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EDITORIAL

If there is anything that the United States can do that Hitler won't like, we are for it.

Awful thought. Suppose the millennium, when at last it comes, is held up until ratified by the Senate.

Regardless of when Thanksgiving arrives, we can be thankful that this nation is not experiencing serial bomb attacks.

Unconfirmed reports are that American pilots are being engaged to fly bombers across the Atlantic to Great Britain. The pilots will be given \$1,000 a month for two trips, with a bonus of \$500 for each additional trip.

It seems to us that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Infants should do something about the Pennsylvania couple who named their twin sons, Wendell Delano and Franklin Wilkie. There ought to be a law—or something.

When the War Department calls its first draft of 400,000 men, each State will be given credit for the men it already has in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and National Guard. This means that communities which have supplied the smallest number of voluntary enlistments will furnish the larger number of draftees.

The United States has 78 destroyers built since 1934; 37 new destroyers under construction and funds for 74 others are pending appropriation bills. In addition, the Navy retains 73 over-age destroyers and 46 others which have been converted, since the World War, into mine-layers, mine sweepers, transports, anti-aircraft vessels and other types. The above figures indicate our destroyer strength after deducting the fifty destroyers transferred to Great Britain from the 169 over-age vessels that we had as a result of the World War building program.

The attitude of the German government to the activity of the United States in the present war is reviewed by Joseph C. Harsch, staff correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor, in this manner: The Germans believe that they can win the war before aid to Great Britain can exert a significant influence upon the military situation. They expect to have it over with by Christmas and do not believe that aid to England can amount to much before next spring. If the war is prolonged and American planes play a big part in British operations "public sentiment in the Reich could be swung into violent hatred of America overnight." In other words, if Hitler's plans go wrong, the German people will be advised that the United States is responsible for all of Germany's woes.

The discussion as to the value of the gold hoard that the United States has acquired is being renewed in the public print. There are so-called experts who assert that if Hitler wins his war, the yellow metal that this country owns will become worthless. They overlook the fact that Germany's economic wizard, Dr. Schacht, admits that Germany adopted the barter system as a temporary expedient because Germany hasn't enough gold. The experts also overlook the experience of the past century which demonstrates that the nation possessing the greatest amount of gold inevitably possesses power in the world. It is a safe assumption that the role of gold in the future of the world will be as important as it has been in the past. While there may be some people in certain nations who contend that gold is worthless, one should not fail to note that every nation continues to acquire as much of the yellow metal as it can obtain. There must be a reason.

DESTROYERS FOR SECURITY

The transfer of fifty destroyers to Great Britain is an unusual proceeding. It is justified entirely by the close connection which exists between British defenses against Germany and the security of this country.

In this connection, it should be understood that the offer of Great Britain to make available to the United States a series of air and naval bases on territory of the Empire, in order to assist this country to prepare adequate defense, was likewise an unprecedented development.

So far as we know, there is no parallel for the

action taken by the two governments. It indicates a community of interests between the English-speaking peoples and augurs well for the peace of the world in the years to come.

The over-age destroyers that the United States makes available to the British navy were used by this country in the World War, subsequently laid up and some of them were recently recommended for use in the neutrality patrol.

Experts say that they are too slow to be of much use to the modern American battle fleet whose speed has been greatly increased in recent years. Moreover, the Navy has modern destroyers, with more under construction and doesn't particularly need the old ships.

A glance at the map will easily show how important air and naval bases in Newfoundland, Bermuda and Trinidad are to the defense of this country. Not only will they enable our forces to meet an invader far out at sea, but the Trinidad base will safeguard the southern approach to the Panama Canal.

In addition, the base on Trinidad affords an advance point from which American forces will be able to operate beyond the "bulge" of Brazil, considered by strategists one of the most vulnerable points in the hemisphere because of its nearness to Africa.

SHORT CIRCUIT IN THE KILOWATTS

(Editorial in Philadelphia Record) If the Democrats, instead of Wall Street, had picked the Republican Presidential nominee, they hardly could have chosen a man who would have done as much, thus far, to re-elect President Roosevelt.

This isn't just our own conclusion. It is the conclusion of a great many important Republicans and Willkie supporters.

Two months ago Willkie remarked: "I'm a different kind of egg than the pros ever dealt with, and they don't know just what to make of it."

The statement has proved truer than anyone could have expected.

