

THE EAGLE

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1944

MORE OIL FOR CIVILIANS

The probable end of rationing of oil for our homes is one of the best pieces of news we have heard for some time—not because it is going to make our already comfortable civilian lives more comfortable, but because it is definite proof that the oil industry and the government have totally solved the problem of supplying sufficient oil for all war uses.

It is apparent that further release of oil would not be considered if there was any shortage in supply for our war machines and our war production factories. As it stands now, the oil reserve seems ample to take care of practically all needs including civilian requirements.

We hope that release of more gasoline to civilians may follow in the near future—again not because we can't get along all right without it, but because it will prove that every bomber, every tank and every fighting plane on all of our war fronts has all the gasoline it can possibly use.

COURAGEOUS THANKSGIVING

Our observance of Thanksgiving this year shares many likenesses with the Pilgrim's historic first Thanksgiving. We do not face the crudities of living experienced by our forefathers, but we again have been made to realize, as they did, the dignity and worth of human existence. Like they did, we too are making tremendous sacrifices for the ideals in which we believe.

It is a strange Thanksgiving. There will be many tables with empty turkey because turkeys have gone to war too. But the nation will unite at this season and voice a prayer for the things we do have: the safety of the country, the progress we have made abroad since last year, and the hope that the empty places at the table soon will be filled again.

The first Thanksgiving was a triumphal day for the Pilgrims. They had endured hunger, disease, heavy loss of life and the hazards of a new England winter. As a second perilous winter approached, they carried on and gave thanks. May we face our misfortunes and our gains with the courage and humble gratefulness so characteristic of those who first set aside a day for Thanksgiving.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE

Now that the election is out of the way, it may be a temptation to settle back and forget about the problems of politics and government for another four years. We may feel that the verdict of the majority of the people has been given and the fate of our country is now in the hands of the small group of men we appointed to represent us in Washington.

But actually, if the decisions on the momentous questions which will face our nation during the next few years, are going to have any permanent strength, those decisions must continue to come from the people themselves.

It is of vital importance during the next few years, that we keep informed on all the momentous questions that face our nation and keep our representatives informed of our opinions. Both in our foreign relations and our domestic program, we cannot expect strong, decisive measures unless they are a true expression of public opinion.

In fighting the war we have learned the importance of united action. In planning the peace it is equally important that we express the will of our entire people.

MR. ROOSEVELT AND SIMPLICITY

(Shelby Star)

The President has taken a sensible stand on his fourth inauguration which comes on January 20. Instead of the usual fanfare and pageantry, which goes with the swearing in of a President, Mr. Roosevelt has decreed that he will simply step out on the south portico of the White House to take his oath and that this brief ceremony will be followed by a simple reception, the total cost of the whole thing not running over \$2,000.

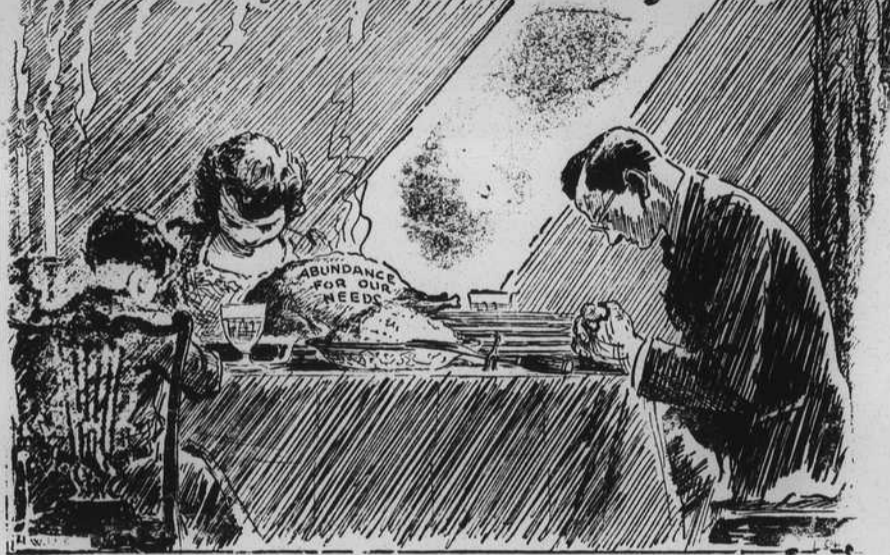
Even some of the strictest congressional economizers had planned on spending another \$25,000 which makes it appear as if Mr. Roosevelt's plans stand to lift about 23 grand from the well burdened taxpayers' backs.

