

Here's Something for Japs In U. S. To Write Home About

HAVING determined that enemy aliens must be evacuated from certain areas in this country, the authorities, federal and local, seem equally determined to make things as easy as possible for all who must be moved.

Necessarily, there is much disarrangement of their plans in severing the aliens from businesses and vocations in which they have been engaged, some of them for many years. But the authorities, while firm, show no inclination to be harsh.

Every effort is being made to conserve such property and other interests as these aliens may have acquired. They will be paid for all work that may be given them to do while detained. So far as revealed the policy of government looks toward ultimate restoration of everything they now may lawfully possess. Meanwhile nothing of theirs will be destroyed.

For contrast with this, consider what is known of Japan's treatment of American nationals and the lawfully acquired property of Americans in the Far East. It has been ruthlessly destructive in every land invaded by the Japanese. In only one instance has Japan even so much as expressed regret. There was a payment of compensation and a murmur of apology for sinking the U. S. S. Panay. But that was just a bit of diplomatic strategy. Japan was not then ready for war upon the United States.

From the time Japan invaded Manchuria, American losses have been mounting. We hear of no such government functionary in Japan as an alien property custodian. What the Japanese lay hands upon is held to be theirs, whether to keep and use or to raze and ruin.

The Japanese in this country scarcely can fail to note this difference in treatment. However sorry they may feel over enforced relocation, they should appreciate a policy conservative of their interests.

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Cross-Town Service

SEATTLE'S Municipal Transit Commission doubtless receives innumerable suggestions on how to improve service. Here is another.

A shuttle service across town from Elliott Avenue to Eastlake Avenue, passing the Civic Auditorium, would be a boon to Transit System patrons of the North End, Queen Anne Hill and Magnolia Bluff, eliminating the long ride through the business district to transfer.

Such a line would be particularly serviceable to patrons of events at the Civic Auditorium, to university students resident on Queen Anne Hill, to workers in plants along the south rim of Lake Union and to many others.

The Transit System management might well study this suggestion to determine whether it is practicable.

Emory Land Writes Editorial for Nation at War

WHAT is serious right now is loafing. Anyone who is putting forth less than his maximum effort is a victim of that infectious, that deadly disease known as loafing.

Every loafer is a saboteur of morale, giving direct aid to the enemy.

From talk to shipyard workers by Chairman Emory S. Land of the Maritime Commission.

That 'Defense' Influence

TRUSTEES of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce have advanced an appropriate suggestion. They propose that various agencies that now bear the label "defense" be given new designations containing the word "war."

Thus the Seattle Defense Chest would be the Seattle War Chest; the Municipal Defense Commission would be the Municipal War Commission, and the Washington State Defense Council, the Washington State War Council.

The word defense, it is pointed out, "brings about a defensive line of thinking which restrains the 'all-out-for-offense' attitude that must permeate the nation to take the war to the enemy."

Even to the Oppressed, Spring Brings New Hopes

SPRING, which over the week-end officially appeared for another annual performance, works wonders in many ways. While we have not yet noted a livelier iris on any of the pigeons around town, it may be assumed that the young man's fancy turns in the usual direction; and county auditors may well prepare for increased output of licenses to wed.

Throughout the countryside, spring planting goes on. In the cities and villages there is much planning for "victory gardens." Nearly everyone with a bit of ground is stirring it up to some purpose of ultimate production, whether of foodstuffs or flowers.

And around in another part of the world, where much of the past work of man has been ravaged by war and the thoughts of most men are bent to the grim task of getting it over with, the effect of spring's return is perceptible. Over the same week-end that rushed spring to earth, a conference of noted scientists was held in London to make post-war plans for European agriculture.

England, Australia, Rumania, Jugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, The Netherlands, Belgium, Norway and Denmark were represented in this conference. All are deeply engaged in war; all save England and Australia are under Nazi rule, at the moment facing no more cheerful prospect than that all they may plant this spring will be reaped for the benefit of their oppressors.

Yet in the mere holding of such a conference, and in planning for eventual restoration of Europe's fields and farms to normal productivity, there is evidence not only of hope, but of indomitable purpose. In a spring not far distant, this conference will bear fruit.

PRIVATE LIVES

By Edwin Cox

Trying to Keep France From Axis Ranks Reminiscent of Efforts to Appease Japs

By CONSTANTINE BROWN

WASHINGTON—A new French-American agreement for the shipment of food and clothing to North Africa is now on President Roosevelt's desk, awaiting his approval and signature.

The shipping of these essentials from the United States to Casablanca has been suspended after the "Libyan affair," when the British caught the Vichy government red-handed, and proved to the satisfaction of the State Department that Tunisian authorities were obeying orders from Berlin and helping the armies of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel in every way they could.

This, together with the return of the French battleship Dunkerque to Toulon without notification to the American embassy in Vichy—contrary to the written agreement—put a new strain on French-American relations, and it looked for a while like this government would take a more realistic view of the Vichy government and where it stood in relation to the Axis.

