

# THE EAGLE

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1943

### DESERTERS, WHAT ELSE?

The head of the American Legion, in addressing labor leaders, said that a man who lays down his tools on a war job to strike is just as guilty of an act of treason as a soldier who deserts his post of duty.

Labor leaders bitterly assailed this viewpoint, but their arguments are unconvincing. Morally, it is no less treasonable for a man to throw down his tools which provide a soldier with equipment to fight than it is for the soldier to throw down his weapons and refuse to fight.

Strikes cannot justify desertion of war jobs. In leaving their posts, they are traitors to a common cause, even though they enjoy immunity from punishment such as would be meted out to a soldier who deserts.

### PLANNING THAT COUNTS

All the postwar planning in the world will collapse unless it can be financed by the people. That is why it is important for our people and our government to work out plans for private employment when the war-spending letdown inevitably comes.

Recognizing these facts, and knowing that distribution will play an indispensable part in the reconversion period, chain store executives, in order to give manufacturers something concrete upon which to base their postwar plans, are studying how to place orders at once for a large variety of staple items which they formerly sold in quantities and which they know they will be able to sell again. If every business and industry would plan in this manner, it would assure an orderly change to peacetime production and employment.

Chain Store Age says that large scale buyers take the attitude that "no matter what new products or new producers the postwar period brings, the pent-up demand for merchandise which was in general use before the war stopped its further production, will be great enough to absorb all the manufacturers can produce for many months, if not years, after they go into production on the old familiar models."

### SHIPS FOR FARMERS

To a farmer located miles from any seacoast, who has no difficulty in finding a market for his produce, it might seem a matter very little whether our nation does not have a big shipping industry after the war.

But actually the future prosperity of our whole farm population is probably on the activity of our postwar merchant marine. Today, our farmers are breaking production records each year. Because of Lend-Lease and the demands of our armed forces the supply of food is still not great enough to meet the demand.

But after the war, when our farmers will have all sorts of new machinery available and will be able to make this year's production look like nothing at all, the only way they will be able to profit by such production will be to have a bigger world market than ever before.

If we have ships to carry farm produce to all parts of the world the farmer is apt to enjoy a scale of living undreamed of in the past. But if we didn't have the ships — and are forced to depend on a domestic market—the farmer's prospect of a golden age will vanish into thin air.

### TAX JITTERS

Congressmen would all be much happier if they didn't have to do anything about a new tax bill this year. For any new taxes which they pass will apply in 1944—and 1944 as we all know, is a major election year.

But since it is fairly well agreed that more taxes are necessary to stave off inflation, the big question is what new taxes would be least destructive to voters.

The treasury department, after admitting that four-fifths of our national income now goes to people earning less than \$5,000 a year, offered a plan for putting most of the additional taxes on the other fifth. That might be considered smart politics—since the votes of the one-fifth are of minor importance—but even congress couldn't quite agree to an approach so totally lacking in subtlety.

A national sales tax—under which people would be taxed according to the amount of goods they purchase—was offered as a means of fairly distributing new taxation, but the labor leaders have made it clear that they will demand higher wages sufficient to pay the extra tax, if such a plan is adopted.

Of course, congress could pass a sales tax and, along with it, pass legislation to prevent wage increases and to forbid strikes for higher wages, but that would prove disastrous on election day.

The only solution we can see, which would be agreeable to all congressmen, is to tax babies, aliens and convicts who are not allowed to vote anyway.

—Buy War Savings Bonds—

## This Week in WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NWN'S)

—From what little information is released about it, the three-power conference in Russia seem to be doing a great deal toward cementing relations between Russia, Great Britain and the United States. But there is little doubt that the Russians feel they have played the lead role in the war so far and will want the head place at the peace table unless we do considerably more than we have done so far.

While the talks in Russia were proceeding, government officials here realized that Russians were following news from this country with greater interest than usual—and there was therefore considerable embarrassment here over the senate's delay in agreeing to commit this nation to "join with free and sovereign nations in the establishment and maintenance of international authority, with power to prevent aggression."