In a year, when, of all years, the opposition candidate should be waging an intelligent, courageous and effective campaign, Mr. Willkie loafs on his front porch in Rushville, Ind.—apparently waiting for the election returns to come in.

Such a state of affairs has baffled Walter Lippmann, original Willkie booster. More than a week ago Lippmann protested:

"Until Willkie brings his own party to the support of his own pledges he is plainly in no position to challenge the President on any issue or to criticize the effectiveness of what is now being done for national defense. The first condition of leadership is to be able to lead one's own followers."

Now comes an amazing article in Time Magazine, current issue. As you read the following quote, bear in mind that the publisher of Time is Henry R. Luce, who, in his other publication, "Fortune," made the first proposal that Willkie run for President. Here's from Time:

"GOP Politicians last week were sure that the thing they had dreaded all along had come to pass; the holy-rolling crusade of Wendell Willkie had gone sour. The first rumor to get around was that Willkie was just a super-hawker who had sold the Republican convention a bill of goods. Last week, spreading through professional ranks, was the belief that maybe Willkie was only a fatter, louder Alf Landon."

Missouri's Congressman Dewey Short croaked: "Franklin D. Roosevelt is not running against Wendell Willkie. He's running against Adolf Hitler." Many a GOP politician moaned privately: "With Willkie a poor third."

"Polls proved that Willkie was holding his own, momentarily. He still drew curious crowds. But these things failed to cheer many Republican politicians. They recalled the black year of 1936 when Alf Landon had an early lead in polls. As one said Old Guardsmen pontificated to another: 'Dead whales on flat cars also attract crowds.'"

That in "Time"—whose publisher "discovered" Willkie, perhaps to his regret.

The New York World-Telegram, edited by Roy Howard, is another publication which has been hot for Willkie. In Friday's edition, on page one, is a story by Thomas L. Stokes, Scripps-Howard staff writer, noted:

"Disappointment is prevalent among Republicans in Congress over what they regard as the failure of Wendell L. Willkie, their candidate, to challenge fully what many of them look upon as a definite 'war policy' of President Roosevelt."

"Leaders here recognize Willkie's sincerity, but they wish he would refrain from 'sticking his neck out' so often."

"It has been apparent that the Republican candidate differs with party leaders and much of the rank-and-file on both domestic and foreign policy."

When? Lippmann, Luce and Howard. More than coincidence in their common disappointment. Yet there are others.

William Allen White, strong Willkie man two months ago, took occasion on August 23, to make a radio address commending Mr. Roosevelt and his foreign policy, and appealing for "the patient confidence of a united people for the President."

"He has earned it," said White. "I, as a Republican who has opposed him for eight years, want to pause to pay tribute to the President of the United States."

Is it surprising that the Gallup polls show the trend definitely away from Willkie, with the tide still going out?

Is it surprising, either, that Willkie himself should have called a conference, at Rushville, to put "aggressiveness" into the campaign—with the help of "heaping plates of fried chicken, cream gravy and mashed potatoes—Willkie's favorite menu?" (We never feel very aggressive after a meal like that.)

No doubt the shade of the old apple trees on the farm at Rushville has been very comfortable. But it has been a political maxim that a candidate never belongs in the shade.

Willkie is "different."

Maybe the unexpected will happen. Maybe Willkie, by some miracle, will sell some people on the idea that he's got something Roosevelt hasn't got.

Maybe Willkie is right. Maybe he doesn't need political leaders, precinct workers, or even votes. Maybe his figuring on 16 million Republicans to start with, because they're nowhere else to go, is a great mathematical and political discovery combined.

Maybe.

For ourselves, we do not share Willkie's contempt for the professional politicians. True, some have been corrupt, stupid and short-sighted. But the great majority, whatever their faults, are keen students of human nature. They know what people are thinking, and wanting, and hoping—because it has always been their business to know.

The professional politician senses that Willkie's campaign has bogged down even more than appears on the surface; he senses that the people are finding out for themselves that Willkie has nothing to offer them which they either need or want.

Why swap something for nothing?

When not even Willkie knows what he stands for; when his own party leaders don't know—how can the people know?

More and more it appears that Secretary Ickes was right; that Willkie is "a simple, barefoot Wall Street lawyer" whose high-powered build-up, unlike Hoover's, failed to last out the campaign.

He may be the King of Kilowatt in Wall Street—but there's been a short-circuit in the powerhouse.

