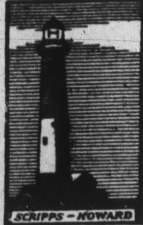


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"RILEY 5551"

Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

THE PRESIDENT'S YALTA REPORT

THE best thing about the President's Yalta report was the fact that he made it. There is a new recognition of the public's right in general, and congress' right specifically, to be advised in advance on foreign policy and to participate. As stated by the President: "Unless you here in the halls of the American congress—with the support of the American people—concur in the decisions reached at Yalta, and give them your active support, the meeting will not have produced lasting results."

He was particularly effective in stressing the unquestioned gains of the Crimea conference. They include: Closer military unity, with daily communication between the Anglo-American and Soviet general staffs and co-ordination of strategy. This should speed victory and save countless lives.

Agreement on the post-war treatment of Germany. The conditions of demilitarization are stern, as they should be. They include two provisions of utmost significance. One is that the German people shall not be enslaved. The other is that German militarism, no less than Nazism, shall be destroyed permanently. Hitherto Russia had planned to use German slave labor, and Stalin had publicly insisted on maintaining a German army.

A THIRD GAIN was the call of a united nations meeting at San Francisco next month. Stalin's consent to this was obtained by a Roosevelt plan—still secret—to break the Dumbarton Oaks deadlock over Soviet demands for veto power of any future league security action against Russia.

Another gain was Stalin's agreement that the big powers jointly shall protect the right of liberated peoples, in the transitional period, to democratic processes and free elections. Mr. Roosevelt in his report made this pledge very sweeping—"problems of any area liberated from the Nazi conquest, or of any former axis satellite, are a joint responsibility of all three governments." We would like to believe, but don't, that he includes the Baltic nations and the vast areas taken by Russia from Poland and Romania.

A "compromise" was what the President called the partition of Poland. A fair argument can be made for the old Curzon line, though hardly for Russian acquisition of Lwow and the Galician oilfields. To give East Prussia to Poland, with safeguards for civil rights of Germans who are not transferred, is a lesser evil than perpetuation of the war-bred Polish corridor between two German areas. But to give Poland in the west the German territory up to the Oder river including Upper Silesia, without consent of the population, would invite future war.

THE QUESTION is whether the Yalta political decisions contribute to post-war security and peace, as the military agreements obviously advance victory.

In our judgment, the result will depend not so much on the theoretic wisdom or abstract justice of the Curzon line and other territorial changes, as upon how and by whom the final decisions are made. We do not believe the Big Three alone have the power to make political settlements which are the joint responsibility of the affected European allies. Without collective decisions, collective security will be a fraud and delusion. Peace cannot be preserved by Big Three military might, unless the European allies have helped to fix the terms and therefore are sincerely obligated to keep the peace.

THE LEWIS TAX ON COAL

WHEN J. Caesar Petrillo, the swaggering little czar of the nation's music, recently forced the makers of phonograph records to pay him a "royalty" on every record they make, he grandiosely announced that here was a brand new principle in the labor field and one that would be widely copied.

John L. Lewis, at least, appears to have taken him seriously. Mr. Lewis now proposes to levy a private tax on coal. His initial demand is for 10 cents a ton, or around \$62 millions a year, not for better wages for the men who mine the coal, but for the union treasury, to be spent on whatever good works, political or otherwise, Mr. Lewis sees fit to turn it to. Since Mr. Lewis need not pay any income tax, nor any other kind of tax, on this \$62 millions, it would obviously become perhaps the biggest annual net income in the United States. And since there is no other place for it to come from, it would of course be added to the price of coal, amounting to a new tax of around \$1 a year on the average American family which burns coal and an extra tax of some \$35 millions a year on all other users of coal, including churches, schools and hospitals, and the federal, state, county and city governments which also buy coal.

