

Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

LONDON (By Wire)—I always thought that a member of the peerage gave off a constant white light, like an incendiary bomb, and that if you got caught in this light you became weak all over, your tongue froze and you were sort of hypnotized.



Honestly, it had never occurred to me that an English lord, when you actually met one, would be a human being. But now I've met one, and I'm still shocked to realize that he spoke real words to me and that I spoke words back to him.

The great man in question is Lord Beaverbrook, the big newspaper owner. But right now he is much more than a newspaper owner—he's the man who is rolling out the planes with which Britain intends eventually to win this war.

Lord Beaverbrook is Minister of Aircraft Production. There wasn't any such ministry until last May. Airplanes weren't coming off the line fast enough to catch up with Germany. Everybody was trying, but everybody apparently was trying in all directions at once. So Mr. Churchill put his finger on Lord Beaverbrook and said, "You're it."

Contempt for Tradition

I doubt if Lord Beaverbrook knew any more about aircraft production at that moment than I did, but he did know how to get things done. He has the American sense for ignoring tradition, and an almost inspired zeal for accomplishment. He stepped into his new job with a bang and said, "No, we won't cut tape, we'll just ignore it."

What he did, and how he did it, must still remain in the secret files, but you can draw your own conclusions—Britain has been getting very bold in the air of late. Daylight raids across the Channel have become a steady occurrence, and British planes control the skies of Africa and Greece.

People close to Lord Beaverbrook have a tenacious affection and respect for him, but as a public figure he has collected his share of dead cats. The English public considers him a robber baron. The aristocracy regards him as a man in the trade. Plenty of bricks are hurled at his present success.

People say, "Yes, he succeeded, but he did it by ruthlessly robbing other ministries."

I don't know that Lord Beaverbrook ever answers these jibes, but if he wanted to he could say, "Well,

you all said the production of planes was the most important thing in this war. If that's true, then what was wrong with taking things from other departments?"

Lord Beaverbrook likes a fight, and he doesn't especially care for applause. As one writer put it, he'd "rather be cleverly attacked than fulsomely praised." He likes to be in there swinging against odds. And he has a vitality, both mental and physical, that exhausts the people around him.

Regards Himself a Foreigner

When he jumped into this thankless job last May he was like a new man. His asthma disappeared. He worked from 9 in the morning till 3 the next morning. Like Edison, he exists on little sleep. And he had his whole staff going at a high pitch. He loved it.

But now his asthma has come back, and he doesn't keep the ridiculous hours he did at first. When I said to him, "I'll bet you love your job, don't you?" he smiled and said, "I'd like to be out of it."

It's my guess that Lord Beaverbrook has aircraft production on his mind so well that it no longer tests him and he is becoming bored with it. To me, that's just as pertinent an indicator of his success as the new audacity of the R. A. F.

Lord Beaverbrook was born in Canada, the son of a Presbyterian clergyman. Before he was 30 he had made a million dollars. Then he came to England to make his mark.

He was elected to Parliament long ago, in 1910. During the World War he was Minister of Information. He is the best-known newspaper figure in Britain. He has taken a big hand in politics, and now again he is doing a vital war job for England. And yet he still sort of considers himself a foreigner.

When I sat down, across the desk from him, the first thing he said was, "Well, what do you think of them, aren't they wonderful?" He meant the British people and the way they are taking the war.

"I'm a foreigner here, you know," he said, "so I can see them as they can't see themselves."

"They're the greatest race on earth. Nobody else could have pulled themselves together like this. I doubt if we could have done it in Canada."

"Could we Americans have done it?" I asked.

"Well, yes," he said. "At least in the East they could have."

I damned well resented that, being an old Montana cowboy myself. But then I remembered I was in Whitehall and not on Powder River, so like the British I pulled myself together and carried on.

More about Lord Beaverbrook tomorrow.

'Bill' and 'Sidney' Pull Together as a Team

Defense Heads Have One Goal, Production

(This is the last in a series of articles on William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman, co-directors of the nation's defense program.)