But both Washington and London were greatly concerned over the question of the French fleet and wished to leave no stone unturned to prevent it from being surrendered to the Nazis.

AFTER the return of the Dunkerque to France and the departure of four French warships for Madagascar, the Vichy government informed our ambassador, Admiral William Leahy, that the rumors of the surrender of the fleet were malicious propaganda. Admiral Darlan, speaking in the name of Chief of State Marshal Petain, reiterated Vichy's solemn promise that the French fleet would not go over to the Nazis so long as the United States continued to send even small quantities of supplies to Morocco.

Conversations between London and Washington followed, with the result that an agreement was concluded whereby two cargo ships would be sent from Casablanca to the United States as soon as President Roosevelt signed the agreement.

In certain quarters the assurances of the Vichy government are regarded with skepticism and awaken memories of last year, when some senators decided to present a bill prohibiting exports of gasoline and scrap iron to Japan. This occurred at the time when the Atlantic seaboard suffered its first shortage of gasoline while full tankers were taking gasoline to Japan.

SENATOR GUY GILLETTE, Democrat of Iowa, decided to present a motion to the Senate urging a complete ban on exports of gas and oil to Japan, but he withdrew it at the insistent request of the State Department, which warned the Iowa that such a bill would prove dangerous, since the triangular conversations between the United States, Great Britain, and Japan were in a fair way to solution of the Pacific question.

It was pointed out to the Iowa legislator that an understanding, whereby Japan would remain neutral in the present war, would be rendered impossible if the Senate intervened to prevent Japan from obtaining essential raw materials in the United States.

The argument of Senator Gillette, that Japan had signed an agreement a few months earlier with Italy and Germany and was already an active part of the Axis, was of no avail. The signature of agreements between faithless nations is nothing more than bluff and eyewash, he was informed. If we played our cards carefully, he was told further, the Japanese might easily remain out of the conflict and the power of the military clique in Tokyo might be broken.

The Gillette motion was withdrawn and today the Japanese are fighting the Allies with American gasoline, oil and shells made with raw materials which, until a few months before Pearl Harbor, were purchased in this country.

IT is feared in some Washington quarters that a similar situation, on a smaller scale, might result from our present policy toward France.

There is nothing this government would rather do than remain in cordial relations with the French government. There is nothing the United Nations would like better than to restore France to her old power and prosperity.

But if information that reaches the United States from that unfortunate country indicates clearly that Hitler has the upper hand at Vichy, Marshal Petain may not feel sympathetic toward the "new order" in Europe, but he is surrounded by men who, almost without exception, see full cooperation with the Reich as the only means of salvation for France.

So long as the military situation remains dormant in Europe, the French will watch their step. But it is feared that the day Hitler begins to strike at Britain, Russia and the Near East with the whole might of the Axis, Marshal Petain will have little to say about France's actions. Nothing but a grand scale offensive by the United Nations on the coast of France—and this is considered out of the question at the present time—would give the French freedom to express their sympathies.

THE French, like the rest of conquered Europe, would receive us with open arms if we handed them every scrap of supplies that we do not intend to submit to the will of their present master and dance to Berlin's tune.

A large proportion of the supplies they get from us may go to the conqueror, regardless of what promises Vichy gives us and what control we pretend to exercise over the disposition of those supplies.

His mother once confirmed this to me in very similar words.

It is a rare quality. Not one man in 10,000 has it. These are the reasons why so many men in important jobs in the emergency war organization are so irritable, don't get their work done and also why there is so much back-biting and lack of co-operation.

This is not necessarily a permanent condition. It tends to cure itself as the organization "shakes itself down." It is doing that now. Every recent step of reorganization has been in that direction.

THE country has not been shown enough of it to see the far-reaching effects of the recent Army reorganization—especially of the supply side under Somervell.

He has very full authority under Nelson's general supervision over the procurement of all kinds of supplies by the Army Bureau and of the men who are to do the work. They must do it as Somervell says—or else, and he is noissy-briches in making the "or else" mean something.

If the Navy goes as far, then Nelson's job will be reduced to a minimum because, with a joint Army-Navy munitions board ironing out by conference and agreement all but irreconcilable conflicts, Nelson will have only the few toughest nuts to crack and can devote himself to his real job.

THAT job is not to do any purchasing at all, but to ration scarce supplies where they are most needed and to see that Army, Navy, Lease-Lend and Maritime Commission get what they need of both supplies and facilities, exactly when and where they need it.

That, plus conversion of plants, conservation of material, substitution of plentiful for scarce materials and a care for the civilian population, is Nelson's job—and a very little else beside.

It is exactly that job that he hasn't as yet been able to do, partly because he doesn't seem fully to understand how to do it and partly for all the other reasons stated here.

Schedules Good to Eat By: No Good for Winning Wars

By HENRY McLEMORE

WASHINGTON—Schedules are very fine things for trains, buses, Halley's comet, and high and low tides. But they aren't worth much to a nation at war.

They serve a purpose at first as a sort of framework on which to hang Organization and Production, but it doesn't take them long to outlive their usefulness.

