

Immediate Decision Needed On Handling of Enemy Aliens

THE question of what disposition to make of the enemy aliens along the Pacific Coast should be settled without further delay.

The responsibility of making the decision, of course, rests with the federal government and military authorities. But they must not postpone action too long.

If the resident aliens are in fact a threat to the security of the Pacific Coast area, to the defense industries, military installations and the civilian populace, there is no point in giving them time to accomplish hostile designs.

The fall of Singapore, releasing enemy legions to rove further around the globe for rapine and conquest, heightens the need for prompt action, if the presence of enemy aliens here constitutes a real threat.

There are lesser, but also important considerations. The time is almost at hand when truck farming operations must begin for the season. The Pacific Coast's truck farms are largely operated by Japanese nationals.

Until the question of their disposition is decided, these spring farming operations will be delayed. Either the Japanese farmers should be assured they will remain on the soil, or other arrangements to operate the truck farms should be made.

There would be little to gain in leaving thousands of Jap farmers on these farms for the sake of a crop of vegetables, if their continued presence there would constitute a menace from other points of view. We could get along without the vegetables, if it came to that.

Every consideration emphasizes the importance of settling the matter promptly. If the aliens are to be removed to inland states, they should be evacuated immediately.

To Those Who Wait

FORTY years ago, when literary tastes differed considerably from current schools, the table in the front parlor, or in the library, if you had one, was incomplete unless a smallish volume was displayed there.

It was a sentimental work. For sentiment, like smelling salts and collapsible sunshades, was still in vogue in 1901. But the book was one everyone read just after the turn of the century, "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." It comes to mind after all these years because of the recent death of its author, Mrs. Alice Hagan Rice.

It was a central tenet of the Wiggs philosophy, as we recall it, that "Everything in the world turns out right, if we jes wait long enough." How pleasant and restful it might be to return to those old days of disillusionment, and to that optimistic philosophy! How simple it would be to have everything turn out right, just by waiting!

Those years have taught us much. We have learned to our sorrow how wrong things turn out, sometimes, for those who wait too long. But it did seem like a good idea, at the time!

No Partisan Recess

AFTER a recent visit at the White House, Chairman Ed Flynn of the Democratic National Committee declared that only Democrats should be elected to Congress in November, in order that the administration's war effort may have full support of his own party.

President Roosevelt promptly denied having inspired the Flynn declaration; and modified it by saying he hoped the war effort would have no less support in Congress after the elections.

Wendell Willkie followed up by congratulating the President for having "repudiated" Flynn. Actually it was no repudiation; merely a disclaimer. The President didn't care to take responsibility for Flynn's demand.

None the less, the many Democratic Party groups, horning in on traditional Republican observances of Lincoln's Birthday, heard their chosen spellbinders sound off to the tune set by Flynn—none but Democrats can go to Congress while war is on.

Here is no partisan recess. A challenge is flung, not only at Republican activity, but at Republican loyalty. Republicans are literally dared to bestir themselves.

With candidates for local public office offering argument that the war cannot be won unless they are elected or re-elected, we get foretaste of how the Democrats will wage the congressional campaign.

Prayers for the Errors of a Mistaken World

THROUGHOUT Christendom, in stately cathedral or humble chapel, wherever the ancient usages are observed, altars today are adorned with violet, the color of penitence.

Throughout Christendom, prayers arise from the hearts of men for a world threatened on all sides by the powers of darkness, hatred and oppression.

Throughout Christendom, today—Ash Wednesday, opening the Lenten season—Christian men and women, bow their heads in contemplation of the central tenets of their faith, the divine drama that culminates on Good Friday in Christ's death upon the cross that man might have eternal life.

Lent, this year, comes fraught with rich significance. It is a season of prayer and denial, denial of self, prayer for the errors of a mistaken world.

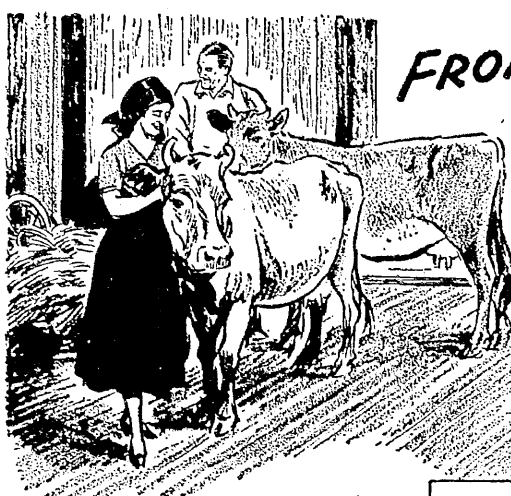
Never before has the world been in more dire need of these manifestations of the human spirit—prayer because more things are wrought thereby "than this world dreams of," denial, because by sacrifice alone can the hordes of Satan be driven from the high places they have seized.