IF MR. LEWIS and Mr. Petrillo can levy private taxes on coal and on phonograph records, and even tax the government itself thereby, why then naturally any other union leader can slap an excise tax on whatever commodity his members produce or process or distribute, and collect it off the people who buy the commodity. And Mr. Petrillo, arrogantly thumbing his nose at the President of the United States and the congress the while, certainly has demonstrated that it can be done.

Mr. Lewis' case for better wages for his miners is at least debatable. They now draw around \$50 for their basic 35 hour week, with standard provisions for time-and-one-half and double-time pay for overtime. But their work is hard and dangerous, and vitally essential. He could have won at least some public support for higher pay—but he will get very little for a \$62 million a year levy on the pocket-books of American consumers that won't add a penny to the pay-check of a single coal miner.

Whatever the technical legal aspects of the situation may be, most Americans will believe this is just a shake-down, and that if it isn't illegal it ought to be. Outraged public opinion has risen before now to smash monopolies that held less potentialities for evil than this idea of Mr. Petrillo's.

REFLECTIONS—

Front Line Story

By John W. Hillman



EVEN A COLUMNIST can't know everything, though we must say that some of them make a brave try.

Omniscience is irritating, so we may be pardoned if we smirk maliciously whenever we catch some Homer nodding.

All of which has nothing to do with the essay that we started out to write on Tom Healy, British scribe, long with the armies in the field. It is not a war book, but an interesting travel tome.

We all make mistakes, though some of us admit more than others, so we'd be inclined to pass this by with a knowing grin—except that we know there is no more effective way to consign a book to oblivion than to call it "an interesting travel tome."

And any one who looked at this book's jacket, which is tricked out in tourist-folder fashion, and only glanced at the title page which reads, "Tourist Under Fire," the Journal of a Wartime Traveler, might think that this was indeed a watered Baedeker.

Right Nice Sort of a Guy
SO IN JUSTICE to Tom Healy, a right nice sort of guy who, being a newspaperman, could probably use the royalties, we think that it's only fair to summarize the contents of his book.

It opens with Healy hovering close to death from injuries received when a German bomb destroyed his home in London and killed his wife. Healy already had seen his share of the war, but as soon as he was able to be around, he dragged his reluctant editor into sending him out to Singapore after Pearl Harbor.

He got only as far as India by the time Singapore fell and was then a captive of the Japanese—when he received orders from his office to go to Rangoon. He went through the ill-fated Burma campaign, battling censors and red tape to get to the front lines—where he scored a scoop that earned him the commendation of Prime Minister Churchill. He stayed in Burma to the last, and then fell back to India to await the Japs there.

When that invasion failed to materialize, he moved on to Egypt and was at the front when Montgomery broke through at El Alamein. From there, he followed the 8th army in its chase of the retreating Rommel, clear to Tunisia. Then he was ordered back to Europe to help cover D-day.

That's the kind of a book this is. "An interesting travel tome," indeed! Just what do you have to do to write to be a war book?

Tom Healy probably has seen as much of this war as any man alive—he doesn't touch on the fall of France, except incidentally, in this account, but he was there—and he is a keen observer and a sensitive writer. He has something of Pyle's knack of giving the feel of war and the spirit of the fighting man. And like Pyle, he's not the sort of a correspondent who is content to sit comfortably back at headquarters and cover the war from the communiques.

'Simple Dignity and Decency'

HE MINCES no words. An Irishman, born in Australia, he doesn't hesitate to speak his mind on the muddling-through policy of the British in the early days of the Pacific war or the complacency of plump colonialists who were more concerned with the poor quality of their Scotch than over the empire that was falling about their ears. But equally, his admiration for the humble Tommy doing his best to atone for the "classic stupidity" at the top and his respect for such competent leaders as Alexander and Montgomery is unbounded.

Of the famed desert rats of the 8th army, he says: "I had begun by admiring their stoicism at the end of the long retreat to Alamein, their patience through long, unbroken months of life on the boring desert without leave and the adaptability of new arrivals. (I used to say that there was only one sunburn between a rookie and a veteran of the 8th.) I was impressed with the way they changed their thinking from defensive to offensive as soon as they got the material for attack, and the leadership in which they had confidence. But most of all, I admired their unfinching dignity and decency, and the comradeship which united them when they lived uncertainly amid the shifting sand and dust of Alamein."

