

The Indianapolis Times

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1942

A LITTLE CHILD DIES

THOUSANDS of men are dying every day as war sweeps around the world, and most of them are merely atoms in the day's casualty figures. Yet in all this carnage of death, a single figure stood out the other day.

It was that of a little Belgian child, one of 456 sent to Switzerland to undergo recuperative treatment for malnutrition. This boy of 14 was too far gone. Starved literally to death by the Nazi occupation of his homeland, this boy died before hospitalization could begin to set him on the road back to health. It is eloquent testimony to the fate of peoples whom Hitler has conquered.

This, too, lies at the door of those who elected to set the world afire to satisfy their criminal ambition.

WAR PROFITS

MANY Navy contractors have been and are realizing excessive profits. The Naval Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives makes this charge, supports it with a huge mass of statistics, and urges legislation limiting profits on war contracts to 7 per cent.

The necessity for profit limitation is, as the committee says, clearly indicated in justice to the taxpayers and for the sake of public confidence in the honesty and efficiency of government.

Public confidence in the honesty of industry also has importance. It would be inaccurate and unfair to say that the committee has exposed a greedy orgy of deliberate profiteering.

Indeed, the committee itself, though severely critical of excessive profits in numerous specific cases, takes pains to assert that "neither industry as a whole nor the major part of industry should be criticized."

ANALYZING 19,086 Navy contracts, having a total value of nearly four billion dollars, the committee calculates that 54 1/2 per cent of the 1228 contractors concerned have realized or expect to make net profits exceeding 7 per cent on the cost of fulfilling the contracts. On individual contracts "many profits of 50 per cent or more were reported." On total business with the Navy Department "many average profits of 35 per cent or more were reported."

However, the average profit realized or expected on all 19,086 contracts is only 7.99 per cent.

So, if slightly more than half of the contractors have made more than 7 per cent, it follows—and the report discloses—that nearly half of them have made much less than the profit figure which the committee believes would be a fair limit. In fact, a great many have lost money on work done for the Navy. And, in many cases, the profits cited take no account of the Government's present and prospective taxes.

FOURTEEN members of the committee—seven others dissenting—urge legislation affecting labor as well as industry. The majority believes that strikes "have constituted the greatest single cause of delay in the defense program." It asserts that "tremendous financial gains" have been made by labor organizations since the defense effort began.

Reports from 117 national and international unions show that their net assets increased nearly 15 per cent—from \$71,915,665 to \$82,594,959—in the 18 months ended last March.

For the time being, at least, and we hope permanently, the need for strike-prevention legislation appears less urgent than it seemed before Pearl Harbor.

But the committee majority, in our opinion, is completely justified in holding that the "vast tax-exempt funds" disclosed to be in union treasuries provide reason for requiring public reports by all unions as to their "officers, members and financial conditions."

WE believe that most of labor, and most of industry, is patriotically eager to play a full part in winning the war without seeking special advantage—that deliberate profiteers are comparatively few in number—that laws are not necessary to compel most Americans to serve their country unselfishly.

As to specific provisions of law which are necessary to curb self-seeking minorities, we aren't inclined to be dogmatic.

Limitation of war profits is a large and complicated question. So is regulation of labor unions.

But we believe the Naval Affairs Committee is providing valuable guidance to Congress in carrying out what is the overwhelming will of the American people—that nobody shall be allowed to get rich out of this war.

THE FUTURE INDUSTRIAL SOUTH

FURTHER evidence now comes forward in support of the idea that the country is being made over before our eyes, though the eyes do not always see clearly what is going on.

The South was rapidly becoming industrialized even before the war crisis. But the war industries now arising as if by magic, are changing the picture even more rapidly. Chemicals, pulp and paper, metals, iron and steel, rayon—all these and many other industries are being built up in the South as a result of the war effort. The facilities thus built will remain when the war shall have been won.

They may well mean a death blow to the sectional specialization which has had so great an influence on the country's social history in the past 50 years.

QUITE A FIELD, TOO

WHEN Leon Henderson gets around to rationing rubber stamps, we hope he doesn't overlook the Congressional variety.