It was realized by all at the Russian conference that the statements of our conferees on postwar arrangements were rather meaningless until the senate had clearly stated how far this country would go in sharing international responsibilities.

It was also embarrassing to Washington officials and our conferees in Russia, when discussions of new fronts and increased supplies were being carried on, for the news in our country to be centered on new strikes and threats of strikes in essential industries.

Although the 350,000 railroad employees who are seeking higher wages are doing so in an orderly fashion, the possibility of a paralysis of wartime transportation unless these demands are met is frightening to contemplate. Even a short tie-up of the railroads could interrupt the steady flow of vital supplies to our soldiers at the front, it could stop production at thousands of war plants and civilians in our own lands and it could seriously interfere with the food supply of both countries.

Almost equally dangerous would be any major interruption in the production of coal, which has been threatened ever since the government turned the mines back to private operators. Even without coal strikes there will be a real shortage of coal this winter, but any further major stoppage in production would be a catastrophe. Thousands of tons of coal were lost to war production factories by the strikes in Alabama. Viewing this and other threats of coal strikes as even more dangerous than the strikes last spring, Charles E. Wilson, acting chairman of the War Production Board said:

"Surely no American wants to see our steel plants closed down for lack of coal or wants to see our shipyards idle or wants to see munitions held up that are needed for the fighting men overseas. But that may well happen if the coal situation is not solved and solved promptly. It is a key problem that confronts every American right now."

It is expected that both the coal situation and the railroad difficulties can only be settled by the government giving in and granting wage increases. Particularly in the coal situation, past experience has proved that the miners will carry out a strike without considering its effect on war production unless they get what they want — and there is no law at present which can stop a strike. The present anti-strike law can be invoked only when the government takes over the mines and operates them as government property. But to do any permanent good under this law it would mean that the government would have to take over the mines for the duration.

In stating that this is a problem which concerns every American right now, Mr. Wilson probably hopes that the American people will get stirred up enough over the situation to demand stronger legislation from their congressmen.

### BUY WAR BONDS

## ABOVE THE HULLABALOO

By LYTLE HULL

### CRABBLERS

If we are on the winning side when this war is won the credit won't go to Henry A. Wallace, or to the wildcat strikers, or to the Communists, or to those others who stir up trouble and friction between the Allied nations, between the races and between those who are contributing the essentials to the success of our cause. The credit will belong to the men and the women who till the soil though Hell or High Water rages; to those who keep the wheels of industry turning against all odds; to those who labor to maintain productive peace between the component parts of industry; to those who sacrifice to help; to those who struggle to hold in check the many discords manufactured by the many discord makers; to those—most of all—who risk and who give their lives for their country and its cause. And it will go to the President of the United States—in no small part for the magnificent battle he has waged to save our cause from the greatest of all destroyers—inflation.

History will doubtless record that at crucial period in this great struggle—when cooperation between us all was the sine qua non of military success—the vice-president of this country launched two of the most controversial—creating speeches which it would seem possible to conceive; speeches which—whether they were constructive or not—would be certain to cause distrust and friction at any time, but particularly while the nerves of the nation are stretched taut. The underlying purpose of the delivery of these harangues at this inappropriate time is still a mystery—but they won't hasten the winning of the war.

Nor will the heckling of our native Communists produce that "Second Front"—they demand—one instant sooner than the men who know their business—and to whom we have entrusted our honor and our lives—decide to produce it. It is the opinion of the American and the British people that their general staffs are slightly better acquainted with the military situation than is Mr. Earl Browder — and his associates; that it is doubtful if the American and British people would wish their leaders to take a false and possibly suicidal step even to please these estimable and patriotic gentlemen.

The wildcat strikes aren't hastening the war to a successful conclusion either. They don't involve many by comparison with those millions of other workers who put their country's welfare before anything else; but they occur in such vital arteries that they sometimes almost clog the blood stream of the nation. It will doubtless be a long time before Americans forgive the coal strikers who let them down at such a time—no matter how just their grievances might have been. Those who stir up racial animosities are not helping us to

ward victory. They are injuring the very causes of those whom they apparently wish to assist. There is neither time nor place for racial strife in this country—particularly now.

