

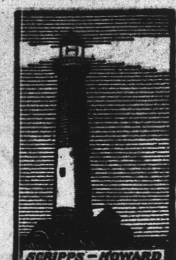
The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214 W. Maryland St.

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard News Service, and Audit Bureau of Circulation.


 Price in Marion County, 5 cents a copy; delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.
 Mail subscription rates in Indiana, \$3 a year; outside of Indiana, \$5 cents a month.

RILEY 5551

Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1940

HOW GREAT IS THE NEED?

THE answer to the question "How great is the need?" made so often to the Cloth-A-Child staff is contained in the simple fact that The Indianapolis Times has been forced to discontinue accepting applications from families seeking clothing for their children.

The Times sincerely regrets this step. But it must be pointed out that it would be unkind and unfair to continue to accept applications when there are already more names of children on the approved lists than can possibly be filled.

The simple taking of an application does not mean that The Times has accepted it and will clothe the children. But, unfortunately, it does mean that hope has been kindled that some action will be taken.

It is a bitter fact that there is now no possible way for The Times to clothe all the children whose names have been put forward and approved.

That is how great the need is.

If you can help, please do.

LORD LOTHIAN

UNTIL events exposed the true nature of Adolf Hitler's aspirations, the Marquess of Lothian, who died yesterday in Washington, was an advocate of appeasement—in the Chamberlain, pre-Munich sense of that now opprobrious word.

In 1935, after visiting Hitler, Lord Lothian pronounced the Fuehrer "sincere." Nazism, he said, was "not imperialist in the old sense of the word."

Although as secretary to Lloyd-George he had been one of the sub-architects of the Versailles Treaty, he deplored the postwar treatment of Germany and condoned her departure from the League of Nations.

After Germany remilitarized the Rhineland, in 1936, he indicated sympathy for further German aspirations and remarked: "If Danzig wants to rejoin Germany, it is not worth a war to prevent it."

In 1938 he wrote: "If another war comes, the dispassionate historian a hundred years hence will say not that Germany alone was responsible for it, even if she strikes the first blow, but that those who mismanaged the world between 1918 and 1937 had a large share of responsibility for it."

But after Hitler violated the Munich agreement by seizing Czechoslovakia, Lord Lothian—like the late Neville Chamberlain—saw that the world was up against. Abandoning hope of a reasonable arrangement with Hitler, he came out for conscription.

We do not rake over the speeches of the past in order to reproach the late Ambassador. On the contrary, it seems to us that his desire to right some of the wrongs of Versailles and later was entirely admirable. The trouble was, as Lord Lothian himself indicated, that the righting of these wrongs was deferred until an embittered German people grasped at Nazism as the only escape from degradation. And once Hitler got started, there was no propitiating him.

The mistake of Lord Lothian, and of so many of the rest of us, was in failing to recognize that here was not just an honest patriot, a redresser of grievances, but a ruthless dictator bent on world revolution and world empire.

Once the truth was plain, Lord Lothian was a single-minded champion of British rearmament and war.

Few British posts are as important as that of Ambassador to the United States, and few of his countrymen could have served here with such distinction.

His striking plea for more American aid to Britain—read to the American Farm Bureau Federation by a colleague while he was on his death-bed—was a fitting end for one who served his country so well.

NO SHORT CUT ON BRITISH AID

HENRY MORGENTHAU announces that he "will never be a party" to a loan to England as long as the Johnson Act stands.

Jesse Jones announces that "the only one who can lend Britain money is Congress. There is no power in the RFC to make such loans. The reason is the Neutrality Act."

Thus the two principal money men of the Administration dispose finally of any suspicions that the Government, in casting about for ways to aid England financially, might try to short-cut Congress via loop-holes in the Johnson and Neutrality Acts.

The Government has already taken many "short-of-war" steps in England's behalf without consulting Congress, most notably the destroyers-for-bases deal. From now on the legislative branch, on which the ultimate responsibility of declaring a war would fall, should be fully consulted on every proposition that might tend toward confronting it with that desperate responsibility.

STUFF FOR O. HENRY

THE story isn't authenticated, but it's going the rounds, and even if it isn't so it should be preserved as fiction. For in all the record of power politics, back through the centuries to the grandeur that was Greece and the glory that was Rome—of the Metternichs, the Machiavellis, and the Richelieus—there is no better material. It's a tale of not just the double-cross, but the double-double.

As it goes, it seems that Mussolini thought he had Metaxas bribed. The asking price had been 50 million dollars but Il Duce chiseled it down to 20 million.

The idea was to attain a pushover, a super-Quisling, a grand entrance and no fight; a pompous and full-dress conquest without risk of life or limb; a fifth column job that would make Hitler's capture of Norway, the low countries and France seem amateur stuff by comparison.