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler



NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—Not even Tom Girdler, himself, could have clouted John L. Lewis as hard as Philip Murray slugged the Wrong One in his comment on Mr. Lewis' attempt to muscle back into a position of official power in a consolidated union movement and to cure his reputation of the sickness that set in when he yanked out the coal miners for a week, just before

Pearl Harbor. Mr. Murray just said that he would present Wrong John's suggestion to the executive board of the C. I. O., invited him to express his viewpoint and advised him that he, Murray, was boss of the C. I. O. with sole authority to initiate a reconciliation.

That puts Lewis in his place, which is comparable to that of Theodore Roosevelt when he thought he had retained the power of the Presidency after William Howard Taft took over.

Any thought that the interests of the American worker motivated the Lewis proposal may be forgotten at once. The Lewis family, John and his two brothers and his daughter, are professional unionneers and politicians and you may search Wrong John's record as far back as it goes and discover no effort on his part to delouse the union movement of criminals preying on the rank and file. In fact, his only recorded expression on that subject was a mere wisecrack uttered a year or so ago for the sole purpose of embarrassing old Will Green, the erstwhile apologist for Scallie and Browne.

They're a Tenacious Family

ONE BROTHER has worked up a big business in the field of construction labor under a C. I. O. charter and is so hungry for members, power and funds that he took in a group of Trotsky Communists in the Twin Cities who had become too notorious even for the Teamsters of the A. F. of L., who certainly aren't exclusive.

The other brother has been building a state political machine in West Virginia, where not long ago the chief of the state police, who frisked union gunmen and disarmed them to prevent murder in the coal strike, was removed from office, following a protest from the bosses of the mine workers.

They are a tenacious family group, the Lewises, and nothing abashes them, but their family unity and the growth of the power in the hands of this family have not escaped the notice of either the workers or the rival unionneers.

Resignation Would Help Labor

THE UNION MOVEMENT, from the standpoint of the worker who wants to be a free man, would be much better off for the retirement of Wrong John, which would automatically reduce the power of the rest of the family.

His administration of the affairs of the miners has fooled few of them in the rank and file in recent years and most of the men now realize that they paid for material benefits with a sacrifice of their human rights.

Lewis would seem to have more political sense than he showed in challenging Murray's authority and affronting the prestige of his office, but he has been in a bad position ever since his Willie speech and has been in wrong with the general public since the strike in the captive mines which spread to other pits and cost the war industries some great measure of production even while the Japs were planning their sneak attack.

This loss of face not only with his professional colleagues in the practical and utterly unsentimental union business, which uses ideals only in speeches and writings, but with the country, may have affected his judgment. He has to do something to rebuild himself. The family ambitions are involved and there is no question that the public has come to regard him as a man who can be licked and has been licked. He may never boot his way to the top again, but he will keep on trying. This latest mistake suggests, however, that he has lost his old cunning.

Editor's Note: The views expressed by columnists in this newspaper are their own. They are not necessarily those of The Indianapolis Times.

U. S. Aviation

By Maj. Al Williams



THINKING IN terms of modern warfare and war purposes, let's do a little early cogitating on the Far Eastern situation.

In the first place, I have never believed that the Japanese high command was so dumb as to think it could conquer the whole of China. History clearly indicates the futility of such a plan. There is a positive proof that China has absorbed all her invaders.

Nevertheless, the purpose of the Japs during the last four years has been interpreted by the old rule books as a scheme for complete subjugation and territorial conquest. As an airman has seen it for years, that is nonsense.

The Japs have used the Chinese war to train and season their armies for the struggle for their real war objective. Likewise, the Philippines are not Japan's real goal. That goal is the fabulously rich Dutch East Indies and Malaysia. In those areas are the raw materials which Japan must have for her expansion and effort to dominate the Far East—and maybe more.

We airmen viewed with real alarm the steady acquisition by the Japs of the Chinese coastline leading down toward Malaysia and the East Indies. Control of that coastline was their real objective.