Lent, this year, comes with more than its usual persuasive eloquence, bidding us examine our hearts in all humility, to cast out all infirmities of spirit, to resolve more nobly, to pray more fervently, and to sacrifice more completely.

"God of our fathers, known of old, Lord of our far-flung battle line . . . Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget—lest we forget."

PRIVATE LIVES

By Edwin Cox



FROM US TO US

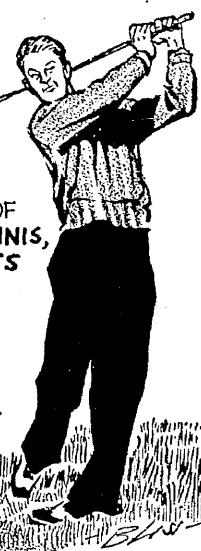
GUESS WHAT THAT GLITTERING COUPLE OF THE STAGE

—THE LUNTS—

GAVE EACH OTHER FOR CHRISTMAS? A PAIR OF COWS — FOR THEIR WISCONSIN FARM!

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN

WHEN TIRED OF CHAMPIONSHIP TENNIS, ELLSWORTH VINES WENT OVER TO GOLF — WHERE HE HAS JUST PROCEEDED TO WIN THE PASADENA CITY TOURNAMENT!



TAKE IT AWAY!

EARLY LAST DECEMBER THIS GOODNATURED SIGN WAS STILL HANGING IN THE WHITE HOUSE EXECUTIVE OFFICES. BUT THAT BLAST FROM PEARL HARBOR SHOOK IT RIGHT OUT OF WASHINGTON.

Nazi Naval Demonstration in Atlantic May Be Expected Within Next Few Weeks

By CONSTANTINE BROWN

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 18.—The escape of the three German super-raiders—the battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst and the cruiser Prinz Eugen—from the naval base at Brest, France, may mean that we must increase considerably our naval effort in the North Atlantic.

Russia is persistent in her appeal that we run as many planes and tanks, together with ammunition, to Archangel as quickly as we can. The Russians are asking only what we promised them. They accept our explanation that, in view of the outbreak of war with Japan, we had to slow down shipments to them.

The Soviet has been making up the deficiency in shipments from the United States and Britain with some of the reserves still possessed. Now these have been depleted and Moscow is asking us to fulfill our pledge 100 per cent.

The Nazi warships' exploit indicates that the Nazi general staff intends to increase its activities in the North Atlantic. Until the weather becomes favorable enough to permit extensive use of planes for this purpose, they must resort to fast and powerful surface raiders.

As far as is known in Washington, there are few warships in the Reich's home waters—with the exception of the 40,000-ton battleship Tirpitz, a sister ship of the destroyed Bismarck—which are available for such a job. The three heavy ships, which have lain idle at Brest, had to attempt—and succeeded—to make their getaway through the shortest route from Brest—the Dover Strait.

Naval observers in Washington believe that as soon as they have been refitted and the damage inflicted in their escape repaired, they will begin an intensive campaign in the North Atlantic. Their principal aim, it is believed, will be to destroy all shipping going to the U. S. S. R.

But there may be more than that. The German admiralty may feel that the Reich now is in position to assume the offensive—a hit-and-run show—in the Atlantic.

THE situation appears as follows: The British, intent on maintaining their position in the Mediterranean, have kept the bulk of their heavy forces in those waters. Only a few battleships and heavy cruisers are kept in the Atlantic, where the task of convoying transports has been left mainly to the United States Navy, under the command of Vice-Admiral Royal Ingersoll.

The forces at the disposal of the American commander are composed mostly of light ships, assisted by a few battleships of the pre-World War I vintage. The whereabouts of the newest American battleships, the Washington and North Carolina, is uncertain, although it is assumed in some quarters

that they are in the Atlantic, ready for just such an emergency.

The Germans have three battleships at their disposal, the Tirpitz, the Scharnhorst, and the Gneisenau, and at least five fast modern cruisers. Whether the other two battleships which were still under construction in 1939, the Frederick the Great and the Hindenburg, have been commissioned yet is a secret which neither the British or American secret service has penetrated. But if these two ships are already in commission, we and the British will be faced with a force superior in number as far as capital ships are concerned.

It is equally a secret whether the Graf Zeppelin and the Deutschland, 19,250-ton aircraft carriers able to accommodate some 40 planes each, have been completed and commissioned. They likely are in operation, since their construction began six years ago.

IN any event, considerable concern is expressed in Washington over the possibility of the German high seas fleet making a sortie with the object of performing some grand style raiding with ships which need fear only the most modern British and American battlewagons.

