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What Is An Isolationist?

Sooner or later—preferably the former—the term "isolationist" should be more exactly defined. During the recent lamented campaign, a great deal was said—and done—about the isolationists. "Purge" is the word. Practically all the radical U. S. isolationists were kicked out of office.

ONE of them was our own Senator Rufus Holman. According to Rufus this was a rank injustice.

If I put the interests of my own country ahead of the interests of some foreign country is to be an "isolationist," then I am an isolationist. But if to be an "isolationist" is to oppose the present war, or in any way do anything to delay a complete allied victory, then I most certainly am not an "isolationist."

Knowing the Senator pretty well we have no doubt, whatever, that he was entirely sincere in making that statement.

Yet in view of his political record before Pearl Harbor, Senator Holman DID qualify, politically speaking, as an "isolationist."

He voted against important measures designed to prepare this country for war, and did at times, express a certain sympathy for Nazi doctrines—particularly along the lines of anti-Semitic propaganda. So as such things go, Rufus was properly an "isolationist" and was defeated at the Primaries as such.

BUT if the Senator's definition of isolationist is correct, that to place the welfare of one's own country above any other, justifies the term, then of course Rufus Holman has plenty of company, not only among his present colleagues in the Senate but among his constituents at home, and they will steadily grow in number as time goes on.

For everyone—or practically everyone—does place the interests of his own country above the interests of any other. This is as natural and proper, as to place the interests of one's own family above the interests of others. Moreover, just as the latter does not mean excluding others, or not being reasonably cooperative and interested in the welfare of others, so the former does not mean, excluding other nations or failing to be cooperative and friendly toward them. It is in short a matter not of attitude or feeling, but of priority. Putting, as the term goes, first things first.

HOWEVER, this, of course, is not the proper definition. The proper definition of "isolationist" is that of one who not only places the interests of his own country first, but refuses to consider the interests of other countries in any way, and believes the best course for this country to pursue is to isolate itself completely—become a hermit nation—sufficient unto itself, with no interest whatever in or concern regarding any other nation.

Such a person of course would not only have opposed the present war, but now would oppose any further participation of this country in that war or any effort to secure with other nations an organization of world peace.

THE point we wish to make is this:

If the above is a correct definition of an isolationist—and we believe it is—then there are so few of them left in the United States, either in public or private life, that with the campaign over we believe the term should be used very sparingly in the future, and then only by those who realize that for the duration at least, it is not so much a definition as an epithet.

Return To Isolationism?

As an example of careless use of the above term we note in a report from London that the change in the Secretary of State office at Washington is termed by one London newspaper as apparently a turn back toward "American isolationism."

The main fact supporting such a notion is the recent reprimand from Secretary of State Stettinius regarding Britain's insistence that Count Sforza not be included in the new Italian government, as well as this country's pronouncement that the United States will keep hands off as far as the internal affairs of Italy are concerned.

Supporting this two other facts are cited:

One—President Roosevelt's recent declaration that he has never officially sanctioned "spheres of influence in Europe, by Great Britain or any other country. And two: neither has he committed this country, in the matter of determining the exact boundaries of Poland or any other nation in Europe.

WELL, no one would deny this is a retreat from the policies presumably adopted at Teheran and Cairo, but to term, what is merely a refusal to interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries in Europe a return to isolationism, when millions of Americans are fighting and dying in foreign lands, to aid England and Russia and prevent world domination by the Axis, is somewhat grotesque to say the least.

THERE IS undoubtedly a rift in Anglo-American relations regarding what might be termed restoration policies in Europe. In all likelihood President Roosevelt does believe Prime Minister Churchill is too imperialistic and veering too sharply to the right; and the latter has always viewed with certain misgivings F.D.R.'s leftist tendencies.

But, to interpret this failure to see eye-to-eye, as far as a post-war program is concerned, as a return of the United States to what is generally known as isolationism or anything approaching it, merely demonstrates once more how the abuse of the term, so apparent in recent months in this country, has now, gone far beyond its borders and to foreign lands.