A 10-Year Job

AS A RESULT, what do we find today? The Japs, fully appreciating that airpower would be the decisive factor in the greater war now on, built air bases all down along the Chinese coastline, so they could maintain a steady flow of flight weapons to the Malay States and the East Indies.

It is now almost as simple for Japanese airmen to take off from Japan and proceed in easy stages to the present combat zones as it is for American airmen to take delivery of fighting planes from plants in New England and fly them to Florida.

You can't do any job right until you understand it and its purpose. We've got to lick Japan—lick her so thoroughly that we will be relieved of all anxiety in the Pacific. That looks like at least a 10-year job, if we insist on doing it the hard way—I mean, by blasting her out of one island fortress after another across the broad belly of the Pacific, and by making our Pacific strategy a compromise between airpower and the old seapower people.

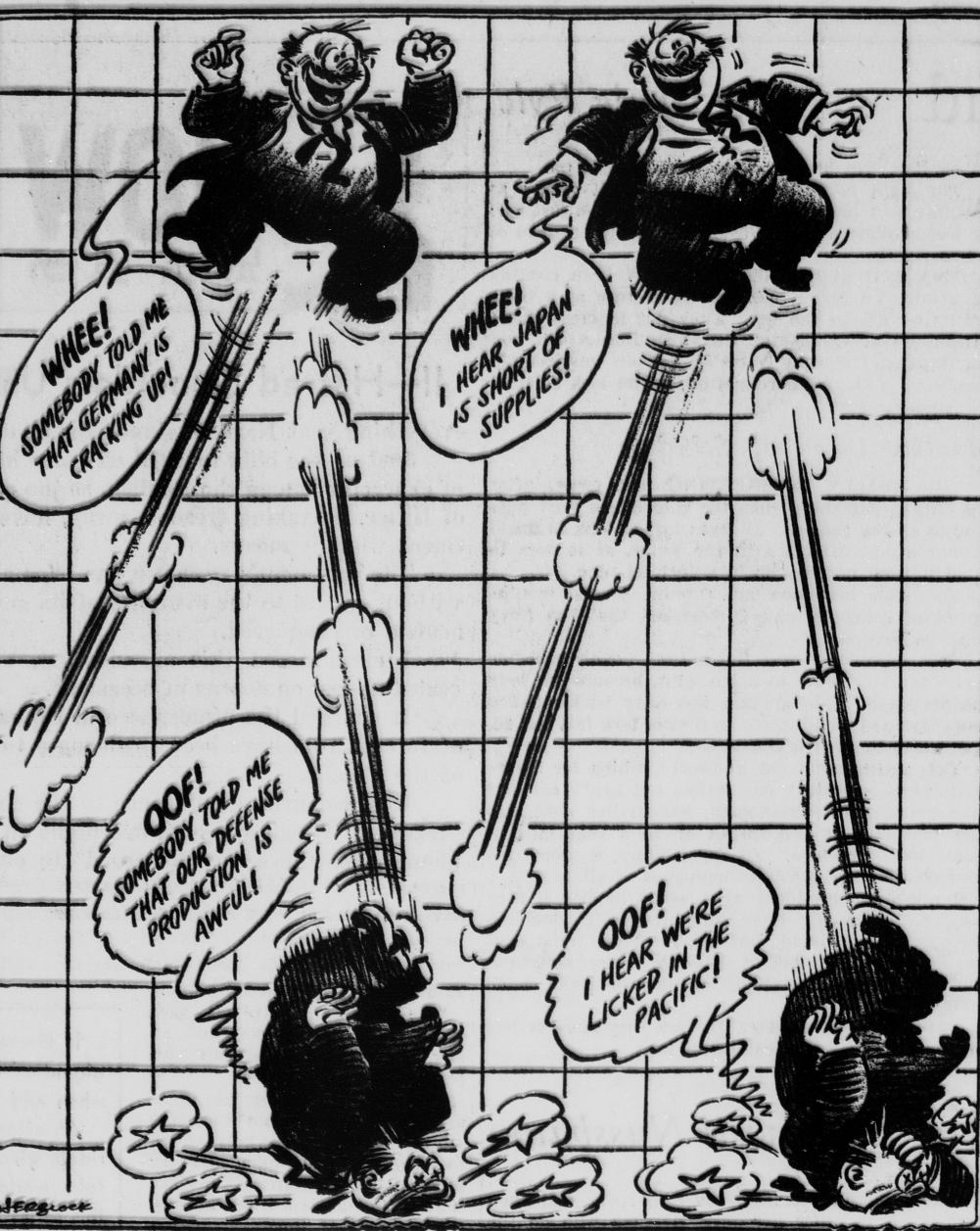
We'll need seapower and landpower to finish the job. But first we need airpower, launched from Alaska, to break the back of Japan.

