

# The Indianapolis Times

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

## ARMISTICE DAY

FOR the third time we are celebrating Armistice day in the midst of a war which has altered the occasion's spirit and significance.

For 20 years we observed Nov. 11 as the anniversary of that historic occasion when the "war to end war" was itself brought to an end. But for the past five years such an observance would have been a mockery of the facts. Rather, it has become a rebuke to the world of statesmen who, confronted repeatedly by threats to the brave slogan of "war to end war," did not raise their hands to stay those threats.

But the altered circumstances have not lessened the honor paid to the men who died believing that slogan. Since the beginning of history men have honored soldiers who died in battle for a cause they thought just.

TODAY SOME may look back to the slogans of "war to end war" and a world "safe for democracy" with the same cynicism that many statesmen must have felt about them at the time. But many, perhaps most, of the American doughboys believed them. If they had to die in battle it was in the belief that no son or grandson of theirs, or any man anywhere, would have to do it again. And the same belief sustained and solaced the families of these doughboys.

Now another generation of American soldiers is fighting and dying. Maybe the thoughts of this generation are less idealistic. But the peace for which these soldiers fight may well have a better hope of permanence for that very reason.

For the world at last seems to have realized how unworthy some guardians of the peace were of the sacrifice of even one allied soldier's life. And when peace comes this time it seems certain that the American people, at least, will demand a greater voice in outlining the task of keeping that peace permanent.

THUS, AT LAST, we may keep faith with the men who died in the first world war and those who must die in the second to defeat the war makers and bring an end to war. When we can say that a sound, workable, whole-hearted organization for world peace is established and successful we can also say that we have honored these men as fully as we can.

That day, perhaps, will not be marked on a calendar. But until it comes the obligation to speed it should be this country's concern on Nov. 11 and every other day of the year.

## EXIT FISH AND NYE

REPUBLICANS can rejoice over the defeat of some liabilities who wore their party label, conspicuous examples being Senator Gerald Nye of North Dakota and Rep. Ham Fish of New York.

They can take pride and hope from election to the senate of such G. O. P. candidates as Wayne Morse of Oregon, Governor Saltonstall of Massachusetts, and Governor Hickenlooper of Iowa.

Indiana's new senator, Homer E. Capehart, has made an auspicious start in the same direction by his prompt indication that he does not intend to be either an obstructionist or a rubber stamp in congress. Teamwork between the President and congress will be desperately needed in the critical years ahead and we are glad that Mr. Capehart is ready to do his part.

For the indefensibly bad record of many Republicans in congress probably was Governor Dewey's heaviest handicap. Too many voters had grave doubts whether senators and representatives of Mr. Dewey's own party would let him keep his pledges.

When he promised vigorous prosecution of the war and American co-operation to maintain world peace hereafter, Democrats could cite votes by a majority of Republicans in congress not merely against Roosevelt policies that were debatable at the time but against adoption and extension of selective service and other measures plainly essential to national safety.

When Dewey promised to preserve and improve labor legislation and other progressive reforms of early New Deal years, Democrats could point out that Republicans in congress fought to prevent such reforms.

NYE AND FISH were outstanding examples of that extreme isolationism which took the form of stubborn obstruction rather than loyal, intelligent opposition. The voters who rejected them did a great service to the country and the Republican party.

It is not enough for that party to nominate a liberal presidential candidate at election time if it hopes to be restored to power by liberal and independent votes. It must labor between elections to make a sensibly liberal record for itself—to prove to the people that it is worthy to be trusted with power. And the obvious place to make such a record is in congress where, although Republicans will be a minority in both branches for at least two years, they will have great chances to demonstrate that they can place principles above politics.

Governor Dewey has given them sound policies to promote. They should not yield independence or follow President Roosevelt's leadership blindly. But whenever the President's leadership is toward the goals Mr. Dewey proclaimed as his—toward early victory, enduring peace, jobs and opportunities under private enterprise, real social progress—they should not hang back or withhold willing co-operation.

Mr. Morse and Governors Saltonstall and Hickenlooper are men whose influence in congress will be for the good. Mr. Morse, as a member of the war labor board, has shown deep understanding of the problems of workers and their organizations. The two governors have fine records in state government. We hope that Mr. Capehart and the other newly elected Republicans, and those who retain their seats, will measure up to their opportunities to restore deserved confidence in their party.