THE OFFICE CAT "A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men"

The Old Fashioned Nightshirt (Published in this column in a previous issue and repeated at this time by request).

How dear to my heart is my old fashioned nightshirt When winter breezes recall it to mind; Its length and its breadth, and the soft fuzz upon it Caressing me gently in front and behind. Enfolding me close with complete satisfaction, Designed to protect from the toes to the chin, With a slit up each side to give lots of knee action, 'Twas the most perfect garment I ever was in. That old fashioned nightshirt; That flannelled nightshirt; That looser, easy nightshirt I used to sleep in.

How off on the farm when the weather was zero, The wind at the eaves with a blood-chilling whine, When going to bed was the act of a hero, I've blessed that old flannelled nightshirt of mine! I'd leave the big wood-stove, with beech-fire glowing, To creep off alone up a cold, creaking stair, Then strip to the skin, with the goose-pimples growing, And snatch that old nightshirt with joy from a chair.

That old fashioned nightshirt; That soft, fuzzy nightshirt; That life-saving nightshirt Awaiting me there.

How off since I strayed from the farm of my father, And came to the fashion-made city to dwell, Pajamas I've cursed—their strings, buttons, and bother— And mourned the old night robes that I loved so well, I married—and even my wife wears pajamas, A coat and silk pants, like a heathen Chinee— O, I wish she'd go back to a nightie like Gramma's, And give back my old fashioned nightshirt to me!

Those soft, flowing night robes; Those loose, easy night robes; Those long, graceful night robes, For her and for me!

Slips That Pass in the News

(Fort Smith, Wis., Tribune) "S. R. Diegre, telephone lineman, suffered minor shock and burns late Saturday afternoon when he accidentally came in contact with a live (live) wire."

(Teasdale, Mont., Evening News) "Miss Larson worked for Mr. Andrews in the capacity of stenographer for over a month when suddenly, she said, he up and tired (fired) her."

And How

Pat Maloney had become a backslider and his parish priest called on him. "I ain't bin feelin' right," said Pat, "an' that's why. An' say, Father, what is neuritis?" Thinking Pat might be inclined to use that as an alibi for his back-sliding, the priest resolved to scare him. He looked very grave. "That's a terrible affliction, Pat," he said. "That comes from drinking, staying up all night, consorting with bad company—it is the Lord's wrath."

"An' that's too bad," said Pat. "I jes' heard that the Bishop had it."

Finish It Yourself

A charming young lady named Hopper, Committed to South Bend, Went with a gentleman friend, And the rest of the story's improper.

Good Argument

A Jew and an Englishman were having an argument about the ways of their respective races. "You people," said the Jew, "have been taking things from us all your lives. The Ten Commandments, for instance." "Well, yes," said the other, "we took them from you all right, but you can't say we've kept them."

We Remember, Too

1910—Customer—"I'd like a dime's worth of cheese, please." Proprietor—"Oscar, get the gentleman a half pound of cheese." In 1940—Customer—"I'd like a dime's worth of cheese." Proprietor—"Oscar, let the gentleman smell the cheese."

Watch Your Chance

He—"I'd like to know where I can get hold of Miss Brown." She—"I don't know—she's awfully ticklish."

Optical Illusion

There was an old lady from Brussels Who was accused of wearing two bustles; She said, "It's not true, It's a thing I don't do, You are simply observing large muscles."

His Difficulty

Little Jimmie, aged four, was at the piano and doing his best to reach the keys at the same time he operated the pedals. Just as he had seen his mother do. After many efforts he cried out in disgust, "I can play the keys all right, but I can't reach the gas."

Milky Way

Spain, from all reports, is keeping right in step with modern scientific progress. For instance, in Spain you can now buy a sweater made out of skimmed milk. One can imagine a customer walking into a clothing store in Madrid. "I'd like to see a sweater," he requests. "Yes, sir," bows the assistant. "What size, please?" The customer scratches his head. "I am not sure," he replies, "but I think I take a size 14 quarts and one pint."

Pretty Well, Thanks

"Mandy," said Mandy's mistress, "I've heard your hard luck and I'm terribly sorry." "Deed, ma'am, Ah hain't had no hard luck." "Why, wasn't your husband killed in an automobile accident yesterday?" "Oh, yes, ma'am, but dat's his hard luck, not mine."