So They Say—

Every plane delivered ahead of schedule, every tank added to our output, will save American lives.—Director Floyd B. Odum, contract distribution division, OPM.

The ideals which men have cherished have always throughout the course of history proved themselves to be more potent than any other factor.—Sumner Welles, Undersecretary of State, to the Rio conference.

Prices Aren't All That Need to Be Stabilized



The Hoosier Forum

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

"IT'S WONDERFUL TO GIVE YOURSELF A PENSION"

By J. Lee Miller, 1901 W. Morris St.

I see in the papers that the Senate has passed a retirement bill for Congressmen. That is wonderful to give yourself a pension. It seems that anyone can get paid for doing nothing if you are right.

I am for this pension if they will tack on a rider to pension everybody. How about druggists? We have done more good for our fellowman than all the Congressmen put together. How many druggists are for this? Don't everybody speak at once.

"DISCRIMINATE THE REFUGEES FROM THE REAL NAZIS"

By Dr. Heinz Dallmann, Indiana University, Bloomington.

I think something should be done by our Government to discriminate refugees from Nazis. Under the letter of the present regulations, German refugees fall within the class of alien enemies. According to direct information received by this writer from the Department of Justice, the last nationality of an alien is controlling so that even those refugees are affected by the regulations concerning alien enemies, who under German law have been deprived of their citizenship. It says literally in that letter from the Assistant to the Attorney General: "The deprivation of German nationality by German law is not recognized by this government for this purpose."

I think the plight of the bona fide refugees which is none too good, anyway, should not be unduly aggravated by classifying them within the category of their deadliest foes and subjecting them to all kinds of restrictions and inconveniences.

We must not lose sight of the fact that these refugees were Hitler's first victims, and it is they who, individually and through their aid organizations, have never ceased to warn the American public against the danger threatening this country from the Nazis. I venture to say that these refugees, by virtue of their experience and history, are more loyal to this country than many an American. Mustn't the Bund members who have to be American citizens under the

(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.)

charter of their organization laugh themselves sick over the fact that they are not in any way affected by the regulations concerning alien enemies while the refugees from Hitler Germany are? I cannot conceive that the Presidential proclamation of Dec. 8th is so to be interpreted.

I think it is now time to take up this matter which is of great concern to a large group of people living in this country. I do not ignore the possibility of these being German agents in this country under the guise of refugees, but I am sure they are very few, and it will not be difficult for the F. B. I. to single them out and to properly deal with them. But I think it is not fair to penalize a whole group of innocent victims on the theory that there might be a few individuals who have sneaked in under the guise of refugees in order to pursue their sinister business. Such indiscriminate treatment appears to be un-American.

It is for the proper authorities to find a suitable method and to establish proceedings which would do justice to all the bona fide refugees and yet meet the demands of the present emergency. For instance, those refugees might be exempted and not classed as alien enemies who applied for their first papers within four months after their individual entry into the United States, and of these, those again ought to be classified as alien enemies, at least until further investigation, who could but did not in time apply for their final papers. This I think is a fair suggestion. Let us apply the attitude exhibited by the individual refugee in the past as the test for the determination of his status as an alien enemy or a friendly non-citizen. This seems to be a sound basis for the solution of a problem which I know is a source of great pain to an entire class of people who give the Government their wholehearted support and identify themselves with the great cause for which we all fight, the cause of freedom and democracy.

tire class of people who give the Government their wholehearted support and identify themselves with the great cause for which we all fight, the cause of freedom and democracy.