## REFLECTIONS—

### Disenchantment

By James Thrasher



IN THE LAST days of the political campaign, when truth and reason were looking decidedly groggy, we came upon two advertisements which renewed our hopes for the survival of those estimable virtues. Turning back to those ads today, now that the hurly-burly's done, we still find them encouraging enough to pass along as a preview of a possible better world to come.

One ad was put out by an aircraft manufacturer, the other by a maker of shaving cream. And both approached their subject with a candor which copy writers commonly shun, apparently on the assumption that such an approach is too true to be good.

The aircraft concern is talking about the helicopter, which it plans to make after the war. Now the helicopter, as everyone knows, has had a tremendous buildup as the air flavor of the future—one smart New York shop has even had a "helicopter fashion show." But here is the gist of what one of its future manufacturers has to say:

"Flying a helicopter is not a job for a novice.... Helicopters, if they could be purchased on the market today, would be more expensive than the most costly automobile.... Helicopters are likely to be costly for some time to come.... It has not yet been demonstrated that a helicopter is any more safe or less safe than any other aircraft."

#### At Best a Nuisance and a Bore

THE SHAVING CREAM people went about selling their wares by stating a painful truth which has too long been avoided. "The word pleasure," they said, "shouldn't even be mentioned in the same breath with shaving.... the whole business, we say, is at best a nuisance and a bore."

Such talk can scarcely fail to have a healthy effect upon our civilization. Think, for instance, of the sadness and confusion that must have resulted from the unnatural association of shaving and pleasure. Downy-faced youths have approached the brush and razor with the notion that these symbols of manhood would combine the pleasures of a turkish bath and massage.

There is no need to dwell upon their disillusionment. Time passed, the beard toughened, and shaving became a "nuisance and a bore." Yet the ads continued to proclaim its pleasures. It was enough to shake a man's faith in things generally.

Now this same disenchantment can be foreshadowed in tomorrow's wonderful world of plastics, electronics and family helicopters we shall all be happier. Not that we doubt that these things will come.

But too many people seem to have the idea that we have been forced to stop our normal progress for the grim business of killing and destruction, we shall immediately step through the looking glass on the day of victory into a new wonderland.

## WORLD AFFAIRS

### The Real Test

By William Philip Simms



WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Had the people of the United Nations been able to vote for President Roosevelt, he would have been returned to the White House by the greatest avalanche of ballots ever seen in a free election. That is because he has given them so much.

The real test, however, is yet to come. It will come between now and the peace table, if and when the President or his delegation stakes out a few American claims—bases, for instance, at strategic corners of the world.

"Bases Overseas," a timely book, is out this week. It is by George Weller, one of the ablest of American foreign correspondents. He has had experience in Greece, Malaya, Singapore, Java and elsewhere. He has observed what lack of bases has meant to us in the present conflict.

#### New American Is Being Born

A NEW AMERICAN, Mr. Weller writes, is being born. The old American is dead. The new American has a sense of the world. He has smelled the salt winds of the channel and seen the white cliffs. He has followed his father to France where his father died, knowing that he too might die.

He has bombed the oil-soaked hills of Ploesti. Canton has felt him strike. And Wilhelmshaven, Berlin, Rome, Tokyo, Singapore and Rangoon. From the darkness under the sea, through his periscope, he has seen the white cone of Fujiyama. He has seen his destroyers at anchor among the Polynesians and his gliders have come to rest in the wet green valleys of upland Burma.

He has experienced Africa and India and Iran and England and Iceland and South America. The bones of his buddies are at the bottom of the seven seas and under white crosses on all the continents.

He has seen all this in one war. So naturally he is asking about the next. For there is going to be a third world war—unless, that is, there is a successful international organization to prevent it. In either case, the United States will be called on to play a major role and it cannot very well do so without adequate bases.

"Any nation," says Mr. Weller, "which engages in a world-wide war and makes world-wide political commitments without securing world-wide bases is wasting its substance."

#### We Had to Improve... Under Fire

IN THE PRESENT WAR we had to improve. "We occupied bases, captured bases, fought for bases, paid for bases, built bases and improved bases".... all this, so to speak, under fire.