That's all, folks. As the little fly said when he lit on the weighing machine, "I'm going to do a little business on a big scale." —SCAT—

COLLEGE COW MAKES GOOD MILK AND FAT RECORD

One of the registered Holstein cows in the Pennsylvania State College herd has just completed a 365-day lactation record of 18,818 pounds of milk with 644 pounds of butterfat, which is nearly four times that of the country's dairy cow average as reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

This junior two-year-old, Pennsylvania State Hazel, was milked three times daily. Her production will be recorded in the Holstein-Friesian Herd Improvement Register.

LARGE ATTENDANCE ON STATE POULTRY TOUR

Visiting poultry farms and processing plants in Delaware and in Maryland, the recent tour conducted by the Pennsylvania State Poultry Association was participated in by 450 persons traveling in 136 cars, reports C. O. Dossin, poultry extension specialist of the Pennsylvania State College. In addition to Pennsylvania, the states of Illinois, New York, Delaware, and Maryland, and the District of Columbia, were represented.

It would be a good thing for the world if the nations could believe what Adolf Hitler says.

Don't Be Tortured With Your Feet

Don't let sore, aching, tender feet make you "grumpy" and ill tempered. Wash them with San-Cura Medicated Soap and then rub in well soothing, cooling, healing San-Cura Ointment when you retire tonight. The soreness and aching disappear and you'll feel like dancing for joy tomorrow. Antiseptic San-Cura, 35c and 60c. Soap 25c. At Parish Drug Store.

STATE INDUSTRIES REACH 1940 PEAK. COLLEGE REPORTS

Spurred by armament manufactures, Pennsylvania industry has reached a new operating high for the year, the business survey of the Pennsylvania State College reports. Between June and July the state's index of industrial activity advanced from 82.5 to 88.7, while national activity remained unchanged.

Some of the best records were made by electric power production, with its best July on record; anthracite coal production, best July since 1930; eastern Pennsylvania steel production, best July in a decade; postal receipts, best July since 1931; and payrolls and employment, the highest for July since 1937.

For August, preliminary reports indicated that Pennsylvania industries would again show greater gains than the nation as a whole. "If consumers' purchases continue to hold up, and if a British defeat does not materialize, business should show a steady if not rapid rise for the rest of the year," the survey staff reported.

LOUISA'S LETTER

LOUISA'S LETTER Dear Louisa: We have four children, all of whom are easy to manage with the exception of one, the oldest boy. I realize of course that he is at a trying age—an adolescent—but he has become so impertinent and disobedient during the summer that I am at my wits end to know what to do. If he deliberately disobeys me there is very little I can do about it as I do not hold the family money nor control the use of the car and of course I am unable to punish him physically even if I believed in such a method. What am I to do? Mother.—Vt.

ANSWER Your position reminds me of that of Britain, Germany and the United States with you, your son and your husband holding down the respective places you have probably been trying an appeasement policy a little bit too long and your young Germany is threatening to do as he pleases regardless of the consequences. I judge also from your letter that your husband, instead of co-operating with you, regards himself as a neutral and will not be awake to the situation until things have gotten entirely out of hand. Your only hope is that he will realize the seriousness of his son's behavior before it is too late. It will not be necessary to use force nor loud language. A few quiet words from his father curtailing his allowance, the use of the car and other privileges are all that is necessary to make him behave and to treat you and the rest of the family with courtesy. Naturally, if his father looks on with an attitude of detachment and doesn't require his son to act like a gentleman, he will continue to do as he pleases and feel that he is at least receiving tacit support from that quarter. The entire solution of your problem lies in having lots of patience and receiving the full cooperation of your husband. LOUISA.

Dear Louisa: Is it all right for me to have a date with a boy at his house? My mother doesn't think so. June.—Pa.

ANSWER It depends on whether other people are in the house, whether you are welcome or not, and if you go home at a reasonable hour. If you do all of those things I see no objection to having a date in your boy friend's house. Of course you should never visit him at his home if his people are away. LOUISA.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEM: In a baseball game the hitter that made the last out in an inning was the first man to bat in the next inning. How come? (Answer elsewhere in this department.)

T. W.—Where in the Bible does it say that "money is the root of all evil"? My Sunday school teacher says it is not in the Bible, but I am told that it is.

Ans.—Your Sunday school teacher is right. However, in I Timothy 6:10 it says that "the love of money is the root of all evil," which is a different matter.

B. M.—In speaking of a number of certain articles, for instance is it proper to say "I have forgotten the number" or "I forget the number?"

