

The Evening Herald

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"You Men of the New Army--"

By WILLIS THORNTON

WE believe in American youth. We believe in the portion of that youth now serving in the New Army. From what we know of them, from what we have seen and heard of them, we believe no finer body of men ever stepped forward to defend their country. We believe they will not be found wanting when the test comes, whether that test is the test of battle or the test of a long course of training without the tensions and excitements that drive men through an actual campaign in war. Because we are so sure that American youth is sound and true, we believe in the future of the United States of America.

There have been mutterings and mumbblings of late, both in print and out of it, which suggest that there is a certain amount of discontent among the men of the New Army. It would be strange if there were not. It is not easy to give up a year, and then another 18 months of one's life to military preparedness. It is even harder in a country not actually at war than when war is actually under way, for the excitement, the all-embracing high tension, are absent. It's all grind and no glamor.

Nevertheless it is being done. Secretary of War Stimson speaks straight from the shoulder when he tells "you men of the New Army": "... out of your devotion there is being created the most effective fighting force which this country has ever known in time of peace."

Such discontent as exists (and there is always some, in any army) comes, we believe, from lack of more thorough understanding of just what the United States is up against. Secretary Stimson, reviewing the way in which Germany, Japan, and Italy have, in seven years, attacked and overrun 16 countries, shows clearly the prospects for actual attack on this country, and the steps taken in building defense outposts, to keep war away from America. He shows clearly that the Germans alone have a trained army of seven million, all fanatics, and all "professionals and veterans." In any clash, even in the outposts, against such a force, "it would be a crime against you yourselves to send you half-trained..."

"We wish an army which in equipment, training, and in spirit... will be able to meet and conquer any attack which may be attempted against any part of our homeland."

The mere size of the present American army, a million and a half men, is a guarantee that no "wild adventures in foreign wars are contemplated." Such an army, if trained to something approaching German finish, might be sufficient to handle a situation involving the invasion of one of the outposts. It certainly does not approach the huge five or six million men necessary to any "all-out" invasion of Europe. It cannot, by its mere size, be anything but a defensive army.

We have confidence in it and in the men who make it up. They will go through with what the country has decided it needs for its safety.

Building Skills

DEFENSE training courses were building increased skill in 642,600 persons on June 30, according to the Office for Emergency Management.

That includes 90,000 training for jobs, 145,000 training on the job for better jobs, 270,000 unemployed youth taking vocational training, and 137,000 in the engineering defense courses.

Not only in lands, money, and resources lies the wealth of a people, but also in the total of its skills and abilities. Here again we are building assets not only for the current defense program but for the future.

The French Pay

THE cost of preparedness is high. Everybody is worried, and rightly so, about the increase of government debt, the cost, in money and time and sacrifice, of defense.

All roads are costly today. On the other side, take a look at France, which did not prepare well enough. Four hundred thousand francs a day France pays to Germany for the inestimable privilege of entertaining in its midst a conquering German army. How much that is in money is hard to say, because a franc today is what Berlin says it is. But you can get some idea from the fact that this annual indemnity of 146,000,000 francs is more than twice France's annual receipts, more than all other French expenditures.

So while it costs to prepare, it costs to be unprepared, too.

Fighting Men and Women Civilians Fight Off German Attack on City

MOSCOW, Aug. 25 (AP)—Pravda, organ of the communist party, pictured Saturday how fighting men and women of one Russian city broke a siege after Nazi tanks had reached its outskirts, cut off its highways and railroads and encircled it.

Factories, offices and shops poured out men and women who went to the front lines with orders they must not retreat, said the newspaper.

In a typical section of the line, it said, a red army man, a bookkeeper, a mechanic, a militiaman and a sailor stood side by side while a girl nearby held a rifle at a parapet ready to resist any attack.

(Previously, soviet authorities have explained that soviet women at the front were engaged in cooking, nursing and other duties, but did not fight.)

SHOE SOLUTION

CHICAGO—When a pretty, unidentified girl refused to get off a much-used drawbridge because she was a "taxpayer," Bridge Tender Morris Snyder called the law.

Hubby grouchy? Have no fear! Quicky wifey—Wieland's Beer!

Siamese Twins



Pro-Nazi Element Declared Present Among Icelanders

The following dispatch regarding the attitude of Icelanders toward occupation of their island was written by a United Press staff correspondent who recently visited Iceland aboard a United States naval vessel, and who now has returned. His dispatch has been approved by the navy.

By PHIL NEWSOM

REYKJAVIK, Aug. 25 (UP)—Iceland, although predominantly pro-ally, nevertheless has a pro-Nazi element.

This correspondent saw a Nazi swastika scrawled across the walls of the British embassy in Reykjavik and on at least one occasion boos and shouts of "Heil Hitler" have been thrown at British troops marching in the streets.