By Tom Wolf
Times Special Writer

ONE of the unexpected things about defense director William S. Knudsen is that since arriving in Washington he has conceived a warm liking and a good deal of admiration for Franklin Roosevelt.

He is as far away from F. D. R.'s political philosophy as ever, but he has become fond of the man personally. Also, he likes the way Roosevelt operates—says that he is forthright and "doesn't put on any dog."

One of the unexpected things about associate defense director Sidney Hillman is that since taking up his governmental duties he appears to have developed a genuine friendship not only with Knudsen, but also with hands-on, steel-gray Edward R. Stettinius Jr., another defense commissioner. But certainly the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Hillman could not be said to see eye to eye, socially, with General Motors' Knudsen and U. S. Steel's Stettinius.

And it's much too early to report that these purely personal relationships represent a great cementing of relations between capital and labor and that a new era of mutual understanding dawns. It can be reported, however, that the White House and official Washington generally relish the spectacle of harmony that seems to exist within the Defense Commission.

Though their careers have presently led them to the same place, the roads Bill Knudsen and Sidney Hillman traveled in getting there have been as far apart as possible.

William Knudsen once said: "Out of 100 men 27 are self-starters, 40 are men who can do what the 27 tell them to do. I don't know what the remaining 33 are doing, and my hope is that my portion of the 33 will be as small as possible."



Mr. Knudsen . . . Hillman calls him Bill.



Mr. Hillman . . . Knudsen calls him Sidney.

THIS illustrates the difference in philosophy between the Director General of the Office of Production Management and his Associate Director General, Sidney Hillman. For Hillman has spent a great part of his life as a champion of the 33.

Knudsen is in general philosophy, a laissez faire man. He believes centralization, through government regulation of business, hurts production.

Hillman once remarked of laissez faire: "Laissez faire is the policy of every man for himself, and the devil takes the hindmost. But I have noticed that the devil not only takes the hindmost, but everything else as well."

Cursing the "plague of planlessness," Hillman plunged hard in the early 1930s for a National Economic Council. It would have consisted of men from each major industry who would determine what per cent of capital reserves should go into expansion and what per cent should go into increased buying power through higher wages. Although this plan was

never adopted, parts of it greatly influenced the establishment of the NRA, of which Hillman was labor's administrator.

What Knudsen thought of the NRA is a matter of record. He called it "a crazy voluntary legislative movement," and said that "of course the whole thing blew up."

HILLMAN has been behind many other New Deal laws, including the Wagner Act and the Wage-Hour Bill. His testimony before a Congressional committee investigating wages and hours played a large role in the bill's final passage and President Roosevelt sent him the pen with which the bill was signed into law.

Both these acts are foreign to Knudsen's philosophy. He sees in both a decrease in production.

"There are two schools of thought in dealing with the unemployment problem," he once said. "The first is advanced by our labor leaders, who advocate splitting the work up so that more men share the same job. This is

not exactly making two blades of grass grow where one grew before because we end up with one blade of grass not any bigger or better but costing somewhat more."

The whole philosophy which the New Deal stands for is dear to Sidney Hillman, who broke with John L. Lewis to re-indorse President Roosevelt for a third term. The New Deal philosophy is an anathema to Knudsen, who sees in it trends that will make every one poor in the long run. "This idea of having everybody get poor so nobody can get rich is not going to work," he once said. "Anyway it never has except in ancient Sparta, and Sparta isn't with us any more."

THE Danish blood in his veins shapes much of Knudsen's philosophy. Five years ago he proudly told a Norse civic association: "Scandinavia is the balance wheel of the world. You do not hear of these people suggesting remedies for settling the problems and curing the ills of the world. They are clean and

wholesome and sane people, quite unaffected by the crazy ideas that seem to sweep the rest of the world."

Surprisingly enough, the basic aim of both Hillman and Knudsen is much the same. Both want increased production, no matter how they may differ on the way to attain and distribute it properly. Hillman would be the first to admit that only through increased production can labor have a decent standard of living.