Thus, thinks this foreign correspondent of The Indianapolis Times and The Chicago Daily News, it is high time we did some serious thinking about bases for the future and for the peace. "A commitment for a war abroad," he observes, "without a claim to a permanent projection of victory through a base, is like a man trying to do a task with an arm which has no joints."

Where ought we to have bases? Mr. Weller answers that question with another: Where is America committed? As the answer to that is, or promises to be, all over the world, then we ought also to have bases all over the world.

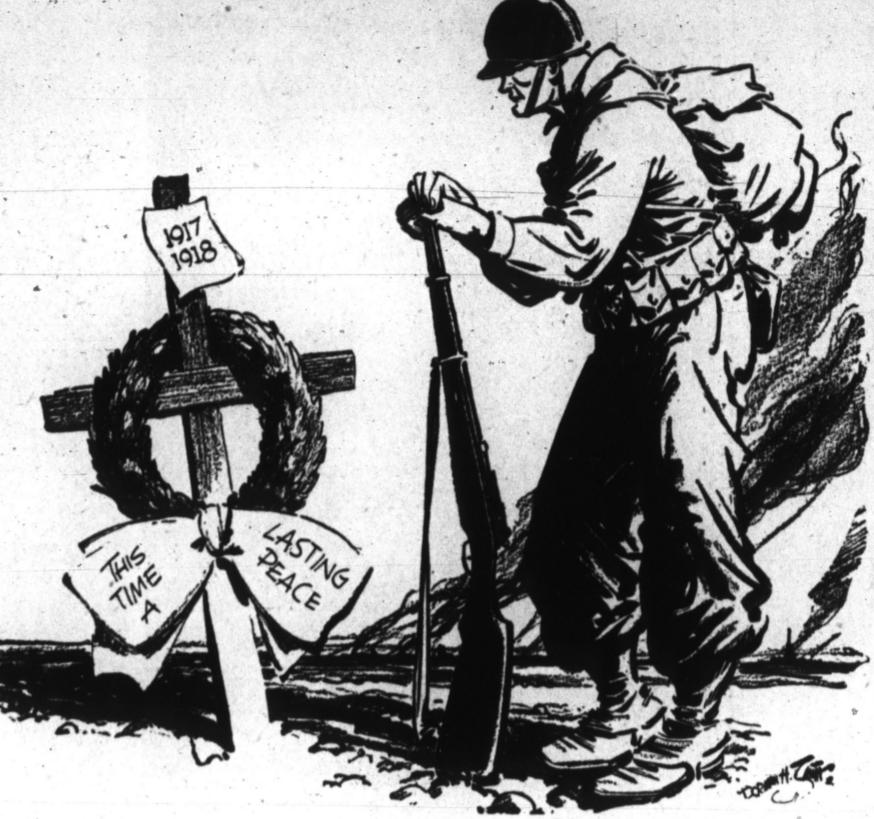
Mr. Weller's publishers purposely withheld "Bases Overseas" pending the elections because bases is a controversial, international issue. But now the book is out—two days after. President Roosevelt, with his influence abroad and his obligations at home should read it. So should every American, in uniform and out. For bases are a national insurance against another war and, if the worst comes anyhow, a great economy in lives and treasure.

### So They Say—

THE FIRST THING you must do is establish your authority. The Germans are impressed by discipline and firmness. You can create the best impression by immediately taking strong action against all Nazi criminals. —Resident of captured Rothenberg, Germany.

WE BRITISH have interests in the Pacific, and we certainly feel we have to take part in the final defeat of Japan.—Adm. Sir James Somerville.

## We Will Keep Faith



## The Hoosier Forum

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

#### CHINA IS MOST IMPORTANT NATION

By D. F. M., Indianapolis

For the sake of the dollar we sold the goods to Japan that she might overcome China. So now our dollars are coming back to us with interest. At the present time China is the most important nation on earth. She is either going to be a great wall of defense or a tool of destruction.

The Communists from the north have been making inroads of China, and if they can overcome China and get that 400 billion and then promise India her freedom—whether they will—and get another 300 billion, what is the rest of the world going to do?

#### G. I. STANDS FOR GREAT INDIVIDUAL

By Lt. C. J. Baile, Army of the U. S.

I have just returned from almost two years in the Southwest Pacific and perhaps some of the things I can tell you through this letter will help your son or husband, or brother or father or sweetheart, who is stationed overseas.