The latter occurred when prisoners from a German submarine were being transferred ashore from a British corvette.

Among Icelanders generally there is a sympathy for the German people, if not for the Nazi regime.

During the days of the German republic many German tourists visited Iceland and much Icelandic literature was translated into German.

Many Iceland students have studied in Germany where they have been hailed as representatives of a people who gave the world its Nordic myths, on which the Nazi Rosenberg theory has drawn heavily in its claim of a German super-race.

In this connection, Icelanders believe it possible that the German idea of "mercy killings" may have been taken from the early Icelandic practice of destroying sickly or malformed babies.

In Reykjavik three or four years ago a small Nazi party was formed.

It never succeeded in electing a member to parliament, however, and its activities were confined mostly to 300 men who marched through the streets singing songs.

Meanwhile, the official attitude toward Americans and British is one of entire friendliness, and the forces of occupation are careful to infringe as little as possible on Icelandic civilian rights.

After a year of occupation both sides have learned that some give and take is necessary, a member of the Icelandic parliament told me.

He cited some 13 arrests among Icelandic civilians ordered by the British military authorities shortly after the beginning of the British occupation. All since have been released after sharp protests by the Icelandic government.

Most prominent among arrested Icelanders was a communist member of the althing, or parliament. His newspaper was suppressed and he, along with some members of his staff, was sent to a concentration camp in England.

Icelandic law prohibits the arrest of a member of parliament unless caught red-handed in a violation of the law, and his arrest brought a sharp immediate rejoinder from the government.

Others arrested included two youths who were accused of operating a short wave wireless station and a number of persons along the east coast accused of

sheltering a German bomber pilot whose plane had crashed. Icelanders, so far, have been pleasantly surprised by the conduct of the American troops.

After seeing American movies, they had feared the troops would turn out to be of the Al Capone gangster type.

They remark on the fact that, while the British troops "yoo hoo" at girls while being transported through the streets in trucks, the Americans so far have done nothing like that.

A number of Icelanders told me that, while they were sure Britain would keep her promise to leave the country after the war, they prefer to have American forces there because they feel certain that the United States has no imperial ambitions in their direction.

Washington Liquor Board Raked for Aiding Speakeasies

SEATTLE, Aug. 25 (AP)—The Washington state liquor board, the King county prosecutor's office and Seattle police were raked Friday night in a verdict returned by a coroner's jury in the deaths of three persons in a speakeasy holdup here August 3.

The jury declared: (1) That the operation of the speakeasy was a contributing factor in the deaths.

(2) That the state liquor board has encouraged the growth of speakeasies by its reluctance to amend its own regulations.

(3) That the liquor board knowingly permitted large sales to speakeasy proprietors from state stores and "that we are not satisfied that all agents of the board are beyond undue influence in determining what places shall be raided and when."

(4) That police were "not honestly performing their duty" at the time of the shooting and that some of the police witnesses before the jury were lying.

(5) That Prosecutor B. Gray Warner was not prosecuting speakeasy cases with vigor and that he had offered "no logical or reasonable" explanation for failure to proceed against them through abatement actions.

The jury, which spent far more time listening to view points on the speakeasy question than in hearing testimony on the actual shootings, recommended that the liquor board study the question of suggesting liquor sales by the drink to the next legislature.

OREGON MONEY OUTLOOK GOOD

SALEM, Ore., Aug. 26 (UP)—Barring unforeseen contingencies, the State of Oregon's general fund surplus should be swelled to at least \$2,500,000 during the two years 1941-1943, State Treasurer Leslie M. Scott estimated Saturday.

With the taxes on gifts and incomes coming in at the rate of \$1,000,000 more than the budget estimates of the legislature, and income taxes coming in at the rate of an additional \$1,000,000 excess, the state is turning a \$450,000 deficit of the general fund into a surplus, and accumulating an additional surplus for apportionment to counties.

Revenues Up

The estimated general fund revenues in the budget were \$450,000 less than the legislative appropriations. Now those revenues exceed the budget estimate of general fund expenditures by approximately \$1,500,000 for half of the biennium, or this year.

The current revenues, continued for two years, should swell the surplus to \$2,500,000 or more for the biennium, Scott said. He pointed out the estimate included only routine future collections of gift and inheritance taxes.

Lower Tax Seen

If repaid back to the counties the income tax surplus would probably reduce the property tax for elementary schools. Since the state collects no property tax, such income tax surplus cannot, under the law, be used for state expenses. But the inheritance tax surplus can be used for this purpose.

Of a \$1,000,000 refund, Multnomah county would receive \$34,000; Marion \$52,000; Jackson \$57,000; Clackamas \$85,000; Lane \$87,000; Umatilla \$76,000; Douglas \$28,000; Curry \$40,000; and Jefferson, \$44,000.