FR VATICAN ENVOY URGES FUNDS FOR RELIEF TO ITALY

Taylor Rebukes Texas Solon at Rome Dinner For Stand.

By Eleanor Packard United Press Correspondent

Rome, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Myron C. Taylor, President Roosevelt's special envoy to the Vatican, appealed to the American public last night to open its purse to the Italian people to save them from communism which, he said, the United States does not wish to see in Italy.

In one of the most forthright public statements of his career, Taylor delivered an impassioned plea for economic relief for Italy and condemned the "British thesis" that the Italians are a beaten enemy and must be made to "pay and pay."

Taylor spoke at a dinner tendered to touring members of the Congressional Military Affairs committee by Brig. Gen. Thoburn K. Brown, allied commander in the Rome area. At the end of his prepared address, Taylor looked in a brief but acrid exchange of words with Congressman Paul J. Kilday of Texas after the latter had challenged his stand toward Italy.

Questioned as to what form of American aid he wanted, Taylor said he was not seeking congressional appropriations but wished the committee's endorsement so that funds could be raised in the United States on a voluntary basis—similar to the relief organizations formed to aid allied nations.

Kilday interrupted at that point to say that, although the Italians are allies now, they once were enemies and should be made to suffer for their war guilt as a matter of principle. "They should understand their sins cannot so easily be forgiven," he said.

Taylor rose immediately to rebuke the congressman sharply.

NIPPS SNEAR AT BRITISH THREAT

By United Press A Japanese navy spokesman today belittled the new threat posed in the Pacific by establishment of an Australian-based British Far Eastern fleet under Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser.

"The flagship of Admiral Fraser," said the spokesman in a Tokyo broadcast recorded by United Press, San Francisco "will share the same fate as the Prince of Wales and the Repulse."

The Prince of Wales and Repulse, British battleships, were sunk off the west coast of Malaya in 1942 by Japanese planes. "Admiral (Tajiro) Toyoda, commander in chief of the Japanese combined fleets, is one of the ablest commanders Japan has ever had. I wish to emphasize that Admiral Toyoda will certainly show the British and the Americans the real hidden strength of the Japanese navy."

"The British can always be expected to be as stupid as they were when they lost the Prince of Wales and the Repulse."

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although the use of a pen-name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and condensation.

The State of the Nation To the Editor: In the event that you overlooked it, would like to call your attention to two news items that appear in tonight's paper.

On the front page, publicity is given the act introduced to raise the pay of the lawmakers, the president and his crew back in Washington; the item further relating that heavy taxes decrease the "take home" of their salaries.

Again on the last page of your esteemed paper, you make note of the speaker from the WLB who is here to tell the small business man of the penalties and fines he is subject to (and will get) if he does not abide by the "national wage stabilization act."

Need we say more to people who are able to read this letter and the news item referred to? Phil L. Lay, Business Bookkeepers, 171 Alida St., Ashland.

HIGH COURT RITES

Washington, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—A ceremony in memory of the late Associate Supreme Court Justice George Sutherland will take place Monday before the high court with friends and outstanding members of the American bar in attendance.

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. His story from the files of the Mail Tribune 10, 20, and 34 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY December 15, 1934 (It Was Saturday)

State Liquor board to tighten its control of taverns in Portland area.

President Roosevelt opens drive for state New Deal programs.

Clara Bow, "It" girl of the movies, awaits coming of stork.

Tom Mooney, fight for freedom from San Quentin, opposed by state of California.

Unsettled and rainy. High 46, low 33 degrees.

Payroll tax on employers to insure jobs proposed by Secretary Perkins.

War between Paraguay and Bolivia continues with mercury at 114 degrees.

Reformers oppose toy guns for children on grounds it stirs "war spirit."

Louisian defeats Oregon 14 to 13 in final football game for both schools.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY December 15, 1924 (It Was Monday)

Congress in joint session holds memorial service for late President Wilson.

President Coolidge aroused by loose talk about the Navy, and assures nation first line of defense is in good shape.

Georgia girl shoots two men who try to flog her boy friend.

Snow and colder. High 32, low 27 degrees.

Wreck near Grants Pass delays Espee-passenger train.

