

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HUGO S. SIMS, Washington Correspondent

Pre-War Foreign Policy Was Based Upon Self-Defense

Secretary of State Cordell Hull has taken advantage of an assertion by Mr. Lyttleton, British Minister of Education, to clarify the foreign policy of the United States prior to the belligerency. The British Minister was quoted as saying (1) "Japan was provoked by attacking the Americans at Pearl Harbor" and (2) that America never "truly neutral even before America came into the war on an all-out fighting basis."

Japan Made War Inevitable

There is nothing to argue in the light of Japan's repeated aggressions. These made it evident, long before Pearl Harbor, that war with the United States was inevitable unless this country surrendered its rights in the Far East and abandoned its historic attitude toward China.

Lend-Lease Sought to Avert War

The sole justification of our Lend-Lease Legislation is to be found in the hope that the aid extended to nations fighting German aggression would enable them to successfully resist German arms. If this happened then the safety of the United States would be secured.

OPA Deserves Support On Basis Of Its Record

Chester Bowles, Price Administrator, who is generally credited with an excellent performance in connection with price control, admits that the bill recently passed by Congress will cause some problems but expresses confidence that the OPA can continue to hold both prices and rents.

this country. The President, we understand, advocated lend-lease assistance to Great Britain and other nations in the belief that it might make unnecessary our participation in the European war. The Lend-Lease act, passed in March, 1941, authorized vastly increased aid to the democracies at war and, when the Germans attacked Russia three months later, there was a prospect that the assistance thus given would be sufficient to bring about the defeat of Germany.

No World Crusade Involved It is well for Mr. Hull and other governmental officials to emphasize the true nature of our foreign policy. Our activities prior to Pearl Harbor were officially and in fact directed to the defense of the United States. They were predicated upon our national interest and any advantage that accrued to other nations was entirely incidental. There was no idea, at the time, of any world-wide crusade for the liberation of conquered peoples or the propagation of democracy throughout the world.

It seems to us that the furor created in this country by publication of Mr. Lyttleton's remarks is hardly warranted. The British official may have been careless and ill-advised and his conclusions are, on the record, erroneous. At the same time there is little basis for the belief that his utterances carry much weight or that they can be twisted to distort the actual facts.

It is sometimes amazing to contemplate the reaction of politicians, publicists and commentators to careless and foolish statements. After all the utterances would not be generally circulated except for the frenzy of those who make and seek publicity. To imagine that Mr. Lyttleton's charges constitute a matter of grave import is to exhibit a nervousness that is entirely unwarranted.

While most Americans are not

thoroughly familiar with the technicalities of the price-control act they should be delighted with the way it has worked. Naturally, there are inevitable rough edges in any great economic undertaking but it would be a mistake to judge the entire structure by a few jutting abutments.

Mr. Bowles and his organization may have difficulty in controlling prices and rents but the welfare of the average American demands that the job be done. It must be accomplished despite the efforts of various selfish groups to secure advantages for themselves. Some operators have managed to evade the controls but this is not a justification for the abandonment of all controls.

World War Three Likely If United States Disarms

James V. Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, urges the American people not to permit their idealism to persuade them to disarm after the war and says that we must realize that we are not immune from war.

It is vitally important to realize the great peril that confronted this country when Great Britain alone stood between us and the Axis powers. If Germany had succeeded in scoring a blitz victory in England, the position of the United States would have been desperate.

Everybody recalls the great preparedness campaign preached by Woodrow Wilson in 1916, which resulted in the authorization of a number of capital ships for the Navy. The expansion of our fleet had not been completed when the first World War ended. Unfortunately, those in authority concluded that there would be no further danger of war and proceeded to carry out a policy of disarmament.

The result was that when Japan struck at Pearl Harbor the United States did not possess a Navy sufficiently strong to operate in the waters of the Far East. Admiral King has said that even if none of our ships had been damaged at Pearl Harbor, we would have been helpless to reinforce or relieve our troops in the Philippines.

At the present time the United States probably possesses the strongest navy that has ever floated upon the high seas. Every American recognizes the great need for overwhelming naval strength which we have acquired, very largely, since Pearl Harbor.

The heroic resistance of the British and the magnificent fighting of the Russian armies gave us the time necessary to construct planes, ships, tanks and guns for our defense. It is evident that the safety of the United States, for a number of months, at least, was dependent upon resistance offered to Germany by the British and Russians.

It would be extremely foolish for us to depend upon similar good fortune in the event of another crisis in world affairs. We must maintain adequate naval, aerial and land forces to guarantee the safety of this country, regardless of what may happen to other nations.

This means that when the present war ends we should not destroy our existing naval power or accept limitations that restrict its size, regardless of the attractive promise that other nations may make.

We should, by all means, maintain the largest air force in the world in order to prevent future aggressors from delivering surprise attacks on a scale vastly more dangerous than the Jap assault upon Pearl Harbor.

Backing these offensive-defensive forces, the nation should have a thoroughly equipped army, with an adequate reserve of trained soldiers.