In their present, monumental task, there is little conflict in aim. Both want production. Hillman wants to make sure that this production is achieved with the minimum sacrifice of labor's gains. He is too realistic to think that it can be accomplished without any sacrifice.

And so today two immigrants, now both naturalized citizens, with widely different backgrounds, lives, and philosophies are working together for the same goal. "Bill" and "Sidney"—they're that to each other—are pulling together to make America impregnable.

Inside Indianapolis (And "Our Town")

THE STORY OF A GERMAN invasion of Great Britain in which 10,000 troops were killed was told privately recently to national executives of the American Legion by Lord John, former Assistant Secretary of War. According to Mr. Johnson, the Nazis made their attempt on Dec. 15.

Tens of thousands of specially trained invasion troops put off from the French coast, headed for two British ports.

The British, however, were ready, said Mr. Johnson. Few of the largest oil tankers available had been requisitioned by the Admiralty and loaded with oil and in each was placed a huge charge of R. N. T. Manned by suicide crews the tankers were swung out into the neck of each harbor, blocking the entrance. Mr. Johnson went on to say that when the invaders pulled up within sight of the tankers, they began preparations to clear them from the harbor. The suicide crews set off the R. N. T. and flames of thousands of feet into the air. The casualties were given by Mr. Johnson at 10,000 Nazi troops killed, 50,000 wounded.

The British, he said, censured the story for two reasons:

1. To prevent overconfidence by the defenders.
2. To keep the Nazi high command from learning how it was done.

Around the Town

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE sent invitations to all the 150 members of the Legislature for the

Washington

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The Council for Democracy in New York is undertaking a novel stunt which in itself looks all to the good, but which apparently is preparatory to a move that isn't so democratic. Many Americans are being urged to get by mail from Germany.

By mail from Germany, get it sometimes addressed to my office, sometimes to my house. This material is mailed by way of Siberia to escape British censorship and comes into this country as second-class mail. The propaganda is mainly devoted to items about how wonderful life in Germany is, sprinkled with digs at the democracies. Sometimes it takes a look at it, sometimes it goes into the wastebasket unopened.

The Council for Democracy is trying out the same method on residents of Germany, Italy and Russia. It is addressing direct to residents of these countries a letter telling about life under our democracy. It's a good letter, and might well be sent to our own people.

One-Way Agreement

The letter describes our recent free election and how after Mr. Willkie was defeated he remained free to say what he thought about the policies of our Government. Our defense program is described. Our living standards are described. Churches of every faith are open to all and several millions of Jewish faith worship in their synagogues without fear of hindrance. The free press, free radio, forums of debate are mentioned, and the letter concludes: "If there is any additional information you would like to have about how democracy works in the United States, please write to us."

The committee doesn't expect to receive any replies. It doesn't expect that the letters will even be delivered. The Governments of Germany, Italy and Russia are not in the habit of allowing such propaganda to reach their citizens. The theory of these governments is that the people should know only what the government is willing they should know. It withholds information and all outside propaganda from

them so that they will not know the truth, and so that they cannot think except what the government wants them to think. That's the totalitarian way.

But the head of the Council for Democracy apparently has a most peculiar notion of how this the letters will be proof that they were not delivered. In such an event, he says, we should "reconsider our present observance of an international agreement which works only one way, and that way to the detriment of the security and beliefs of the American people." That is, if Germany, Italy and Russia won't let us send propaganda to their people under the International Postal Agreement, then we should stop them from sending their propaganda to our people under that agreement.

Immune to Propaganda

It seems a little early in the game to be doing that. What's the harm of allowing the Germans to send their propaganda in here? Can't we take it? If we are going to cut off such propaganda from the outside are we going to allow Col. Lindbergh to be talking against the policy of the Government? And are the Republicans going to be allowed to talk against the Government?