This is a strong and thoughtful story of the lost cause in Burma, of the darkest days in Egypt, and of the final turning of the tide. It is a tribute to British courage and American equipment and efficiency. It is a chapter of history that is worth reading, and remembering.

It is a war book, a stirring war book. Regardless of what Winchell says.

WORLD AFFAIRS—

Americas Uniting

By William Philip Simms



(Continued From Page One)

defense, most Latin Americans seemed to think we were taking too much upon ourselves. They suspected that what we were really aiming at was military, economic and political domination of the new world.

Today, without exception, the same countries are urging that inter-American security be left to the Americas themselves with the United States, of course, as No. 1 guarantor.

At the same time we find the United States trying to hold these regional commitments in order to tie these in with Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta.

Partly as a result of all this, and partly because Latin America is afraid the big five may try to run the world, it will present a pretty solid bloc at the coming united nations conference next month at San Francisco. It is going to fight for a bigger voice in the proposed post-war set-up.

As this is written, all but two of the 19 Latin American countries now represented here have formulated demands for changes in the Dumbarton Oaks agreements.

In general they all want a bigger role in the security council and, second, the development of a regional understanding, as provided for in the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, which will guarantee their boundaries without European intervention.

Seek Western Balance
WITH REGARD to the first proposition, Latin American delegates here point out that of the five permanent seats on the security council, only one goes to the western hemisphere. Of the other four, three go to Europe. This, they observe, is hardly fair.

The Dumbarton Oaks chapter of regional arrangements states specifically that "no enforcement action should be taken without the authorization of the security council" and as matters now stand any one of the big five could veto regional or any other action requiring the use of force.

This would mean that a single European power could veto an action which all of the Americas favored. Yet if the Americas insisted on being their own judge and jury in such matters, Europe could own the same and we might be drawn into a third world war—for Europe is where world wars began—without our having had a say in the preliminaries.

San Francisco promises to be lively.

Okay, Doc! What's the Verdict?



The Hoosier Forum

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

"LET'S CELEBRATE ROOSEVELT DAY"

By Mrs. Walter Haggerty, R. R. 4, Box 494.

February has been a month of celebration of our dead heroes by closing banks and delivery of mail.

The fact that Lincoln was born on Feb. 12 is of very little significance; it's just that he did a great service to his country. Are we going to celebrate all of the heroes coming out of this war by closing the banks and stopping delivery of mail? If you ask me, that's no way to celebrate anything.

Why not make a week of celebrating and everybody take part? Why raise the white collar workers? If he wants to wear good clothes and celebrate, he doesn't deserve half what he gets. By all means, election day should be a holiday for all.

Why not celebrate our great men that are still living, and send flowers while they can see and smell them? Let's celebrate Roosevelt day, for he is surely deserving. Also I wish you would print the Roosevelt creed, which is so typical of our President.

I believe in honest sincerity and the square deal; in making up one's own mind—what to do—and doing it.

I believe in fearing God and taking one's own part.

I believe in hitting the line hard when you are right.

I believe in hard work and honest sport.

I believe in a sane mind in a sane body.

I believe we have room for but one sole loyalty, and that is loyalty to the American people.

"THEY DID A WONDERFUL JOB"

By Mrs. W. B. Helzel, Indianapolis.

I received a letter today from a very good friend serving in medical unit of our now-famous 106th. I would like to tell you what he said in part.

"I suppose you have read all kinds of reports back home about the 106th division. But they did a wonderful job, saving many lives by their gallant stand, and I am very proud to be a part of it. The

Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns, religious controversies excluded. Because of the volume received, letters should be limited to 250 words. Letters must be signed. Opinions set forth

here are those of the writers, and publication in no way implies agreement with those opinions by The Times. The Times assumes no responsibility for the return of manuscripts and cannot enter correspondence regarding them.

their obligation to furnish form W-2 of course, but it does imply carelessness and failure to cooperate on the part of those who failed to keep statements as requested.