It is confirmed now that since December, the Nazi battleship Tirpitz has made several attempts to get out of the Baltic, but had to give up the effort because she was spotted by the British and noticed a vastly superior force ready to meet her on the high seas.

The fact that the Tirpitz came out with only a destroyer escort would seem to indicate that the Frederick the Great and the Hindenburg were not yet available for service. But in some naval quarters it is supposed that she may have made only a reconnaissance sortie to check up on the vigilance of the British and that the main effort will be made within the next few weeks, when the whole "Hochzeeflotte"—the Nazi battle force—will attempt to break through the British blockade.

NAVAL observers also believe an attempt may be made by the Reich to start large-scale naval warfare in order to prevent the United States from sending important naval reinforcements to the Pacific, where they are desperately needed.

Moreover, Nazi Admiral Erich Raeder may believe that within the next few weeks the British will be so occupied in the Mediterranean, meeting German onslaughts against their positions from Malta to Alexandria, that the main German fleet has a good chance of getting away and starting serious raiding on United States-British-Russian ship lanes.

There is no question that British and American naval authorities are concerned over the escape of the two powerful Nazi ships from Brest, and are getting ready to meet the Nazi challenge in the Atlantic as best they can.

War Production Again Slowed by Labor; Congress Either Asleep or Intimidated

By DAVID LAWRENCE

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 18.—Anxiety over the defense program may well be manifested if some method is not found to secure discipline in the ranks of union workers. Interruptions to production occurred last week which show there is no discipline, not even the authority of the national labor unions themselves, to prevent thousands of men from suddenly leaving their jobs on the slightest provocation.

This weakness in the agreement made between President Roosevelt and the C. I. O. and A. F. of L. national leaders was pointed out in December when the historic conference was held at which management and labor agreed to refrain from work stoppages. This agreement was characterized then by this writer as a paper agreement and it was pointed out that while employers are bound to accept findings of governmental labor boards, there is no law or penalty of law applying to unions which interrupt the production program.

THE right to strike was never intended to cover the right of rebellion against the government in wartime. With most factories engaged today in defense work, every interruption delays or retards the making of the weapons or supplies needed for the Army or Navy or Air Force.

If an employer were to lock out his plant, it would be seized under the commandeering statutes. Labor unions, however, are immune from the hand of the law.

They can indirectly sabotage the program if they like, and nothing will happen to them under the present political regime in Washington, which demands for its continuance in power on retaining the good favor of the labor votes that are controlled by the union bosses.

Yet if the employer resisted these demands and refused to accept them, he would have his plant

seized at once and either the Army or Navy would be placed in charge to operate that plant. The labor unions are under no such compulsion.

IT is true that since Pearl Harbor, the number of strikes in defense plants has diminished almost to the vanishing point, but last week the friction began again.

Employers are complaining about the use of the "slow-down," a technique analogous to the "sit-down" strike, which was introduced into America by the C. I. O. after it was applied by the popular front radicals in France who helped involuntarily to bring about the collapse of that country.

Under the slow-down, the employer knows economic power is being used against him. When the grievances are settled, the rate of output usually increases. Every employer of a large amount of labor who has had any experience with the slow-down knows when it occurs and keeps records of how the output jumps when the controversy is settled.

But slow-downs today are an aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States. Slow-downs today mean delay in forging weapons needed by the soldiers who go into battle soon—millions of American boys whose lives must be risked because of lack of preparation of the proper weapons.

CONGRESS is asleep or else intimidated on the labor question. It hasn't done its duty.

The Senate is really responsible for what has happened. The Smith Bill passed the House, but the administration leaders in the upper house, doubtless directed by President Roosevelt, have done nothing about it.

It will probably be after more disasters have overtaken American forces, and the citizenry begins to ask questions about the inefficiency of the executive, that something may be expected to happen on the lack of discipline among labor unions.

Japs Getting Cocky Again, Says Taxicab Driver in S. F.

By HENRY McLEMORE

SAN FRANCISCO, Wednesday, Feb. 18.—I paid a visit to Japantown today.

It wasn't a long trip. For 45 cents in a taxi, whose meter really has its heart in its work, one can go from the heart of San Francisco to a district where the almond eye and the yellow skin are as predominant as they are in Tokyo.

A really good saboteur, or a hustling fifth-columnist, could cover the distance from Japantown to San Francisco's important naval and military bases in practically no time at all.

I went to Japantown because I wanted to see for myself how the sons and daughters of Nippon had reacted to the war. I didn't go in kimono or zori disguise, but purely as a newspaper man wearing a slightly worn two-piece suit, and with a few questions to ask.