As the story continues, Metaxas took the 20 million, spent it on armaments, and used them on the invading Italians. Hence the debacle.

We yearn for an O. Henry to whip that short story into shape.

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

Hitler's Attack On U. S. Won't Help Germany But Should Stir Us Out of Our Sleep if Anything Can.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—The Germans took full advantage of the quadrennial madness of the stupid Americans, but, though we lost precious time and our resolution wobbled, Hitler has now said the words which should snap the spell. From the German point of view they were much better left unsaid. To us they should be a kick in the pants.

It has often been observed that the reason why the Nazi German is so brutal, treacherous and selfish is to be found in his inability to imagine that any other nation has any right which conflicts with any interest of Germany. That has been demonstrated in the attacks on the little nations whose military weakness was so plain that when Hitler struck they were obliterated in, so to speak, a day. The moral rottenness of the Nazi spirit gained much in these actions, but the expression of that vice unwittingly given in Hitler's speech to his robots will show a loss.

In that address Hitler was unable to imagine that the people of the United States might be capable of patriotic effort or that their lethargy could be due to anything but that which he would call civil degeneracy and fear of Hitler. He certainly must have been advised that, from a state of alarm last spring, the Americans had spun off into a domestic apathy over the Presidency which monopolized their interest to the almost total neglect of the menace of Adolf Hitler.

THE election over, the Americans still dawdled in the throes of an awful political hangover. A comparative few young men went off to military camps, some of which were unprepared to house them decently, the two big labor organizations met in rival conventions to exchange sneers, the rearmament program bogged down and the President of the United States found conditions so relaxed that he could crank up a warship and go off on a cruise.

A more favorable condition, from Hitler's standpoint, it would be impossible to imagine, for it is not friendly terms with Hitler that we need, but the character of one bad man this nation might have snatched on. The time surely was ripe to let the Americans drowse, but Hitler, fortunately, took this as a war against capitalism, a war between two worlds, two philosophies, his and ours, naming the United States.

SO the struggles against Jewish Bolshevism, that shrieking fraud, becomes open, at last, a war of German bolshevism against the capitalist system under which freedom exists. And from Hitler comes the admission that any means, even that bolshevism which he reviled for years, is legitimate to serve the brutal aspirations of a killer nation.

The right to live, of which he spoke, is a right of Germans only, not of Czechs or Belgians, Danes, Norwegians, or Poles, and any wrong done in the name of Germany is right, because the super-race of chosen people alone of all the world have rights. Every foul and stealthy attribute formerly imputed to that useful old goblin, world Jewry, is discovered now at work in the interests of world Germanism. Americans are put on notice that the American world, the American philosophy, must go because they interfere with the German right. This warning has been sounded before, but never so openly by Hitler, who obviously must feel that by now the American nation is too far gone in sloth, corruption and internal rancor to be capable of resistance.

This wasn't mere recklessness on Hitler's part. It was the spirit of the German nation expressing again its determination to rule a world of sub-human slaves.

Business

By John T. Flynn

British Seeking U. S. Entry Into War In Order to Speed Up Production

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—The lines of the drive to increase American participation in the German-British war are becoming clear. America is at the moment in the grip of one of the most gigantic propaganda drives in her history. And here is the line.

It has been said for a long time that Britain did not want America in the war—that she did not need men, but only materials. If America went into the war Britain feared that America would immediately command so much of her production for herself that England's share would be smaller.

But now a new situation has developed. It grows out of two factors. First, the damage that has been done to British shipping and to British production by the German air and submarine attacks is greater than had been supposed in this country. It is so great that England's position is now serious and she must get more war equipment, more guns, more planes, more ships from us if she is to avoid an early peace settlement.

On the other hand American production is not moving as fast as was hoped. In this respect the rather unguarded, even foolish, big talk of various American politicians led both Britain and her American agents to suppose that the supplies would be great.

In the last week numerous magazines and newspapers have broken out with stories of the lag, the widespread lag, in production. It is not precisely a lag. It is the inevitable pace of a free business system attempting to gear itself to a sudden change in production, in products and in pace.

ENGLISH leaders now feel that the only way to make America produce all that England wants is for America to declare war. Instantly the vast war powers of the President will be involved. He will become a virtual dictator. He and the Army can then tell any auto or steel company or any factory or any mine or any labor union what to do, what not to do.

In other words, Britain wants America to be turned into an arsenal for providing war supplies for England. At the same time she will get the American Navy, and the use of American ships to transport food and army equipment, and American warships to convoy them; and she will not have to pay for these things, since America, being in the war, will pay for them herself. She will not have to part with her colonies or even borrow any money.

