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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

### WHY NOT SAVE 10 1/2 BILLIONS?

SECRETARY MORGENTHAU thinks we should realize there is a war going on. So he proposes 10 1/2 billion dollars in new taxes. The fact that we're already paying 10 times as much in taxes as we were paying three or four years ago doesn't faze the secretary.

But Mr. Morgenthau also knows that an election is coming on. And apparently he is bothered by the realization that the number of direct taxpayers likewise has multiplied. Forty million taxpayers in voting booths could do wrong. So one of Mr. Morgenthau's proposals is that nine million people be relieved of the obligation of contributing directly to the government's support. That would be done by the process of merging the victory tax into the income tax in such a way that nine million of the victory taxpayers would not become income taxpayers. The \$30,000,000 loss in revenue would be more than recovered by higher rates on those who remain in the taxpaying fold.

Mr. Morgenthau's politics, however, run counter to his own statistics of income. He admits that four-fifths of all the people's income is received by persons getting less than \$5000 a year. Yet, Mr. Morgenthau's new tax program, like all of his others—and he has proposed at least one a year since he became treasury chief—is aimed primarily at the other one-fifth of the total income.

It is about time for Mr. Morgenthau, the politician, to confess to Mr. Morgenthau the revenue searcher, that after he has extracted all the blood out of that one-fifth turnip, he will still have to get the bulk of revenue from the four-fifths. Of course, most of the revenue he's now getting comes from the four-fifths, by indirect taxation.

ONE thing this country learned and taught the world is the lesson of mass production. A lot of wise guys tried to get rich manufacturing automobiles to sell for \$5000 with a profit of \$3000 on each vehicle. They all went broke. But Henry Ford became a billionaire making cars to sell for a few hundred dollars, with only a few dollars profit on each model-T or model-A.

If Mr. Morgenthau were thinking in terms of taxes for revenue instead of taxes for politics, he would frame a tax program to fit the market—to get the revenue where the money is. If the treasury is ever to get itself in a sound position, it will have to do as Henry Ford did—fashion a product which the mass of people will buy and pay for and believe is giving them their money's worth.

"Their money's worth"—ah, there's the rub! All the taxes that Mr. Morgenthau has persuaded congress to enact add up to only a little more than one-third as much as the government is spending. And if he were to get this additional 10-billion-plus, that would still be less than one-half the spending. Present indications are that if the war ends two years hence the public debt will be around 300 billions. At 3 per cent interest, that would mean an annual carrying charge of nine billions—as much as the whole wasteful pre-war New Deal cost per year.

The people who get \$1000, \$2000, \$3000, \$4000 a year—which means more than 95 per cent of us—are not so dumb but that they know this will mean food out of the mouths and clothes off the backs of all of them and their children and their children's children.

SO we ask: Why is it that the United States is spending more money on this war than all of our allies combined? Why is it we must continue to pay cost-plus-fixed-fee prices for things the government buys, and time and a half for overtime labor? Why not buy the materials of war at what they are worth, rather than submit to this highjacking? And why this swarm of bureaucrats feasting on our taxes and our credit while you preach sacrifice?

The people are willing to pay for every gun, every bullet, every plane, bomb, tank, cargo vessel and warship, and all the food needed to supply our troops, and to provide our share of the supplies to our allies. We're ready to spend any amount of money actually needed to save a single life or to shorten the war one minute. But couldn't we shed a few parasites from the payroll and get just a little common sense management? Couldn't we adjourn the Deal politics for the duration?

Wouldn't it be a good idea for the committee on ways and means, considering the 10 1/2 billion in new taxes, to resolve itself into a committee on ways and means of not wasting 10 billions?

### OUR NEW COLLEAGUE

HERE is an interesting nose-under-the-tent item. Our correspondent at the U. A. W.-C. I. O. convention in Buffalo, Fred W. Perkins, reports that he and his fellow newspapermen are not alone in covering this meeting of the country's biggest union. They have a new colleague, one Travis K. Hedrick, who is reporting the event not for a newspaper but for the government. Specifically, for the overseas branch of the U. S. office of war information.

Well, if the government is going to send a reporter to this meeting, why not to others? Why not cover all the news, all over the country?

Of course, the OWI has, or can arrange for, access to the voluminous reports of the great press associations. Apparently these do not give it just what it wants. Well then, what does it want? Are the press associations too objective, too unbiased, for OWI's purposes?

The whole procedure puzzles us. It worries us a little. With a bit of imagination it is possible to picture this OWI innovation being expanded gradually into a complete nationwide government news service—and then to picture this tax-financed, bureaucratic-operated service being offered, free or for a pittance, to American newspapers.

Perhaps we are seeing things under the bed. But OWI's experiment in government reporting will bear watching. And in the meantime, danger or no danger, this operation is costing the taxpayers money.

### Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler



NEW YORK, Oct. 7.—If any of you are overburdened with worry these days, it might interest you to know that same can be attended to promptly and neatly by a professional of long experience, meaning me.

