry out that pledge faithfully, she would make a genuine contribution to victory.

All groups of women are active in the drive. Many cities and counties are conducting Door-knocker canvasses and carrying

out other promotional campaigns to see that every individual in these United States is reached to buy an extra \$100 Bond in September. "It takes bench-to-bench, desk-to-desk, house-to-house, person-to-person contact to put over the job," Miss Elliott believes. United in this tremendous effort are women belonging to foreign origin groups of every nationality, Negro women, college girls, farm women, war workers, club women—professional, religious, industrial, cultural, educational, patriotic and social groups—in fact, women of every age, from every walk of life.

THE QUIET CORNER

"That we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all Godliness and Honesty"—I Tim. 2:2

By REV. WALTER E. ISENHOUR
Hiddenite, N. C.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

Perhaps few people realize the golden opportunities they have in life of doing good. Such opportunities are all about us. We do not have to hunt for them up and down the land, neither do we have to cross the seas and go into heather lands to find them. It is true that the heathen should have the Gospel, and we are to give of our money to support missionaries on the foreign fields, and help send others there, but we do not have to leave our shores to do good.

The fact is—there are golden opportunities for doing good at our own doors. Whenever we meet our fellowmen along life's pathway we are afforded the opportunity of helping them. They need our helping hand. The fields are broad and wide and filled with human lives and souls and the need of help physically, mentally, morally and spiritually is everywhere manifested. Jesus said, "The harvest truly is plentiful but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." Matt. 9:37, 38. This is a command we should not neglect. And as God sends forth laborers into His harvest fields we should re-

alize that they need our support, therefore, we are under as much obligation to support them as they are to go. Beloved, it's so.

If men would seek to do good as they do to work evil, what a wonderful world this would be to live in! Would it not be a marvelous thing if everybody would be seeking and searching for opportunities daily to do good? We would not find a beer joint, a liquor store nor a liquor distillery, nor a seller of the cursed stuff, nor a drinker of it through-out the length and breadth of the land. We would not find a jail house, a chaingang, a penitentiary nor an electric chair anywhere on the American soil, nor on earth, as for that matter. If everybody were seeking every opportunity to do good and not evil, there wouldn't be a divorcee known, as husbands and wives would love each other, be true to their marriage vows and be faithful to each other through sickness and health, poverty and wealth, tests and trials, according to their sacred solemn marriage vows, so long as they live. Amen.

If everybody would use their golden opportunities to do good and not evil, we wouldn't find sad hearts, broken lives, wretched homes, confused neighborhoods, depressed nations and a war-stricken world. Instead of men and nations preparing their great armies and munitions of warfare to kill and slay each other by millions, and to make battlefields red with precious human blood and bring poverty and disease and awful suffering and want upon each other, and in the meantime send countless multitudes of immortal souls to hell, they would be blessing each other, giving a helping hand, one to another, thus saving the lies and souls of each instead of destroying them. Ah, this is an everlasting truth! Why can't we see it?

Here is my motto: Do all the good you can, to all the people you can.

Many war industries also are complaining that they cannot give maximum production unless some plan is worked out whereby it is easier for them to get the giving serious thought to the necessary manpower. Congress is manpower problem and may yet decide to pass legislation for drafting men and women for war industries and for farming. But political experts here don't anticipate much action along this line until after the November election.

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BONDS or BONDAGE

It's Up To You

BONDS OVER AMERICA

"If they mean to have war, let it begin here," Capt. John Parker cautioned his 60 Minute-men on Lexington Green, just before they fired "the shot heard round the world."

Lexington Green



Czechs, Dutchmen, Danes, Frenchmen, Norsemen, now living under the Nazi heel, remember their freedom and cherish their lost memorials now replaced by the black swastika.

Back the Attack, Buy an Extra \$100 Bond