FOR the better part of three hours I wandered about the district near Post and Buchanan Streets, where some 7,000 Japanese have their homes and shops, dry goods stores and markets, sports goods houses specializing in fishing tackle, doctors, dentists and optometrists, hotels, sushi waki restaurants and churches.

The Japanese were very nice to me. Yessir, very nice. They didn't seem to resent at all an American walking in their midst. The youngsters skating and frolicking on the sidewalks cheerfully avoided knocking me down. Their elders looked up from their newspapers to nod a bland good day.

IN talking to one of them, I found what may be a partial answer to their contentment. San Francisco has just received 37 first-class, up-to-the-minute air raid sirens, horns so powerful that every one is sure to be warned of the approach of a Japanese bomber.

The Japanese settlement is delighted with this precaution. They didn't think the old sirens were adequate. During an early blackout, Togo Something-or-the-other told me, his neighborhood was unaware of the approach of danger.

Oh yes, the Japanese have their air-raid wardens, their air-raid shelters and their blackout curtains. They are perfectly drilled in what to do in case bombs come from the enemy whose blood runs in their veins.

Silly damn set-up, huh?

I STOPPED in at the First Evangelical and Reformed Church, where the Reverend T. Kaneko was in charge, and the basement was filled with happy, well-fed Japanese children playing table tennis and basketball.

Reverend Kaneko and the co-minister of the church, the American Rev. Carl Nugent, did not believe that the Japanese on the California coast would cause any trouble. They pointed out that San Francisco's Japanese population had volunteered to retire to a community farm and do experimental work on plants, such as rubber, that the United States may need before this war is over.

MY last call was on the taxicab driver whose stand is in the center of Japantown. I wanted to know what he had noticed.

"They're getting cocky again, pal," he said. "When the war broke out, they tried to act as if they weren't Japanese. Talked English on the streets. Kinda turned their eyes when they passed. Tried to get friendly by over-tipping when I took 'em downtown."

"Now, they're just the way they used to be. They give you the full once-over, and the Japanese once-over has a sneer in it. They oughta chase 'em all to the hills."

There is what I found in Japantown.

Moral: Don't Be Guinea Pig For Students of First-Aid

By DALE HARRISON

NEW YORK, Wednesday, Feb. 18.—In all reverence for womanhood, civic pride and volunteer relief workers, I give you the amusing tale of what happened in a certain community recently. If it sounds incredible, I swear it is true, as indeed it is.

A group of the town's womanfolk, eager to be of service in the emergency, devoted several weeks to the study of methods of dressing wounds and bandaging broken bones. At last they had mastered their course, and it was decided to give a public demonstration to show the townspeople how capable the women had become.

A man in his middle fifties was good enough to volunteer as the guinea pig of their experiments. The idea was for the man to submit to being bandaged so that the spectators might observe the skill the women had acquired.

THE first demonstration consisted of putting splints on his left arm to show how it would be done if it really were broken. The women did a nice job of it, and the spectators applauded politely.

The next step was to put him on a stretcher, carry him to an ambulance, load him in, and drive him to a hospital. The first step was accomplished well enough, but as the stretcher bearers, all women, walked toward the ambulance with the man prone on the stretcher, one woman dropped her end. The man fell off and broke his leg.

This was regrettable, but the women promptly got out their kits and fixed up the broken leg—it was really broken—in splints. Again he was placed on the stretcher, and this time they were more careful, and he reached the ambulance.

THE women pushed the stretcher into place inside the vehicle and gave the go-ahead signal to the ambulance driver—a woman. She may have been a bit nervous. She let the clutch in suddenly, and the ambulance leaped forward.

Unfortunately, the stretcher had not been locked into place, and the rear door had not been fastened. As the car lurched ahead, the stretcher slid out the back, dumping the gentleman on his head.

It resulted in concussion of the brain!

THAT is about all there is to the story except the minor detail that the man survived, due largely to prompt action by doctors who took charge about that time.

The good women were very much upset, but did not feel that the near tragedy was due so much to their ineptitude as to their nervousness. They felt, indeed, that it was good experience, and that it would enable them to function under fire with great success.

The injured man hoped that is true. He feels that he has done his share in the defense movement, at least until such time as he recovers from the leg they broke and the brain they concussion.

JUST as an epilogue to this tale: I was telling it to some friends last night, and they said: "If you write that item, we'll bet you get letters from some readers who will accuse you of jeering at fine, noble women who were earnestly engaged in a splendid work and who just happened to have a little tough luck."

I said: "I won't take that bet, gentlemen, because I'm sure you are right. But if there be any who are so humorless as not to see it as it is—an amusing item—then let's stop laughing altogether and start drinking blood."

THE NEIGHBORS By George Clark

"I can't get a thing out of grandpa about the time he fought in the Philippines. He just says it was pretty warm and rained a lot!"