I have been in this business for about 10 years and my many contented clients have sent me very complimentary testimonials, which may be seen by appointment. No worry is too insignificant for my attention nor large enough to daunt me, and my range of topics has included the future of the Tunney-Muldoon trophy symbolic of the heavyweight champion of the world, the fairest gem in Pistiana's bauble, as the late Leo P. Flynn used to call it, and the security of Singapore.

The last time I saw the gem in the bauble, it had been shoved back in a corner under the stairs in Madison Square garden and I needn't tell you what happened to Singapore. I think I should explain that I do not guarantee favorable results. I just worry and the results just happen independently.

#### Have Many Orders

AT THE present moment I have many orders on hand from clients desiring me to worry over the impending coal shortage for them and I may say that, as is my custom in servicing multiple orders, I put them in a hamper and do them in a batch.

It is a system not unlike that of a little boy of my acquaintance who prays specifically and by name for his parents and other members of the family, but blankets the rest of his fellowmen in a general petition.

I believe the coal shortage is going to be very severe and I am really going to town on this issue, and it seems a shame that, with the case in the hands of an expert, others should waste their energies on it. They might just mess it round.

I have found in my long experience that it is possible to worry very fast and in the course of a few few minutes when I am having a real good day. I can polish off our future relations with Russia, the menace of communism in Canada, the new income tax proposals of Mr. Morgenthau, the indecency of the Wagner act and the post-war world.

#### Started on Small Scale

I STARTED with little bits of worries, such as flunking long division, and whether my old man would be canned in the annual pre-Christmas massacre when he was a reporter in Chicago. I flunked the long division several times and do such problems nowadays strictly with matchsticks, but my dad never was canned, so you see, while some worry is justified, much of it is sheer waste. I guess it is something like farming. You can't tell what the crop is going to be, but you have to keep on trying.

Because I am an entrepreneur, as they used to call the proprietor of a peanut stand or lunch wagon back in the days of the N. R. A. I am able to worry long hours without interference from any government department. On a 40-hour week, I would soon be swamped with business and a very helpful service to the public would be badly obstructed.

My system is to start worrying as soon as I wake up, usually about some carry-over problems from the day before, either personal or public. I next take a look at the papers and pretty soon the mail arrives, a hundred or more letters in a batch, and I then split on my hands and really get going.

#### Sent Many Orders

MY CLIENTS lately have sent me many orders for worry on the subject of a manpower shortage at a time when the union racketeers are overmastering many jobs, and wasting men, mostly dummed to be sure, on mock work; and let me say that my performance on this one has been uncommonly fast, thorough and polished, but there have been so many repeat orders that I have had to attend to them in several huge batches.

A friend of mine, an amateur, tells me that he sets aside one hour every evening for worry but, while he is very earnest, he is after all an amateur and something of a plodder at that and I have known him to put in a whole week's worrying time on nothing but the soundness of his insurance policy.

Such individual worry is very wasteful, as you can see, when I am at your service to worry about the whole great problem of insurance in connection with the inflation and estate taxes. I worry standing up, sitting down or walking and while I do not like to boast, I may say that I bar no topic. Just phone, write or wire and state your worry.

### We the People

By Ruth Millett



CIVILIANS PRIDE themselves on their hospitality to service men.

This town and that are always giving themselves a pat on the back for all they are doing for the men in service.

Sure, we're giving them smokes, coffee and doughnuts and letting them dance with debutantes.

But their real problems aren't always so well taken care of.

A girl who has followed her soldier husband to a Southern city where he is stationed sent me a letter in today's mail which began:

"I am not much at letter writing, but I certainly would appreciate it if you would doctor up my letter and print it for me."

She then went on to tell how hard she and her husband have looked for an apartment. But they can't find anyone who will rent to them because she is soon to have a baby.

#### More Important Than Smokes

BUT I DON'T need to doctor her letter. Here's the whole problem in her own words: "Because we can't find a place to live I will probably have to leave my husband when I need him most."

If we really want to be hospitable to service men why don't we see that their wives and babies have some place to live?

It's just possible that the husband of the girl who wrote that letter would trade every smoke, every doughnut, and every free show or dance that has been given him since he has been in service for the opportunity to rent a one-room apartment to which he could bring home a wife and new baby.

### To the Point

THE MEANS to a person's ends often means the end to a person's means.

IF WE HEAR any complaint over milk, it likely will be the cat's meow.

IT LOOKS as if the cards are stacked against the Germans in Rome—and doubtless the duo's wild!

MOST WOMEN have a keen sense of humor—the more you humor them the better they like it.

THE NICEST thing about dictating to a recording machine is that it doesn't chew gum.

A CHICAGO doctor says that high noses indicate brains. Or that a neighbor is cooking corned beef and cabbage.