It is odd that the first move toward putting the American people into a mental strait-jacket should come from an organization calling itself the "Council for Democracy." One of our chief boasts has been that democracy leaves the mind free. I have been reading German propaganda for years and still like to take a look at it every once in a while. I think I have worked up enough immunity to it so that it does me no harm. I am sure it does no harm to anyone else in our household. It must be the same with other persons.

Whenever a nation goes into war then opinion is regimented temporarily partly by censorship, partly by the pressure of public sentiment. If we went into the war that would happen here. I hope people in England are still listening to Lord Haw-Haw. Ernie Pyle heard Wagner in London during bombing raids. You could ask for no more convincing evidence of high morale in England than that. It would be tragic if we had to betray an inner weakness by starting in now on censorship.

My Day

NEW YORK CITY, Monday.—It was sad indeed to see my daughter and her husband leave yesterday afternoon, but we had had a beautiful time together. I can look forward to a real visit with them in the spring in Seattle, when I shall see the children as well. Perhaps the nicest things come to us only occasionally to keep us from becoming spoiled!

I returned to a very pleasant few minutes at tea with Mrs. Leigh-White. She is on her way to South America to further the organization of Girl Scouts. I think this is a very important tour and Mrs. Leigh-White, who is an Englishwoman and has been interested for many years in the international aspects of the Girl Scout movement, is doing the whole organization a great service

by undertaking it. Mrs. William Brown Meloney also arrived at tea time to stay a few days and it is wonderful to have her well enough for a visit.

In the evening, the President and I, with quite a large party, attended the benefit performance for the infantile paralysis fund given by Miss Jane Cowl and her company in their play, "Old Acquaintance."

We all enjoyed the play. It is well cast, both Miss Cowl and Miss Wood play their parts so that you almost forget you are not actually living through the scenes. The lines are delightful and it is a joy in spite

Jimmy Ruffin's Collection

LITTLE JIMMY RUFFIN, who is 10 and lives at 1623 Montcalm, has been bedfast for quite a few months. His mother, Mrs. Roscoe Ruffin, started collecting the autographs of noted persons for him and now Jimmy has one of the finest collections in the state.

It's just recently been augmented by one from President Roosevelt on White House stationery, plus a supplementary letter from Margaret (Missy) Le Hand, the President's secretary.

Jimmy's whole collection has been gathered by mail, a feat few collectors can boast.

Alfred P. Sloan Jr. dinner Thursday night. So far, only 46 have replied. . . . Sheriff Al Peeney had a wild ride in a cab he picked up the other day and now he's talking about making a lot of cab trips just to pick up some hints on traffic safety. . . . Mark Rodenbeck, former State deputy auto license commissioner, has gone into the insurance business, friends at City Hall learned yesterday. . . . Neatest snow-man of the week was sitting up in the 700 block of E. 38th St., Sunday replete with pulse, hat and trimmings. . . . Lowell Nussbaum, the popular Times reporter, is laid up with a slight case of pneumonia. . . . I. J. (Nish) Dienhart, the ubiquitous Airport manager, and his lover operator, Max Emery, are trying to get (prospects good) the port a new glass control tower. They say there are too many blind spots in the present one.

Board Decides Jurisdiction Is Wide, Enforcement Impossible.

The Zoning Board yesterday withheld its approval of a plan to extend the City's jurisdiction over residential development outside the City limits.

The plan was proposed by the Works Board six months ago as a means of preventing the development of "future slums." In deciding to approve the plan, the Zoning Board members characterized their agency as "a Board with plenty of jurisdiction but no power to enforce it."

The Works Board plan to bring under municipal control unrestricted residential development in the County, hinged on the Zoning Board's jurisdiction which extends five miles outside City limits. It was the Works Board's proposal to make sewer and paved street installations in new additions conditions of getting a building permit.

Claim Inspectors Needed

If the Zoning Board undertook the task of controlling development, it would need funds for inspectors and engineers which are not now available, George T. O'Connor, president, said.