And last but not least among those who wittingly or unwittingly retard our march toward military success, are the international "crabblers"; those who in print or in speech cause friction between the nations which must stand together to win the war. We have had a hundred and fifty years in which to pick on the English, and they can have the next hundred and fifty years to pick on us—but in the name of reason and for the sake of our souls, give us a little time off to bring this war to a satisfactory conclusion.

## Six-Inch Sermon

† REV. ROBERT H. HARPER †

The Sacredness of Human Life  
Lesson for November 7: Exodus 20:13, Matthew 5:21-26, 38-45.

Golden Text: 1 John 3:15.

Beginning with the curse upon Cain and expressed in the law against murder, the Bible through out teaches the sacredness of human life by its commands against taking human life. Murder is generally regarded as the worst of all transgressions, for it ends an earthly career and makes it impossible for a murderer to make restitution.

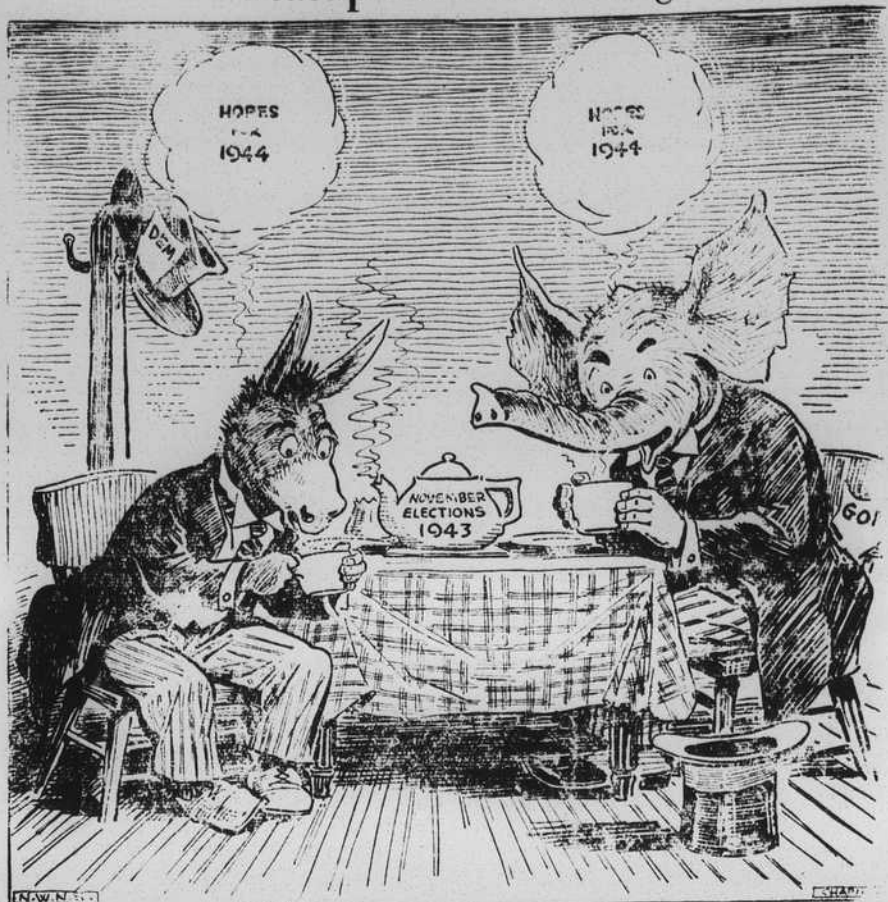
Jesus, ever concerned to eradicate sin at the source in the heart warns against the hatred that may bring a man into danger of the judgment, and counsels a man to seek reconciliation with his brother.

Further he teaches men to overcome evil with good. This is not non-resistance but resistance of wrong with good. To meet wrong with wrong is to perpetuate and increase it, as the sad history of the world proves. So Jesus bids men to love even their enemies.

To love ones enemies is required that one may be the son of the Father in heaven. To be a good son, a man must be a good brother to all his fellows, who brother to all his fellows who are sons of God and his brothers.