To advocate this policy of preparedness is not to oppose future plans to establish world peace by international cooperation. There is slight danger that the United States will develop into an aggressor or seek to take by force what belongs to other peoples. Because of this we should be able at all times to defend what belongs to us, without having to depend upon other nations to give us a "breathing spell" in which to get ready to fight.

War Emergency Permits the Making of Whiskey

Reporting that there is an ample supply of industrial alcohol for war needs, Chairman Donald Nelson of the WPB has authorized the manufacture of domestic whiskey for a limited period of about one month.

There may be some differences of opinion as to the propriety of manufacturing whiskey, and Mr. Nelson will be criticized by sundry varieties of prohibitionists, but the production of whiskey was halted in this country because the distilleries were needed to produce alcohol for munitions.

Now that the emergency has been successfully met, the WPB permits the owners of these plants to resume their operation for a few weeks.

For more than two years the distilleries of the nation have produced industrial alcohol, with the result that domestic stocks have run low. Moonshining and bootlegging have increased. Liquor dealers in foreign countries were watching the chance to ship in large supplies whenever possible.

The order of Chairman Nelson does not specify that the manufacture of whiskey is a commendable enterprise or that individuals should drink the stuff. He merely performs equitably in relieving distilleries of war time restrictions when the emergency no longer exists.

Lice And Mites Rob Tar Heel Poultrymen

Two noted thieves are robbing the North Carolina farmer of his opportunity for poultry profits. One of these thieves is a Louse and the other is a Mite. They are causing a decline in egg production and lowering the vigor and vitality of pullets.

Body lice and tropical mites remain on the bird's body while the red mites stay in the poultry house and are usually on or around the perch poles. Therefore, separate treatments are needed to eradicate these noted thieves.

Poultry specialists at State College recommend that birds be dusted with sodium fluoride to eradicate body lice or that birds be dipped in slightly warm water to which has been added one ounce of sodium fluoride to each gallon of water used. Perch poles should be treated with nicotine sulphate and the treatment repeated in 7 to 10 days.

Since red mites suck blood from the birds, it is necessary to use a material that will kill by contact. The recommended practice is to treat perch poles and supports with used motor oil to which has been added one-third or more kerosene. The house should be thoroughly cleaned and all litter and nesting material should be burned prior to the treatment.

The tropical mites remain on the birds at all times. The specialists recommended for their control that the roost poles be treated with nicotine sulphate in the same manner as suggested for body lice, except that second and third applications are suggested with an interval of about three days elapsing between applications.

Barking of Polish Dog Is Silenced by Germans

LONDON.—Because Mrs. Zofia Czechon's dog growled at the dog of German Col. Richard Kunat, she was sentenced to pay 1,000 marks or serve three months in prison by a Nazi court at Plock, Poland. The judge held that Kunat's dog was "very quiet and well-bred," but said Mrs. Czechon was guilty of "bringing up her dog in a spirit of hatred for everything German."

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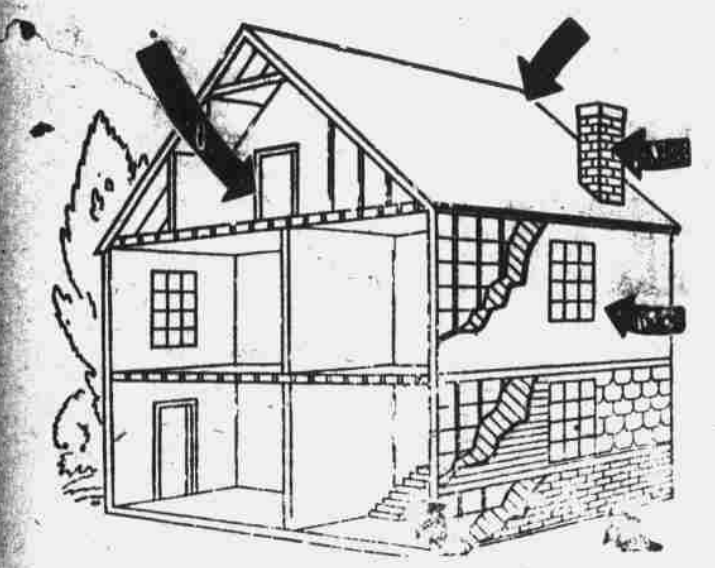
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This Is Not A War Map!

No, indeed, folks, the illustration above is not an invasion map, but it can and does show you vital parts of a home that should be kept in a good state of repair... to keep out summer heat and winter cold, as well as rain and dust.

The roof of your house or outbuildings, as well as the windows, doors and chimneys, should be carefully inspected and repaired now to prevent a bigger job later.

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NOTICE

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

I will advertise for sale, on August 4th, all real estate on which 1943 taxes have not been paid. I will hold the sale of the same on the first Monday in September. Please make settlement now and save this additional cost of advertising.

J. Emmett Winslow

Sheriff of Perquimans County