"We wouldn't have a chance of enforcing a building code without a County building department or a County engineer," he said. "We might have the jurisdiction, but we are utterly without means to enforce it when we go outside the City limits."

Within the City, the City Building Commission is the enforcement agency for all building development.

Enforcement Limited

The Works Board's plan of requiring paved streets and sewers in new developments can now be enforced only where ground is unplatted. The Board's control is based on the City's jurisdiction over platting outside City limits.

But where ground that has been already platted is concerned, no municipal agency now has any jurisdiction over building or zoning beyond City limits.

Variances Granted

The Zoning Board yesterday approved six variance petitions. They were: Polar Ice & Fuel Co., an ice station at the northeast corner of River Ave. and Ray St.; Dr. J. S. Browning, conversion of a dwelling at 6220 Carrollton Ave. into a physician's office; Fred L. Quiste, building of a boiler room in a dry cleaning plant at 6120-22 E. Washington St.; Challenge Gauge & Tool Co., Inc., the erection of an addition to a machine shop at 560 N. Elder Ave.; William C. Kirk, erection of a neon sign at 2530 Station St., and the Fidelity Trust Co., installation of three five horse power motors at 1142 N. Meridian St. Three other variance petitions were postponed to the next meeting.

By Raymond Clapper

By Eleanor Roosevelt

of the acceptance of the fact that one can't get away from suffering. I have never been much of a believer in dramatic self-sacrifice, so I could not help enjoying Kit's remark to Deirdre: "And what good will it do?" They all came back to supper and we had a very pleasant time together.

Because the weather looked threatening and I had to start for New Haven, Conn., at 2 o'clock, I decided to take the train up to New York City last night. Here I spent a quiet morning and am now off on a busy afternoon and evening and another night train back to Washington.

I wonder if any of my readers are familiar with the research program which has been carried on during the last six years by Charles F. Reid of the College of the City of New York. He has been building up a bibliography of the territories and outlying possessions of the United States of America. This project has a bearing on national defense for it secures information which is of strategic and military value to the national program.

These bibliographies should really be in every public library, school and college in the country. The greater knowledge of the Panama Canal and our outlying possessions will enable our citizens to understand better the problems of national defense. The editor has done this monumental work as a labor of love, and I hope that librarians and teachers are going to be interested in the project because of its educational value.

ZONING OUTSIDE CITY REJECTED

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Lunch Counter Politics Flares

A basement lunch counter at the City Hall, where employees spend their lunch hours on gloomy days, is changing hands this week. And therein is a matter of cooking versus politics for the Works Board.

Mrs. Susan Froughton, who has managed the lunch room for several years, served notice to the Works Board last week she would resign. Members then began to consider awarding the luncheon enterprise to a loyal Democrat.

"I don't think the matter of politics should enter into this job," one Board member said. "What we want as much as politics is good cooking."

After some deliberation, the Board appointed Mrs. Aspy to the lunchroom. Mrs. Aspy, former employee in the Purchasing Agency, takes up her new duties officially today.

5 CITY DRAFTSMEN GET DEFENSE JOBS

On the heels of last week's shuffle of jobs at City Hall, it was learned today that five draftsmen and assistant engineers in the City Engineering Department have resigned for private jobs at higher pay in the defense program.

Replacements have been hard to find, according to Val E. McLeay, assistant City engineer.

Mr. McLeay, who besides his engineering duties also serves as personnel director for Mayor Sullivan in matters of employment, said that one vacancy still exists in the department. This was created by the resignation of Thomas Shaner, a draftsman.

Illustrating the turn-over in skilled jobs in the department, Mr. Shaner resigned after only one month of service for private employment. He was appointed last month to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Roy Sutton, who went to work on a Government defense project in Madison.

CUSTODY OF NAZI SOUGHT

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 23 (U. P.).—Canada attempted today, with a grand larceny warrant, to regain custody of Baron Franz von Werra, German prisoner of war who escaped across the St. Lawrence River in a rowboat. He was accused of the theft of the rowboat.