But it isn't the cash saving we are thinking about just now. We are pretty sure the country could stand an outgo of another \$25,000 on running expenses, without any great show of consternation among the stockholders. They certainly should be inured to expenditures by this time. Of course pennies finally mount up to dollars and multiply \$25,000 enough times and you will get a figure which wouldn't be sneezed at even by an extravagant government.

Rather, we are thinking that the President, who was elected partially on the theory that we are in an emergency, would not care to squander the attention of the people on a parade and a show. Citizens of this country have something on their minds besides starting another presidential term which from the nature of it, is not so much news anyway. They have a war to win, a peace to establish. Surely simplicity is a fine attribute to grace another milestone in our national life.

Let Us Give Thanks

For the preservation of our way of life from the threat of destruction;
For the unity of spirit which has kept our nation strong;
For our abiding faith in freedom;
And for the promise of an enduring Peace



ABOVE THE HULL-ABALOO

By LYTLE HULL

WORK AHEAD FOR ALL

Those casual citizens who have plenty of time and opportunity to vote, but who are not sufficiently interested to take the trouble are worse off today than that vast mass of almost 50 million patriotic men and women who ARE interested. The former—as is customary—will be "grousing" for the next four years about how badly the country is being run, while the latter will heal their wounds and go back to work FOR that country.

And there is plenty of work to do. First of all there is the war to be won against a thus far fanatically resisting Germany—a Germany made more unyielding every time Mr. Goebbels can get his teeth into some vengeful expression from the lips of influential writers, speakers, statesmen, etc., from among the enemies of his unpleasant ideology. How much better if we of the United Nations would control our emotions and allow the spokesmen of our military organizations to inform the enemy what is going to happen to him. They can gauge the timing so much better than we can.

"After Germany" comes the first half of our "Reconstruction." We didn't handle that very well following either the Civil war or the first World war. After the former, we destroyed a third of the wealth of our nation when we permitted such vicious creatures as Thaddeus Stevens to turn our thoughts from productive reconstruction to vengeful destruction. After the first World war we just let Nature take its course until we landed on the rocks in 1929.

When Germany is defeated we have a probably long, hard, grueling war to finish in the Far East. We have an empire of tremendous proportion and great strength to squeeze back out of the vast possessions which they have purloined from others. This undertaking is already occupying a considerable part of our war effort and is expanding rapidly. Those of us who are expecting our first "Reconversion" to be on a scale large enough to supply us with all the automobiles, farm machinery, tires, gasoline, stoves, lumber shoes, etc., to which we were accustomed before the war started—will probably be disappointed. As the effort in the Pacific grows in magnitude, our factories and means of transportation will be, to a still very great extent, occupied in straight war work as at present. The vast amounts of equipment which will become superfluous in the European theater will for the most part be unsuited to the type of warfare which we are—and will be—carrying on in the East. Unfortunately, it will be mostly "human material" which will have to be transferred from one theatre to the other, and no living American will wish to undersupply THAT "material" in order to add to his own personal comforts.

After Japan comes the second "Reconstruction." Millions more men and women to go back into civil employment. Altogether—a job which will require all the brains with which ANY group of humans—meaning our government—is endowed, and all the whole-souled co-operation of the nearly 50 million American people who fought the battle of Nov. 7, 1944, and who are now reuniting, in the traditional old American spirit, to overcome the seemingly impossible—as they have so often before.