Ans.—Either form of the expression is correct. However, the meaning of "forget" is slightly different in the two forms of expression. "I have forgotten" means that the fact "has been lost from my mind," while "I forget" means that I am "unable to recall" the fact. Both these uses of "forget" are recognized by all reputable dictionaries.

R. G.—Will Christmas in 1944 fall on Sunday? This will settle an argument.

Ans.—No, Christmas, 1944, will fall on Monday. Because of the intervening leap years Christmas will not fall on Sunday until the year 1949.

H. F.—Is "red tape" just a slang, or how did it originate?

Ans.—Red tape is not a slang; it is a popular name for official or legal formality and delay. The term had its origin in England in the 18th century and arose from the custom of tying pigeon-hole documents, bills, etc., with red tape. It was perfectly natural that the ordinary man, impatient for action, should ridicule this everlasting tying and untying of red tape which bound the documents.

F. J.—Who was the first person to be chosen as a member of the Hall of Fame for Great Americans?

Ans.—Benjamin Franklin was the first to be chosen as a member of the Hall of Fame for Great Americans in 1900.

S. R.—Are minnows a certain kind of fish, or are they any kind of little fish that haven't just grown up?

Ans.—The term "minnow," correctly speaking, is applied only to certain species of small fish. The young of larger fishes, when they are less than 2 1/2 inches in length, are properly called " fry."

V. D.—Is the game of checkers and the game of backgammon the same?

Ans.—No. Checkers is strictly a game of skill and backgammon is wholly one of chance by throwing dice for the moves. The games are too complicated to be explained fully here. See any encyclopedia or an unabridged dictionary for fuller details.

A. E.—What is the correct pronunciation of "hangar," the home of an airplane?

Ans.—It is pronounced "han-gar," with accent on the first syllable, and "a" sounded as in "haw."

S. W.—Please give directions for cleaning ivory.

Ans.—Ivory objects may be bleached or whitened by use of hydrogen peroxide. Before dyeing or bleaching they should be cleaned by immersion for fifteen minutes in spirits of turpentine and thorough subsequent exposure to the sun for three or four days.

H. C.—Who said, "A little learning is a dangerous thing?"

Ans.—It is from Pope's "Essay on Criticism."

J. D.—What does the word Firth mean?

Ans.—It is a Scottish name for arm of the sea, usually the outlet of a river, as Firth of Clyde or Firth of Forth.

L. S.—Is the head of the Krupp armament factory in Germany living?

Ans.—Herr Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, head of the great armament works, recently celebrated his seventieth birthday.

D. B. K.—How does the Canadian Government contribute toward the support of the English Royal Family?

Ans.—The Canadian Government makes no financial contribution toward the English Government or toward the expenses of the Crown.

W. N.—How large is the campus at Princeton University?

Ans.—It consists of over 800 acres.

R. D.—How is the Leaning Tower of Pisa constructed?

Ans.—The Leaning Tower of Pisa is built in the Romanesque style. It is cylindrical and is in eight stages, which at the base are solid with a wall arcade, the six above being surrounded within their small columned arcades with galleries. The highest stage has six large arches to allow the sound of the bells to escape. The tower is 181 feet high and fifty-one and one-half feet in diameter at the base. It is inclined thirteen feet, eight inches toward the south. About one-half of the sinking took place during construction.

H. R. T.—How many broadcasting stations are there in the whole world?

Ans.—According to records of the Federal Communications Commission, as of December 1, 1939, there were 2452 regular broadcast stations listed throughout the world, of which 814 were in the United States.

C. G.—Why are white curbs used on the highways in New Jersey?

Ans.—This new type of concrete curb increases night driving visibility to an astonishing degree. So effective is it that the curb itself seems to be lighted, but actually it is simply the reflected light from the driver's headlights. The curb shows up brightly on both dry and rainy nights and also dominates the road by day.

S. K.—Does a lightning flash or bolt always strike the earth?

Ans.—The Weather Bureau says that many lightning discharges take place between two parts of the same cloud, or between two clouds without striking the earth.

J. J.—What is the vertical and horizontal distance which a shell from a United States Army anti-aircraft gun will travel?

Ans.—The maximum horizontal and the maximum vertical range for the three-inch anti-aircraft gun are 14,200 yards and 10,100 yards respectively.

Answer to Problem: The batter who made the last out in the last inning of the first game of a double-header was the lead-off man in the batting order. Of course, in the second game he was the first man up.

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