The real question is, how can men love instead of hate, how can they attain unto love, how can they obey all the teachings of Jesus? Only by faith in the Great Teacher—not first as the Great Teacher but as the Savior of men. And manifestly the supreme need of the sorrowing world is the spread of the gospel of love.

## Teacup Fortune Telling



**TODAY and TOMORROW**  
By DON ROBINSON

### SECRETS

I am getting very sick of listening to "know-it-alls" who try to attract attention to themselves by giving me, or anyone else who will listen, the inside dope on what's wrong with our war program.

The other day for example, a man I know centered considerable attention on himself by making the paid statement that our troops are dying like flies in Italy. "The trouble is," he explained, "that we aren't hardening our men enough—a lot of them are being sent into action after only six weeks training. How can you expect them to fight against enemy troops which have been doing nothing but training for 4 years or more?"

The answer to his final question would be "you can't." But it seems obvious that this would also be the answer to our war department and that it undoubtedly would not send any man into action who had had only six weeks training.

As for his statement that our troops are being massacred in Italy, he certainly had no secret knowledge of our casualty rate which has not been made available to us all.

His reply to those who contrast his statements by quoting published casualty figures was that we are not being told half of the story of this war. But, even if this is true, the fact would still remain that we are being told the same half that he is being told. Any additional information he can add is based entirely on unfounded rumor or pure invention.

### RUMORS

We can take it for granted that people who can't be counted upon to keep secret war information to themselves are not being entrusted with war news which is not being given to the public generally.

Any time you hear war stories which are credited to a "high authority in Washington," or to "reliable sources," or to an "official officer" or even to one of your own acquaintances who has spent a week-end in Washington or visited an army camp—if they are stories which have a demoralizing, deceit or tend to make you distrust our war leaders and our war news—you are quite safe in assuming that they are the invention of Nazi propagandists or the product of a fertile imagination.

In many cases these "inside" stories grow out of talks with soldiers and sailors. They develop in this way:

A soldier says "They're moving us around fast these days. A bunch of new recruits who came to my camp only six weeks ago left yesterday."

A woman, who got this report, tells her neighbor: "Isn't it terrible how they are shipping boys off to fight who hardly have had any training at all. Why, a soldier told me that they're sending them abroad after only six weeks

## BONDS OVER AMERICA

At Green Bay, oldest settlement in Wisconsin, there is a heroic statue depicting an Indian, a missionary and an explorer. Nicolet, Perrot, Marquette, Joliet and Black Bird, a Sauk Chief, are all remembered.



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training to Italy I imagine. The neighbor then tells a friend: "I feel so sorry for our poor boys in Italy. Imagine being put up in the front lines after only six weeks of training. It's plain murder."

It's easy to err that story a degree further and arrive at the divine like flies" chapter which I heard.

### NEWSPAPERS

There is no doubt that we are not being given a lot of war news. The President will admit that. So will the heads of the army, the navy and the director of censorship. They find it necessary to withhold much information, which if released, would be of benefit to the enemy.

But the point I would like to drive home is this: news which we hear which does not come of an official source is just about 100 per cent misinformation.

Our country has the best news reporters there are. They are on the job all over the world. They overlook no details in their reports of war news. Every story which they write, whether it is good or bad news, is published if it is passed by the "censor." It is not passed by the censor then no letters concerning that subject are passed either.

The rumor factories in this country are operating full tilt today. Their production is evident wherever people meet—on trains in subways, in churches, or in bars. But it would be better for all of us and help keep the

### Spirit of Northwest

Many people from distant lands live at peace here in America making it a better place to live. Read for yourself what Nazism has meant for Norway, Denmark, Holland, Greece.



tening to war gossip, we would adopt for the duration the slogan made famous by Will Rogers: "All I know is what I read in the papers."

### MACHINERY

About 50 per cent of all repair costs on farm machinery are due to the machinery being left out in the weather, says J. D. Blicke, Extension Specialist, Agricultural Engineering at State College.

### Keep 'em Smiling



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