Lawyers, who arrived aboard the American President Liner President Adams, told reporters of his rise to riches. He was forced to quit New York University School of Journalism because of finances. His first job, with the Bank of the United States, ended when that institution crashed early in the depression.

Hitch-hiking from the Netherlands, Lauwers reached Czechoslovakia. He got his start by operating a bootblack parlor in front of the Bata shoe factory at Zlin, shining the shoes of some of its 40,000 employees. Jan Bata, the owner of the big Czech shoe combine, took a liking to him and hired him.

Four years ago he took control of the new Bata factory in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo.

Lauwers said he would buy \$1,000,000 of machinery to speed production of shoes, knapsacks, shirts and shorts for the British, Free French and Belgian forces operating in Africa.

At City Hall—MAYOR TO O. K. HOSPITAL WORK

Let's News on Improvements Slip; Bond Issue Is Likely.

By RICHARD LEWIS

When Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan okays a municipal improvement, there is rarely any public announcement about it until the last minute. And then the disclosure almost invariably is made by some other official.

But yesterday, the Mayor forgot his customary reticence and let slip his intention to approve the proposed \$250,000 City Hospital improvement program. The proposal has been pending at City Hall since last May.

It was early in the morning and the Mayor had just signed several hundred vouchers for the semi-monthly payroll. He picked up a cylindrical object about two and a half feet long, wrapped in newspaper, and handed it to a reporter.

Gosh, It's Heavy

"Feel this," he said.

The reporter took the cylindrical package and, astonished at its weight, nearly dropped it. He gave it back to the Mayor, who brandished it a moment.

"Good defensive weapon," the Mayor grinned. "It's a piece of pipe. Pipe taken out of a City Hospital water system and badly rusted. We've got to fix that up this year. They want some other improvements out there and we'll have to have a bond issue to provide them."

Says Nothing More

The Mayor then resumed his work, declining to say anything further about the improvement project, the main feature of which is replacement of the entire water system at the hospital.

This involves the installation of new water pipe, a new well and the purchase of a water softening device to stop corrosion from hard water. Also included in the program are new elevators and remodeling of surgical facilities.

Planning Board to Meet

A meeting of the Marion County Planning Board will be called shortly, probably before its request for funds gets to the County Council, according to Harry Hohlt, County Commissioners' president.

"We feel that there is great need for some zoning action in the area around the new Naval Ordnance plant in Irvington," Mr. Hohlt said. "It is legally impossible for the commissioners to take that action, but we want to get the Planning Board into action as soon as possible."

The County Council considered the request for \$800 for financing the newly reorganized Planning Board last week. The Council could not pass on the request because it must be advertised for 10 days to allow any interested parties to appear at the Council hearings.

The request will be advertised within the next few days, the Auditor's Office said, and the Council will hear the request within a couple of weeks.

Discuss Schools

Perry Township residents met with J. Malcolm Dunn, County Schools superintendent, yesterday

At the Court House—Home for Children Who Are Mentally Unbalanced Urged

By HARRY MORRISON

A mentally unbalanced 10-year-old boy with destructive tendencies was cited today as an example of the State's need for a home for unbalanced children.

The boy was brought to the Juvenile Court yesterday by the Indianapolis Orphan's Home, seeking a permanent institution for him because they could not control him.

The boy's condition is the result of an attack of sleeping sickness. A Knox County ward, he was placed in a foster home by the Children's Bureau here, from which he was returned because of the trouble he caused.

In Detention Home

Unable to find an institution in the State for the case, Judge Wilfred Bradshaw agreed to place the boy temporarily in the Juvenile Detention Home here until a place could be found for him.

According to Dr. George Stevens, Medical Care Division director in the Public Welfare Department, there is no place in the State at present adapted to the care of such children.

He said there are a sufficient number of cases each year to require the establishment of such an institution or the installation of an isolation ward for that purpose in some State hospital. Such a ward should be capable of handling at least 100 children, he said.