"SOUTH SIDE DUMPS PUT THIS CITY TO SHAME"

By Dr. Robert F. Buchi, 1906 S. Meridian St.

The fair city of Indianapolis has a South Side condition which can well make it hide its face in shame. Within a mile and a half from the Monument Circle—a city of 400,000 has a health menace which has existed for the past 18 years.

We examine our school children, teachers, and school employees for evidence of tuberculosis, yet in this health menace we have a condition far worse than that. I refer to the city dumps which extend from W. Minnesota St. to W. Raymond St. For 18 years, there has been an attempt to fill up these dumps but more is salvaged out of them than is apparently put in.

Rats as large as cats infest these blocks, garbage is dumped in the Bluff Road section, and pigs are being raised in the unfilled sections. In summertime the roaches fill the South Side homes until living is nearly unbearable. The asthma patients must enjoy the menace for all the known weeds that bear pollen are allowed to grow four to five feet high. We are advised and cautioned about keeping our attics free from trash so that fires may be avoided, but we let the fires in these dumps take our fire department three days to put out.

I would suggest that our City Council, Board of Works and Health Board appropriate more money for health prevention work and show our visiting celebrities the beautiful well-kept North Side when they visit our fair city but please leave us have our South Side dumps. Such sham and hypocrisy!

HOW ABOUT FT. LOMBARD FOR NEW ARMY CAMP?

By R. A. S., Michigan City

For what it might be worth, I suggest that some movement be directed to Governor Schricker and the correct channels to see if the new Fort for our defense being constructed near Columbus, could not be named either Fort Carole, or Fort Lombard? I think your newspaper could adequately begin and sponsor such a movement.

'FITTING NEW CAMP BE NAMED CAMP LOMBARD'

By A. W. Bates, Quartermaster Dept., Ft. Thomas, Ky.

I think it very fitting that the new Army camp located in Bartholomew County in the State of Indiana be named Camp Lombard as Miss Lombard so graciously consented and gave her time to the State of Indiana for a great cause.

IF SOME GRIM TRAGEDY

If some grim tragedy had smote me down I might have risen spent From the chastening rod, yet in some way Magnificent. But life moves tranquilly without event Day after wearisome day. Save for the little rodent cares that make Me small as they.

Ninna May Smith (1896-)

DAILY THOUGHT

The wise shall inherit glory; but shame shall be the promotion of fools.—Proverbs 3:35.

WISE MEN learn more from fools than fools from the wise.—Cato.

Gen. Johnson Says—



WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Too much emphasis is being given to rank and title in this Washington war-production effort.

There is some disposition to think that if a law is passed stating an objective, if general administrative directions are given and, above all, if the administrator is surrounded with sufficient pomp and panoply of office, the job is done and we can call it a day and set 'em up in the next alley.

The appointment of Donald Nelson and the one-man control authorized by executive order is a case in point—especially when considered with Mr. Knudsen's appointment as Lieutenant General.

Mr. Nelson's assignment is only a beginning to a difficult if not impossible task. It makes little difference whether he is a Cabinet officer or not, or rather it is very wise that he is not. Nothing chews up time or smotheres it with boredom more effectively than Cabinet meetings.

Knudsen's Title a Joke

Mr. Nelson isn't going to have time to be a Cabinet officer. Donald has the authority and responsibility and the President's backing. Without them he couldn't even undertake his job. They are all that count with him.

On the other hand, nothing could be more absurd or even fantastic than Mr. Knudsen's elevated rank. It is being jokingly suggested around here that if even-handed justice is to be served, Sidney Hillman—the other half of the old Knudsen-Hillman two-headed-boy organizational monstrosity should be made Vice Admiral in the Navy.

In the old British Army, from which we inherited our general form of organization, the commander of an army was a general. Second to him and in direct command of the cavalry was a lieutenant general.