Right now this country is burdened with schedules. It is time they were done away with. This isn't an original thought with me. The thought came to me in a letter from Bogart Rogers, a friend, who, despite residence in Beverly Hills, Calif., manages to do a good job of thinking.

BOGART ROGERS has started a one-man war against schedules. He wants to see them abolished in every type of plant that is contributing material for our war effort. Without his permission, I want to reveal certain paragraphs of his letter. My only excuse is that they make a lot of sense.

"A senatorial committee is investigating rumors of a slow-down in production of various kinds," Rogers writes, "particularly aircraft plants. As I get it, the plant managements always put on their most smug smiles and answer the investigators with something like this: 'But, look, Senator, how can you find fault with us? We felt that you would be delighted with what we are doing because we are way ahead of schedule. We are a full six weeks ahead of the work assigned to us.'

"What the hell has schedule got to do with winning a war? What virtue is there in being ahead of an arbitrary schedule if you are still short of maximum possibilities? And, I'll guarantee you that a lot of plants are ahead of the program assigned them but still are delivering far less than 100 per cent of their all-out capabilities.

"No guy ever made Grantland Rice's All-America football team by just carrying out his assignment, which, say, was to handle the opposing tackle. The real All-Americans smacked out the tackle, got downfield to pulverize a defensive left halfback, and then stand by to recover fumbles, if any.

"My contention at a time like this is that men and women are not doing their duty unless they are delivering right up to the limit of their ability to deliver. The same goes for plants, shipyards and factories. There are entirely too many people and too many organizations in this country content to keep up with schedules, to maintain a pace that will keep them from being criticized. To my way of thinking, we'll never get the job done that way."

ROGERS goes on to suggest that the motto of all us Americans be changed from "We're up to schedule" to "We can't be bothered with schedules—they're too easy."

Wonder what wonders could be performed if, for six months, all of us forgot ourselves in thinking about our country, and really dug in and went to town?

After all, why shouldn't all of us get in there and pitch? Private John Doe, 24, healthy, happy, and full of life, doesn't owe our country any more than we do. He is no more part of it than we are. And, think of the hours he gives toward the preservation of the things that are no nearer to him than to us who are not in uniform.

He follows a schedule, it's true, but, Brother, it is a very flexible one. It allows him to work 12 hours a day just as easily as it allows him to work 12. What would happen to Private John Doe if he decided on a schedule for himself and told the Army he was going to do the amount of work he thought was fair and just, and no more?

Your guess is as good as mine and they're both the same.

Street - Corner Strategists Make War Tasks Look Simple

By DALE HARRISON

NEW YORK—How to Win the War: Everywhere I go people are telling each other how to win the war. If all the schemes for quick victory were laid end to end, they would make a chain of words from here to there, and back.

Being a trusting soul, I listen patiently to all these hotel lobby strategists and barroom generals, but for the life of me I can't make much sense out of them. Mostly the schemes fall into these categories:

1. Take the offensive.
2. Invade Europe.
3. Bomb Tokyo.
4. Make Hawaii impregnable.

THE pleasant side of all these schemes is that they sound pretty when they roll from the glib civilian tongue. The chief difficulty, as I see it, is that none of the street-corner strategists offers any plan for accomplishing the desiderata.

They say, "Take the offensive," but they don't say where, how or with what.

It would be splendid to "invade Europe," provided all went well, and the enemy retires in wild disorder crying "Kamerad!" It would be something less than splendid, though, if the invasion were attempted without careful planning and adequate force to assure victory.

TO bomb Tokyo is, of course, not impossible. To bomb Tokyo with a few planes, however, is of no military importance, and hardly of any psychological value.

The time to bomb Tokyo, as leaders of this government have hinted on several occasions, is when we will have such power and supremacy that we can blast the enemy from the earth, and shake his sacred mountains with our bombs.

It is logical to assume, even in a frightened age when people's assumptions are not always proved true, that the Hawaiian Islands will be made as impregnable as man can make them. Whether that will be impregnable, time will tell.

MY own thoughts on the war follow somewhat along the lines of those expressed recently in New York by Gen. Zdzislaw Sikorski, commander in chief of the Poles, who pointed out that whatever dangers the United Nations may face—dangers of under-production, lack of raw materials, and dissipation of manpower—those same dangers confront the enemy just as strongly.

The enemy does not count his conquests except in the number of his dead and the depletion of his reserves. As we grow strong, he must inexorably grow weak.

And when that day comes that he is weakened and we are strengthened, we'll kick his teeth in.

WHEN a celebrity gets sick, what does her public do? Tallulah Bankhead spent a week in the hospital last month, with these results: 236 telegrams, 147 telephone calls, 64 floral offerings (the donors ranging all the way from composer Cole Porter to Miss Bankhead's hotel bellboys), 27 books—all of which have been given to the armed forces—and 14 baskets of fruit, most of which was turned over to other patients.

THE NEIGHBORS

By George Clark



"Now, don't get excited, dear! The Bilfords told us to make ourselves at home."