### Will Anything Smoke Him Out?



### Post-War Germany

By William Philip Simms



WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—The question of what we are going to do with the Germans after the war will be one of the most important questions which the forthcoming conference of the big three foreign ministers will be called upon to consider.

To begin with, Russia on the one hand and Britain and the United States on the other, are far apart on the German question.

Through the Moscow-sponsored Free German committee, Russia has already offered generous peace terms, whereas America and Britain still insist on unconditional surrender.

More nonsense has been uttered regarding this phase of the German problem than any other. It has been suggested that Hitler and other axis leaders be placed in cages and exhibited at fairs throughout America. Some propose that they be shot after a summary court-martial. Others advocate dividing Germany into a lot of small states, rewriting German textbooks and planting our own teachers in their schools.

#### No One Could Crush Poles

BUT, LIKE it or not, neither the Germans nor any other virile people can be held down by force permanently. History proved that. Prussia, Austria and Russia tried it on the Poles but, after 150 years, the people came back as proud and as vigorous as ever.

The German people, this time, must be given a taste of what war is like. Twice in a generation they have set the world on fire and realists agree they must be made to realize the enormity of their crime. In the first world war they surrendered before their country was invaded. Only a fringe of the Rhineland was occupied. This time Berlin must be occupied and a firm peace imposed.

But no one who lived through the last war and the subsequent peace believes that the allies will try to sit on Germany permanently. "Hang the Kaiser" was just as popular in 1918 as is "Hang Hitler" today. David Lloyd George was elected right after the war on a "Hang-the-Kaiser-and-Make-Germany-Pay" platform.

Yet the British and the Americans soon afterwards took the lead in sentimentalizing over the fate of the poor Germans. As for a "preventive war" to put Hitler in his place when he started to prepare for the second world war, we and the British held up our hands in holy horror.

#### Firm But Just Formula Needed

REALISTS HERE, therefore, are saying that Secretary of State Hull, Foreign Minister Eden and Foreign Commissar Molotov, when they meet at Moscow, should try to agree on a firm but just formula for handling Germany.

"What we seek," said President Wilson in his four principles, "is the reign of law, based upon the consent of the governed and sustained by the organized opinion of mankind."

Some Washington officials insist on a complete "re-education" of the German masses through control of the schools. But, it is asked, who will exercise this control? Will German education be based on the doctrines of Karl Marx, Thomas Jefferson or Winston Churchill? Is Germany to be a Soviet state under Moscow, a monarchy fashioned after Britain, a republic like the United States, or what? The alternative, of course, is to allow the chastened Germans to decide for themselves.

### 'Barnaby'

By Dan Gordon



"BARNABY," WRITTEN and drawn by Crockett Johnson, is a comic strip for adults. It first made its appearance a little over a year ago in the New York newspaper PM. Now the author has published the strip in book form, taking out all the repetitive spots which occur in the daily strip and putting the episodes in chapter form.

Barnaby Baxter is a little boy who wanted a fairy godmother and wished upon a star. What he got was a fairy godfather, with pink wings and a paunch, named Mr. O'Malley. He is an untypical godfather—he smokes cigars, napped from Barnaby's Pop, and plays pinball machines at the clubrooms of the Elves, leprechauns, gnomes and Little Men's Marching & Chowder society.

Much of the humor takes the form of satirical observations by Mr. O'Malley. For instance, on learning that Barnaby's parents are to take the child to a doctor, Mr. O'Malley says, "I wish to be held by the assembled medics spellbound . . . The name of O'Malley revered by a grateful humanity with the great names of medicine—Robinson, Muni, Heroholt, Barrymore! . . ."

#### Designed for Adults

ANOTHER TIME. "Like a newspaperman I knew . . . Nicest, quietest fellow you'd want to meet . . . Until he attended a performance of a play entitled 'The Front Page' . . . Then . . ."

Johnson has frankly admitted that "Barnaby" is designed for adults. The characters in themselves may delight the kiddies, but the meaning of Mr. O'Malley's talk—philosophical and otherwise—is surely lost on a child, who would be hard put to it to appreciate Mr. O'Malley reading *Variety*, the show business journal, on the steps in Barnaby's basement.

The fairy godfather is a fine literary character and appears to be a combination of Samuel Johnson, Pickwick and W. C. Fields. He makes you laugh.

BARNABY, by Crockett Johnson, Henry Holt and Co.

#### 'Europe's Children'

THERESA BONNEY, distinguished European photographer, recently compiled some of the work she did since the outbreak of the war in 1939. "Europe's Children" is a collection of 62 photographs describing the fate of the younger generation under nazism.

Miss Bonney's pictures show graphically how Hitler has devastated the youth of Europe regardless of race or nationality. One thing her photographs make explicit. Malnutrition, not the arms of the war, has ravaged Europe's children.

EUROPE'S CHILDREN, by Theresa Bonney. Printed by the author in New York, N. Y.

### Yule Reminder

By Lee Miller

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Christmas won't be