

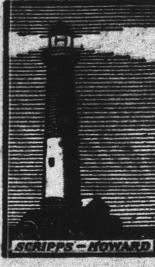
The Indianapolis Times

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Gives 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 Clothe-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." Naziism, 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 what 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 pro-pitiating 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 wabbled, 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 Nazified 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 menace was so puny that when Hitler struck they were obliterated in, so to speak, a day. The moral recklessness 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 anything but that which he would call civic 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 spat 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 warplane and go off on a cruise.

A more favorable condition, from Hitler's standpoint, it would be impossible to imagine, for it is not denied that this nation must be Britain's arsenal, shipyard and farm, not some time but now. Hitler realized this better than the Americans, who had begun to mumble again about Britain's old sins against Ireland and the Boers, forgetting that Hitler was the enemy of the United States.

Charles Lindbergh had said that we could live on friendly terms with Hitler victorious, and there were those who clutched at that hope, too. So, altogether, but for the innate evil of a predatory breed whose historic brutality is so wholly packaged in the character of one bad man this nation might have snoozed on. The time surely was ripe to let the American drowses, but Hitler, fortunately, took this hour to declare that, contrary to his past preaching, this was 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 shrinking fraud, becomes openly, at last, a war of German bolshevism against the only 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, 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 is the right to live, of which he spoke, is a right of Germans only, not of Czechs, 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.

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