This is the dream that the organized and well-financed propagandists of the British Government is now taking. And there are certain agents who believe that this country can be brought into the war within two months at the most.

So They Say—

TO BE CAUGHT by a raid when you're in the bath-tub is completely awful.—Eric Sevareid, foreign correspondent, in Current History.

WE FUTURISTS prefer the deeds of war to the deeds of peace, and therefore we are very happy in the atmosphere of Mussolini's war.—Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, Italian Futurist poet (64 years old).

I HAVE A DEFINITE impression that the people of this country do not understand either the size or the pressing urgency of the defense undertaking.—William L. Batt, former president, to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Hitler Says—



"WE PREFERRED COMMON SENSE TO FORCE. THE RIGHT TO LIVE BELONGS TO ALL NATIONS."



"IN THE NAZI STATE BIRTH MEANS NOTHING, ABILITY EVERYTHING."



"THE PAPERS (IN DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES) APPEAR ACCORDING TO POLITICAL POLICIES, BUT IN REALITY THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM."



"AT HOME IN DOMESTIC POLITICS I ALWAYS REPRESENTED THE HAVE-NOTS. NOW AGAIN I STAND UP TO TAKE THE PART OF THE HAVE-NOTS."



"CHURCHILL DECIDED TO LAUNCH UNRESTRICTED AIR WARFARE—I DIDN'T WANT TO ATTACK ANYTHING EXCEPT MILITARY OBJECTIVES."



"OUT OF THIS WORK WILL RISE... THE GREAT REICH OF PEACE, WORK, WELFARE AND CULTURE."

The Hoosier Forum

I wholly disagree with what you say, but will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire.

LAUDING MORGENTHAU ON BOND PROPOSAL

By K. S. C.

Secretary Morgenthau is to be commended for his attempt to do away with the evil of tax-exempt bonds.

It may very well be that this issue will not command the low interest rate heretofore enjoyed, but if it succeeds in driving other money into more productive activity it will certainly be worth while.

PREDICTS BRITISH MAY SUE FOR PEACE

By Observer

Well it looks pretty certain now that England stands at the crossroads. Either we give them more help and plenty of it or they go down.

For my part I'm all for doing what we can—short of war. But it looks as if we've already reached that point.

It wouldn't surprise me to see the British willing to accept a negotiated peace soon. Having practically knocked Italy out of the war they should come off with most of their empire intact by favoring an armistice now. But if they wait it may be too late.

NEWCOMER SUGGESTS TRAFFIC LIGHT CHANGES

By C. E. Stans

As a newcomer to your city, after having lived the last four years in other larger cities, including New York, may I present my views on your traffic accident problem.

1. Traffic lights should be placed where they can be directly seen without looking around for them. Some of your lights are on a safety zone stanchion, some before a street intersection, some after a street intersection, and some after a street intersection, and some after a street intersection.

2. Traffic lights should not be placed in such a position that they are in the line of vision of illuminated advertising signs, especially neon signs. Suggested solutions would be:

a. Move traffic lights toward the center of the street, or
b. Prohibit erection of red neon signs where they interfere with the visibility of the traffic light, or
c. Install larger bulbs in the traffic lights so that they will be brighter than the interfering signs.

3. Install larger bulbs or sun light.

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns, religious controversies excluded. Make your letters short, so all can have a chance. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request.)

shields on traffic lights on East-West streets. It is often impossible during the daytime to determine if a traffic signal is indicating stop or go or is not in operation.

4. The timing cycle of the traffic signals here is the most absurd I have ever seen. The caution light should be on long enough so that a pedestrian who is caught in the middle of the street on a signal change can WALK to the nearest curb before the cross flow traffic starts. The go signal should be on long enough so that a dozen, instead of as at present two to four, cars can cross the intersection before the signal changes. It is my opinion that improper traffic signal timing is the major impediment to the free flow of traffic during rush hours in this city.

5. Some intersections have stop signs on one of the streets, others have none at all. Either intersection should have a stop sign on one of the streets or none of the intersections should have stop signs.

6. The murder and carnage occurring in Europe at the present time has a tendency to lessen the value of human life in America today.

The shooting to death of my 16-year-old son by a . . . tavern owner . . . may not seem deplorable, except to that mother. However, many honorable judges in the State of Indiana have refused bail when one has been indicted by the Grand Jury for first degree murder, perhaps with the conviction that he who kills . . . should be incarcerated until time for trial, but perhaps they were old-fashioned and not in tune with the stream-lined justice of today.

I loved my boy. I miss him. I do not want to be vindictive. I only want others to be spared. . . . I do not criticize the Judge for what he has done. I only think it is fair to me, fair to the public, and fair to himself, to make a public statement.