"SOMEONE IS NOT ON THE JOB"
By Mrs. Bertha Erickert, 330 S. Illinois st.

Here is one thing I would like for someone to please tell me—how to get mail to a serviceman. My son was injured Dec. 24 and we have written to him every day and he says he has not got any mail from us for three months. We have tried V-mail and air mail and every way I can think of and still he says he does not get any mail from home.

He has not got any mail from us since he was injured and how do you suppose that makes him feel?

He tries to be cheerful. But he asks in every letter if he has said something in one of our hurtful feelings. That nearly breaks my heart. And if there is any possible way that I can get him a letter I sure would appreciate it if someone would tell me how to do it.

He is in a hospital in England and has been there long enough to have got some of our mail and it looks to me as though he should have got some of it as some of us have written to him every day. I use United States postage stamps the same as other people and put plenty of postage stamps on my letters and I can't understand why he doesn't get some of our mail.

They have big writeups in the newspapers for the folks at home to write to the boys in service to boost their morale, but when we do write the mail doesn't reach him. There might be some excuse for it, but when three families write every day or three times a week and I write every day and still none of our mail reaches him then it looks to me as though someone somewhere is not on the job. What do you think?

"A CREDIT TO THE WAVES"
By Martha Blythe, Sp. (q) 3-6, Washington, D. C.

I am an Indianapolis girl, now in the WAVES, and am stationed, at all places, in Washington, D. C. I happen to have read your editorial about WAVES stationed here. I am truly ashamed that our town has that impression of our war work.

For your information, we work eight hours a day, night, or any time our watch comes up. And I do mean work. After that our time is our own; after we prepare for inspection, shine our shoes, press our uniforms, and a few other things that make the service girls look neater than any other group of girls. So, if we do want to participate in sports in our spare time, that is our privilege.

I believe it is a credit to the WAVES that so many girls have the interest that they have in sports, particularly basketball.

I take this as a stab in the back from our own home town. There are eight girls here in this particular office from Indianapolis, and we all hold the same sentiment for your article.

DAILY THOUGHTS
Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces; neither could any man tame him.—Mark 5:4.

THEY can only set free men free. And there is no need for that. Free men set themselves free. James Oppenheim.

POLITICAL SCENE—

Family Affair

By Thomas L. Stokes



WASHINGTON, March 3.—President Roosevelt is doing his level best to enlist the co-operation of congress—the senate in particular—in his plan for a world security organization.

This was again manifest in his report on the Yalta conference to the joint session of congress. Anyone who heard him was impressed with the conciliatory spirit which, in itself, was a measure of his earnest desire for the United States to assume its proper place and stature in world affairs in the future.

He was informal, almost chatty at times. Though he had a prepared address he departed from it repeatedly to enhance the conversational quality of its delivery. He made it, so far as is possible on such a formal occasion, a sort of family affair. It was obvious from the comments that this was pleasing to congress.

It is true that he added little to previous public knowledge of the Crimea conference, as set forth in the joint Big Three communique and in Winston Churchill's report to the house of commons. That was the principal criticism—that there was little news in it. Yet he had an engaging manner of frankness, with an assurance that he would keep congress constantly advised, and with an implied promise that he would tell more when conditions permit.

Delegation Will Be Truly Bi-Partisan

HE NOT ONLY made conciliatory gestures, to congress as a body, but to Republicans in particular, emphasizing that both the senate and the house will be represented at the San Francisco united nations conference and that the American delegation will be truly bi-partisan—equal representation of Republicans and Democrats.

"World peace is not a party question—any more than is military victory," he said, adding that when the threat from Germany and Japan materialized partisanship and politics were laid aside by nearly every American."

He thus recognized again the contributions that have been made by such Republican leaders as Senators Vandenberg of Michigan and White of Maine, the latter party floor leader, and Cmdr. Harold Stassen, former governor of Minnesota.