Christmas mall rush starts at postoffice.

Fog that has prevailed over valley past week predicted to lift, and be followed by a cold spell.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY December 15, 1910 (It Was Thursday)

Ashland defeats water bonds.

P.E. railroad to be extended in spring to Bend.

Commercial fishing now banned in Rogue River.

Summons for Publication In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Jackson County. J. D. GOODHUE and W. V. KOEHL, Plaintiffs,

vs. L. M. LANGLEY and JOHN DOE LANGLEY, her husband; each and all of the unknown heirs of L. M. Langley, also all other persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real estate described in the complaint herein, Defendants.

To each and all of the above named defendants: You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit on or before the last day of four weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, and, if you fail so to appear and answer said complaint, for want thereof, the plaintiffs will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in their complaint, succinctly stated as follows:—

That each and all of the defendants herein be required to fully set forth any and all right, title, estate, lien, claim or interest whatsoever that they, or any of them, may have, or claim, in, to, or upon the real property described in the complaint herein, or any part or parcel thereof, which said real property is situated in Jackson County, Oregon, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Government Lot One (1) and the West half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 8, in Township 37 South, of Range 2 West of the Willamette Meridian.

That each and all of the claims that may be made on the part of any or all of said defendants herein, in or to said real property herein described, or any part thereof, be adjudged and declared to be null and void; that the plaintiffs herein be decreed to be the owners, in fee simple, of said real property, free and clear of any right or claim whatsoever on the part of said defendants, or any of them.

That each and all of the defendants herein, and each and all persons claiming, or to claim, by, through or under them, or any of them, be forever enjoined, restrained and barred from asserting, attempting to establish, or claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest whatsoever in, to, or upon said real property, or any part or parcel thereof, and that plaintiff's title to said premises be forever quieted and set at rest.

This summons is published by order of the Honorable H. K. Hanna, Judge of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Oregon, made and entered on the 15th day of December, 1944.

The time prescribed in said summons is once each week for four consecutive weeks. The date of the first publication of this summons is the 15th day of December, 1944.

O. H. BENGTON, Attorney for Plaintiffs, 128 E. Main Street, Medford, Oregon.

WORK OR FIGHT EDICT IMPROVES SHIPYARD LABOR

Los Angeles, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—The "work or fight" edict of James F. Byrnes, director of war mobilization and reconversion, is improving the manpower situation in southern California shipyards, a survey indicated today.

The California Shipbuilding corporation reported that 120 employees who brought termination slips to the personnel office Tuesday tore up the slips when shown Byrnes' new order. At Todd Shipbuilding corporation, two men filed termination slips yesterday, compared with a daily average of about 50.

Consolidated Steel corporation reported an increase in job-seekers. Similar reports came from shipbuilding divisions of Bethlehem Steel company and the Western Pipe and Steel corporation.

Col. Kenneth W. Leitch, state selective service director, here yesterday to assist in applying the new order, warned that California's 309,000 men with occupational deferments in the 18-37 years bracket will be subject to immediate reclassification if they leave or have left war or essential jobs. About half of the state's occupational

deferments are in southern California.

J'VILLE BOY WINS NAVAL CITATION

According to word received by Luella McIntyre from the navy department, a former Jacksonville high school student and athlete, Charles W. Campbell, F1/c, was commended by his commanding officer and received the following citation: "For heroism, when on 5 November, 1944, he swam to the aid of a shipmate who was in danger of drowning and saved him."

"Campbell's quick thinking and courageous action deserve high praise and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the navy."

YOUNG CORRIGAN IN DAD'S TRACKS

Los Angeles, Dec. 15.—(U.P.)—Harry Corrigan, 1½-year-old son of Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan, is following in his dad's footsteps.

A few weeks ago Harry accidentally took a drink out of a bottle of household poison and was saved by use of a stomach

pump at a receiving hospital.

Last Night, he got the wrong bottle again and took a swig of camphorphenique.

His famous father, who flew from New York to Ireland when he said he meant to fly to California, again rushed Harry to the hospital for the stomach pump treatment.

G. O. P. HAS SURPLUS Chicago, Dec.