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Gen. Johnson Says

Morgenthau Acts Wisely in Effort To End Tax-Exempt Bonds But His Slacker Money Remarks Won't Help

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Mr. Morgenthau's attempt to cut out tax-exempt Governmental securities is a step in the right direction, although it will be a long hard job. That kind of bond should never have been permitted in the first place. They were issued partly because of a fear growing out of constitutional principles—that of the Federal Government could tax the credit of the states, or the states could tax the credit of the nation, one form of government could destroy the other—and partly because tax-exempt securities have a higher market value and therefore a lower interest rate than tax-free securities. That permitted state and national Governments to "hire" their borrowed money cheaply by insisting on their tax exemption.

That principle worked fairly well before taxes in the higher brackets of income became almost confiscatory. Before that, almost all investors, figuring the relative value of fixed-income securities, balanced security with rate of return and made their choice between "gilt-edged industrials" and "governmentals" on a formula that figured a flat addition to income from the tax-exemption of Government securities.

With slight exceptions, big and little investors used the same rule. Governments probably lost no revenue at all from tax exemption because the much higher rate on perfectly safe industrials made enough more taxable income to offset the loss through exemptions.

AFTER the higher brackets of large income began to be taxed from 83 per cent to 90 per cent by all Governments, after interest rates on "industrials" began to descend to the vanishing point and the number of perfectly safe industrials began to decline, the old formula didn't work any more. The tax exemption became much more valuable to big incomes. For that and other reasons, there was a great rush of all investment, and especially the money of the very rich, into tax-exempt Government securities.

All that is a very good reason for the new rule about tax-exemption, but it is no reason at all for Mr. Morgenthau to begin to call any money invested in tax-exempt securities "slacker-money," or to mouth meaningless words about "drafting capital because we draft man-power."

The latter is a particularly low grade of pure demagoguery, which is the more to be condemned because what he proposes is not "drafting" capital at all. As to the former, if investing in the only kinds of securities this Government has seen fit to offer investors is slackerism, then Mr. Morgenthau has invented a new idea of the duties of patriotism that nobody ever entertained before.

DURING the World War, this Government so emphasized the obligation to invest in tax-exempt defense bonds that you were a slacker if you didn't hock everything feasible, including your stock of future income, to buy them. Even soldiers at the front felt the heat on their meager pay.

Ever since, and especially during Mr. Morgenthau's term of office, vast quantities of these securities have been literally forced on the banks for the investment of the savings of all the people. Now, overnight, Mr. Morgenthau discovers that this "slacker money," which can only mean that the investors or those who managed their money were "slackers."

That is no formula for national unity. Of course, it wasn't intentional. It was just ignorant, but Mr. Morgenthau's several similar slips haven't done the defense of this country. The truth about the relief money that the state is spending.

The people who are sick or too old to get jobs are forced to live on relief but they are not to blame because so much money is spent. Now for a few facts. No wonder the relief money is supposed to last a family a month if the family has one room or five or six to heat.

By a ton of coal I mean 2000 pounds. But relief coal comes 1500 pounds to a ton. And these houses paupers live in are as open as a corn crib. At the store it is the same. Everything is just a little higher. Never a sale on anything and a pauper must stand aside and allow others to be waited on first.

Families on WPA get most of the surplus food. No wonder the WPA never look for any other work. They sure live the life of Riley.

One family I can tell you about has a married son who quit two jobs obtained for him by the trustee and now gets basket relief and works every day on a truck. Some joke.

If you want proof, let me know. Wayne Township needs cleaning up more than Center did. People who really need help never get anything. I can also give proof of this.

Just come out some day and go up the alley and see the waste surplus food by the basketful that is dumped out for the ash men to haul away. And yet others go hungry because three dollars doesn't buy enough to feed a family.

BLAMES HITLER'S RISE TO DEFEAT OF LEAGUE

By Old-Timer

Unless help comes pretty soon from some quarter it looks very much as if the British will be conquered.

If this happens the United States will stand alone, practically at the mercy of the dictators. It is very doubtful that we can re-arm in time to make ourselves a first class power.

All this can be blamed to the defeat of the League of Nations, particularly Article X of that document.

If the U. S. had entered the league and if it had been kept strong no military power could dominate the rest of the world as Germany has done.

Looks as if we'll have to become a hermit nation—until some great power, probably Germany, sends a mighty fleet over here and "invites" us to take a place in world commerce.

That's what we did with Japan.

TORCH BEARER

By VERNIE S. MOORE

You are torch bearer for the human race. You have been dubbed to bear the potent mace. Swing it aloft as only heroes do! As from the past the flame was thrust to you.

The future waits to seize the message brought. Thus is relayed the flaming torch of thought. You and only you can fill the place Can execute the trust. Lift high your face.

You bear the torch