It was the second highest honor to which a soldier could aspire. It came only after a life-time of service spent in acquiring professional military perfection. It was so jealously guarded that, up to our Civil War, only Washington was ever granted that regular rank.

What Can Three Stars Add?

EVEN WINFIELD SCOTT, the conqueror of Mexico had it only by brevet. During the Civil War, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan got three stars. Grant later got four. Up to World War I, only a handful of Civil War veterans were lieutenant generals—among them our Lieut. Gen. Douglas MacArthur's father.

Changed international and military conditions have somewhat liberalized the rule, but they don't change its principle.

Relatively young Army and Navy officers were advanced so far in grade at Hawaii because the importance of that great force in the Pacific seemed to warrant it, the defense flopped and these officers were promptly and properly broken.

SPAB and OPM also flopped to our great disadvantage and Mr. Knudsen, a responsible head of OPM is made a lieutenant general. That doesn't make sense.

We need Knudsen—now more than ever—but Knudsen doesn't need to be a lieutenant general any more than Mr. Hillman needs to be an Admiral. Bill has a standing and ability regarded with awe in every American factory. That's all he needs.

Three stars on his shoulder straps aren't going to add anything to that except perhaps a little ridicule.

A Woman's Viewpoint

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson



REPORTS FROM the feminine front lead me to believe that men need not worry about the war. Women are getting up steam and it won't be long until we'll have things under control. According to club data, at least.

My desk is piled with reports and resolutions from scores of organizations, big and little. If they do all they say they're going to do, look out, Axis!

The American Women's Association, functioning chiefly in New York City, is rounding up 40 organizations of women in business, in professions and in industry to train many for leadership, which sounds swell. The hydra-headed General Federation may be expected to hover over the whole setup like a mother hen, and see that its two million members are daily conscious of their responsibilities as Americans.

The League of Women Voters outlines a task of gigantic proportions, including actual hard work in the war effort and also keeping up an intensive activity as watchdogs over local politics. As I see it, the latter may prove a most valuable contribution.

It's an All-Out Effort

THE AMERICAN Association of University Women will not exactly abandon education but intends to make it serve military plans.

With emphasis on character building as usual, the Y. W. C. A. plans to train younger women in old as well as new fields.

The Business and Professional Women, have set as their goal a mighty campaign for Defense on the Home Front—which means making democracy work as well as win.

Another great band, the Parent-Teacher Association, seems ready to meet the challenge by dedicating itself anew to childhood and youth. The Council of Jewish Women, the Catholic Activities and Home Demonstration groups, all have equally good plans for helping in the emergency. It really looks as if the American club woman is getting ready for the all-out knock out.

Questions and Answers

(The Indianapolis Times Service Bureau will answer any question of fact or information, not involving extensive research. Write your question clearly, sign name and address, include a three-cent postage stamp. Medical or legal advice cannot be given. Address: The Times Washington Service Bureau, 1013 Thirteenth St., Washington, D. C.)

Q—How are the names for "Who's Who in America" selected? Is there any charge for their inclusion?

A—The publishers state that they are selected not as the best, but as an attempt to choose the best known men and women of the country in all lines of useful and reputable achievements—names much in the public eye, not locally, but nationally. The standards of admission divide the eligibles into two classes: (1) Those who are selected on account of special prominence in credible lines of effort, making them subjects of extensive interest, inquiry, or discussion in this country; and (2) those who are arbitrarily included on account of official position—civil, military, naval, religious or educational. There is no charge for the inclusion of the sketches, and none can be paid for.

Q—When may a golden fringe be added to the Flag?

A—Fringe, cord and tassels, ball or eagle on the top of the staff, are merely embellishments and do not affect the symbolism of the Flag. They may be added at any time.

Q—How many rounds of American-made rifle ammunition were sent overseas during World War I?

▲—Approximately 1,500,000,000.

Side Glances—By Galbraith



"I'm afraid I haven't looked at the sky in years, or realized how beautiful it was, until this bombing scare started!"