He recognized also the importance of the senate which must pass upon the international security organization plan, of which importance no one is more conscious than each of the 96 members of that body. He told the senators that he is well aware of the constitutional requirement of two-thirds approval by them, adding pointedly that other members of the united nations likewise are aware of it.

Admitted Mistakes in Foreign Policy

IN THE Franklin D. Roosevelt, who is seeking co-operation on foreign policy, there is nothing of the President who throws down the challenge of domestic issues with the sharp and stinging phrase that ranks. There is nothing reminiscent of the biting veto message on the tax bill last year that so riled congress and pushed the patient and long-suffering Senator Barkley into a one-man revolt. There is nothing reminiscent of his caustic denunciation of Republicans and Southern Democrats on the soldier vote bill with the ugly word "fraud," nothing reminiscent of the impish letter to Jesse Jones which so tickled the conservatives and intensified the bitter fight over Henry Wallace that finally ended in his confirmation as secretary of commerce the same day that Mr. Roosevelt was being so considerate of congress in his report on Yalta.

He admitted to mistakes in the conduct of foreign policy. Too long a lapse, he conceded, had occurred between the Tehran conference and Yalta, so that things got out of hand in the liberated countries through the lack of contact between the three allies. He admitted the seriousness of that by pointing out that the numerous incidents had "disturbed the friends of world-wide collaboration," and by acknowledging the vague beginning of "spheres of influence" politics about which congress complained a few weeks back.

That is being rectified by closer contact provided by the quarterly meetings of foreign secretaries. The President impresses the observer as a fellow who's asking for a break.

IN WASHINGTON—
Revolutionary
By Peter Edson

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Most sensational parts of the simultaneous U. S. and British air force announcements on the new jet-plane are the details not yet revealed.

To the Americans the new plane is the P-80 Shooting Star and to the R. A. F. it's the Meteor. By whatever name it is called, this new plane could not have more impact on world civilization.

It was an actual crash-landed jet plane that actually revolutionized the earth. For the jet-propelled airplane is revolutionary in every sense, not as the military weapon but as an economic factor, affecting every-day civilian life, as an economic factor.

Consider only two of its possibilities: The jet plane burns kerosene—not high-test gasoline. If the jet engine or gas turbine, as it is more properly called, should be developed to the point where it is a more efficient engine than the present gasoline-powered aviation engine, think what that means to not only the manufacturers of aircraft engines, but also to the oil refining industry. If it jet plane will not necessarily ruin their business, but it will make necessary an almost complete conversion of their factories, their processes and their products.

Air force generals know where the gas turbine principally will lead. They believe the airplane itself is here to stay, but whether the gasoline-powered internal combustion engine airplane is headed for obsolescence is something they cannot tell you.

The first experimental models of the jet plane made in this country—the P-59's produced by Bell Aircraft—with General Electric turbines—are now relegated to the status of mere trainers. Only a year and a half old, these P-59's are now entirely out-classed by the new P-80.

Flying Has Been Simplified
WHAT THIS P-80 will do in speed, climb, range and economy of operation, the army air forces is now revealing only in general terms, but they are all superlatives. The jet engine weighs only half as much as a gasoline engine of similar power. The jet engine is simplicity itself. It is easily replaced in 15 minutes, as compared with the eight or nine hours required to install a gasoline engine. Flying itself has been simplified, with fewer instruments and fewer controls. And so on.

Fortunes may be made—and some fortunes may be lost—on the further development of the jet plane, Bell, G. E. Allison, Lockheed, North American are in. Patent rights and royalties for post-war commercial applications may make an interesting struggle. And what this strange cool oil turbine does, if it can be harnessed to railroad locomotives, trucks, or even automobiles, or the generation of electric current, is something for this brave new world to chew on after the fighting planes have all come home to roost on the scrap heap.

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IN A REPORT Milton Harris and D. C. say that the greatest promise of milk, the soybean

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