Klamath Couples Marry at Reno

RENO, Aug. 25 (AP)—Oregon residents marriage licenses here included: Herbert Brown, 22, and Orene Sperling, 18, both Klamath Falls; Ed Stribey, 25, Lakeview, and Margaret Johnson, 26, Klamath Falls; Lowell Brown, 23, and Betty Quimby, 18, both Klamath Falls; Clyde Traver, 24, Myrtle Point, and Dorothy Barnes, 18, Gold Beach; Virgil Henderson, over 21, and Lura Kolb, 39, both Klamath Falls.

Read the Classified page.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

(Editor's Note: The accompanying Paul Mallon column was written after Mr. Roosevelt announced Friday against seizure of the Kearny ship plant and before Mr. Roosevelt announced Saturday he would take it over.)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25—Mr. Roosevelt let down his national mediation board and his labor mentor, Sidney Hillman, in the Kearny strike trouble with a thud that may not have been heard outside, but it jarred the whole administration defense labor setup.

The boys are still picking themselves up from the floor. A well placed ear can hear some injured murmurs from them about "an executive ought to show some confidence in his delegated subordinates." An occasional whispered threat of a resignation can be detected also in the inner air, but the matter probably will not come to that.

To an impartial outside reporter, it seems the White House labor handlers merely over-committed the president while he was away on vacation. They thought he would take over the Kearny plant when they told him to. But every point of dispute had been settled except one—the union demanded for a form of closed shop called the "maintenance of membership" shop. After all, the labor advisers were asking a lot in expecting the president to take over a plant just to make the employer promise to maintain the union in perpetuity.

While they were surprised at his first refusal, not many political advisers of the White House were. They know the president must justify plant seizures on solid, popular grounds.

SPLIT PANEL

It all came about this way: F.D.R.'s national mediation board came into the Kearny strike picture, long before the strike, through the insistence of Mr. Hillman, the White House defense labor man, who held some conferences with John Green, the CIO maritime union chief. Last June 30, Mr. Hillman succeeded in persuading Labor Secretary Frances Perkins into certifying the problem to the board.

The board wired the union, asking it not to strike. The union agreed. Hearings were ordered, by the board to be held by a panel of three men who were not even full board members, only alternates. The panel was composed of the secretary of the CIO, James B. Carey, Chief Justice Walter P. Stone of North Carolina and Charles E. Adams, a business man, chairman of the Air Reduction corporation. Hearings were held, July 7 to 14. Of the 13 points in dispute, 12 were settled, leaving only the closed shop issue.

The fact never got out, but the panel split 2 to 1 on that point. Mr. Adams vigorously dissenting. As all these government actions are supposed to be taken unanimously, and unanimity in the panel was impossible, the panel dumped the problem back on the full board. A five hour session was held here, and the mediation board could not agree.

HOT POTATO

As the potato was getting hotter all the time, the mediation board passed it back to the panel again. Immediately stories started reaching the press from authoritative quarters that Mr. Roosevelt would take over the plant. Mr. Hillman had some talks with the strike leader, Mr. Green, and both were working in this direction. So were some influential members of the labor mediation board.

They rallied representatives of four defense agencies (the mediation board, OPM, maritime commission and navy) to call on the president and recom-

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PELICAN - SOON

SIDE GLANCES



"You wait on her, Sam, and I'll duck—she insists on holding me personally responsible because the price of food is going up!"

mend seizure. He heard them through, but Mr. Roosevelt can also recognize a hot potato too, when he sees it.

Without letting out any of the above cited facts which would have exposed the board, he merely wrote a letter to Mr. Green recommending that the union try again to reach an agreement with the management.

Mediation Board Chairman William H. Davis fumed silently. Mr. Hillman fumed. Mr. Green fumed. Mr. Roosevelt let them smoke, went off to Hyde Park for the weekend, announced there the plant might have to be taken over later, but some more negotiating would have to be tried first.

MAINTENANCE

Meanwhile the strike entered its third week, with \$403,000.000 of naval and merchant ship construction in the defense program tied up over the single point of whether the CIO union is to have a maintenance of union contract.

Under such a contract, all the shipyard employees who are now in the union, must remain in. They cannot resign, without being discharged from their jobs by the company. Any new employees hired by the company must join the union. Technically, any present employees who do not want to join the union, can refrain and hold their jobs. Under such a contract, the company "maintains" the union. For all practical purposes it is a closed shop, and it will actually become a closed shop as soon as present non-union employees are weeded out, lose their jobs, move on elsewhere, because all new employees must join the union.

WHAT NEXT?
SANTA MONICA, Calif.—Now it's Mr. California of 1941!

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