Six-Inch Sermon

By REV. ROBERT H. HARPER

The Christian View of Industry
Lesson for November 26: Deuteronomy 8:11-20; Luke 12:13-34; 19:11-27; Acts 19:23-28; 1 Thessalonians 4:11,12; 11 Thessalonians 3:10-12.

Golden Text: Ephesians 4:23.
The Bible has no comfort for a lazy man. It commends industry. Deuteronomy warns against forgetting God in days of prosperity. Least ruin come upon those who ignore Him who gives the power to get wealth.

The foolish farmer illustrated the woe that comes upon those who lay up treasures for themselves. Through birds and lilies Jesus taught a lesson of trust in God, bade his hearers seek first the Kingdom of God and assured them that needful things would be given them. The danger of seeking wealth is the love of it. "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also." The Bible does not teach that being rich is sinful, but loving money is sin, "for the love of money is the root of all evil." The parable of the pounds shows the duty of rightly using what one has. One man was not condemned because he had only one pound but because he did not improve it. In the wider range of life man should faithfully use everything committed to him that, when the things of earth fail, he may be received into everlasting habitations.

The Ephesian Silversmiths were industrious enough but for their gain alone, and they raised an outcry against Paul because of their reduced revenues. Industry for selfish ends is condemned in the Bible. Paul stresses the duty of work—to avoid dependence upon others and disorderliness, also to reach quietness and contentment. So may the Christian be industrious, that he may honor God with his substance, as he gives it a second place and uses it for the Kingdom of God.

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BUY BONDS

Dale Carnegie

Author of "HOW TO WIN FRIENDS and INFLUENCE PEOPLE"

GET OUT OF MENTAL RUT

A letter came this morning from a young man of 33 who says he wants to get out of a mental rut. Think of that! Only a third of a century old and in a rut!

But we do get into mental ruts, that's true. Also we can get out of them. That's the good part.

The way to get out is very simple. Do something new. For instance, go some place you've never been before. Establish new connections. Make a new set of friends. But especially wake up your mind by studying something, or learning something new. Start in to study the kind of peace that should be made after the war is over. Read everything you can on the subject, go to lectures, find out what things were wrong with the Versailles peace at the end of the First World War.

Noah Webster gave us our standard dictionary. When he was 51 he felt that he was getting into a rut, so he started in to learn Hebrew. It probably did him very little good, but on the other hand it showed he knew the secret of pulling out of a rut.

Here are four rules which, if you will apply them, you'll find will change your mental horizon.

1. Do something you ordinarily would not do. For instance, if you always sat in the last row of all meetings and had nothing to say, then turn in and become active in some organization. Serve it; let yourself be put up for office in a club where you never used to chirp.

2. There is nothing quite so helpful in getting out of a rut as to travel. Of course that can't be done now, but get out some travel books and take a paper journey to Tibet. Really learn something about that country.

3. Whenever you have a chance, go to see travel moving pictures. From time to time they are still shown in the theatres. And even though our war effort has cut down the number of lectures at museums there still are some lectures. Illustrated as they usually are, they will plunge you into new interests, probably give you new ideas. After such a lecture or travel picture, go home and consult your encyclopedia for further information on the places you have just seen pictured and heard discussed. Not only will this entertain and instruct you, but sooner or later you will find your newly acquired information valuable.

4. Mingle with a different group of people. For instance, if you are sober-minded, then purposely cultivate some people whom you've probably regarded as dizzy. This will give you a different point of view and teach you to appreciate people you hitherto may not have understood.

Now all these rules simmer down to two things:

Think new thoughts.

Do new things.

Wise old Benjamin Franklin, who left us such a rich heritage of good advice, said that two things are easy to get into: debt and a mental rut. But you can get out of the latter with little effort if you really want to.

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