In the first place, if he's still over there, I can't impress too much the importance of mail. It doesn't sound like much, a mere envelope filled with words, but if you could watch the expressions on those boys' faces when they get a letter from home, you can readily appreciate what I'm trying to convey. Write him every day, if only a note. And please don't tell him your troubles—that is, unless you want to worry him.

He knows how tough things are in the States, but he's out somewhere where he can't help much. That means in addition to his own problems, he's bound to worry about you and your problems here at home.

He realizes that it takes points and coupons to get meat over here but he knows you aren't starving. And after all, he can't get the coupons for you.

He would like to know what shows you've seen lately, how you've been spending your evenings, whether you went to church and prayed for him on Sunday and how fast the neighbor's kids are growing. He's interested in everything about you; more so than ever. If one of the neighbors asks about him and wishes him well or if the mayor or one of the councilmen or the grocer is always inquiring as to his health, tell him that. It will make his big heart swell with pride.

He'll likely want to know if the town paper ever mentions his name. And when he gets a promotion or does something extraordinary, run to the paper office and tell the editor.

Your boy likely won't tell you he's been sick or injured until he's all

well again. And you shouldn't tell him you've been sick until you're better. Worry is a big item, especially to a man or boy overseas,

where he's helpless to help.

He'll probably run into weeks

when the mail is slow getting to him. That's when he's in his worst humor. I've seen boys dig into bully beef as though they liked it simply because the mail had come in that day. You see, mail can even make bad food taste good.

You don't have to keep reminding him you're writing every day; he'll know it when the mail starts to come. But don't kid him and tell him you do write daily, if you don't. Then he's apt to start blaming the postal clerks (and those fellows do a marvelous job) for not giving you your just dues. I'd advise all men, before they shoot off hot steam, to see the picture, "American Romance."

True some employers are fair but how many? When workers have their best interests on the old black and white sheet with signatures of all concerned they feel more secure. After all the big boss does and some young upstart takes over who never worked a day in his life and still insists he knows the whole works. The contract stands as firm as the Constitution and no one gets hurt in the change.

I have never belonged to a union but have fought their battles since way back when. It seems to me if the union men have been as indifferent as the army men think, you would still be at the Japs' and Germans' mercy. They delivered the goods although most of them fought the first war. Yes, you are fighting like fury for the rights of all men but did you know that the very countries you are beating the daylights out of also fought union labor and banned them from their shores and now they have wars and wars.

Again, I say, young soldier, read in the free libraries in a free country the benefits that union organization have brought to working people. The child labor laws, the sweat shop, sanitation, insurance of workers, safety laws and many others. Read the books a free country gives you and don't tell about what you don't know.

And when you close your nightly letter, add "God Bless You," because he reads it into every line anyhow.

#### MAKE ME WORTHY OF MY HERITAGE

By a Student, Indianapolis

To me the fact that I am an American is my most precious heritage. I see America as an opportunity. In America every one has the right to his own opinion, even though he is not of age. Here in America I can form my own opinion from true facts presented to me in an impartial way. If I wish to become an engineer or a housewife I am free to do so.

If I want to quit work on Saturday and go to see a football game the worst that can happen to me is to be fired. By a system of free enterprise, I am pretty sure of getting another job if I am qualified. In America I can go to school, study the subjects I choose, and learn the fundamentals of life, honesty, sincerity and responsibility without militarism.

I can walk in arm with the Catholic or Jew and feel no shame and have the knowledge that no one is going to inform on me. There are only a meager few of vastly thousands of reasons why I am glad and proud to be an American. There are many more that no words can express. I can only say thank you, God, for giving me America, and, please, God, make me worthy of my heritage.

#### DAILY THOUGHTS

If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me; if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse.—Job 9:20.

HE who does not think too much of himself is much more esteemed than he imagines.—Goethe.

"Don't give her too much credit for wanting to help with the housework—remember there isn't a date her age left in town, and she's so bored she finds dishwashing is actually a relief!"

## POLITICAL SCENE—

### Peacetime Draft

By Daniel M. Kidney

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Armed with his sweeping victory, President Roosevelt may go to congress early next year with a request for permanent compulsory military training as one of the instruments toward preparedness for peace.

Amid the jubilation here, there is much discussion as to how best to capitalize on the victory.

Throughout his campaign the President repeatedly stressed the fact