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Let The Second Front Be Soon

The second front has long been the biggest military question—and it is getting bigger fast. The plain truth is that a serious cleavage is developing between Soviet Russia and the balance of the United Nations. The Russians definitely feel thatthey have borne the brunt of the fighting long enough, and that it is now time for England and the United Nations to do something concrete and effective.

Wendell Willkie's recent visit to Russia was obviously made for the purpose of finding out just what Soviet military and governmental leaders are thinking. Mr. Willkie had long audiences with Stalin and Molotov,and with a anumber of high-ranking Russian Army men. He made a visit to the front, and talked with rank-and-file Russians. So it is highly significant that he at once issued a statement in which he advocated the establishment of a second front "at the earliest possible moment that our military leaders will approve." He then added that some of these military leaders may "need public prodding."

The attitude oftheRussian is certainly understandable. The Russian people, military and civilian alike, have made sacrifices that deserve the adjective "incredible." According to Moscow accounts, the Russian Army has suffered 5,000,000 casualties in killed, wounded and missing. Sixty million Russians are in areas which at present are occupied and controlled by the Nazis. Aid from the United States and England had fallen short of the total which was anticipated, and Russia has a terrible lack of food, clothing, fuel and other necessities. The Germans, pursuing their policy of extermination, have deliberately killed tens of thousands of Russian men, women and children. In some sections, Russian authorities have found it necessary to condemn part of their own population to low starvation, in order to provide sufficient food for fighting men and necessary factory workers. The courage of the Red Army is a beacon light in the long and bloody history of war. Never have there been finer and more desperate stands than those made by the Russians at Sevastopol, Rostov, Stalingrad and elsewhere.

At the present time, according to the best estimates Germany has about 100 divisions on the Russian front. In the opinion of Russian experts, Germany would have to divert 30 or 40 of these divisions to the West if the United Nations would open a second front in Europe, using the British Isles as the base of operations .And if that happened, the Russian experts conclude, the Red Army could stop the Nazis and eventually defeat them. But if the Germans are left free to throw all thir power against the Russians, the Red Army may be eliminated as an offensive force. In that event, Germany, posses sed of almost limitless resources, could launch an irrestiable offensive against England and the United States.

American and British Army heads openly advocate the second front. It is no secret that a very large percentage of the American soldiers now in service are being trained for fighting of the commando order. No responsible man now advocate a purely defensive war—all are convinced that only the continued offensive can bring eventual victory. At the same time, the difficulties that lie in the way of the second front are very important. The cost in troops would unquestionably be terribly great—raids such as that made against Dieppe have proven that German defenses in Europe are first-class. The problem of supply from the U. S. to England is extremely difficult—to maintain the vast numbers of troops who would be engaged in the second front offensive, would require a veritable bridge of ships across the Atlantic. And, on top of that, it takes time to give troops the kind of vigorous training that is vital to a successful invasion of German-held Europe.

These are but a few of the tremendous issues that bedevil the High Command. It is to the credia of the Generals who make military policy that they do not want to open a second front until they feel that the engagement can be won at minimum cost in men. At the same time, it is obvious that the collapse of Russian would be the worst possible calamity that could happen to the United Nations. Russia alone has really held the Germans in big actions, and made Hitler pay an awful price in blood and material for the victories he has gained. Russia alone has shown that she realizes precisely what total war means. Russia alone has given her resources and her energies without hesitation or limit. And Russia has received mighty little help from her Allies, despite all the brave words that have been said in her behalf. Russia knows that men and guns, not conversation, win battles.

NOT TOO HOT NOT TOO COLD

The Only Panacea

A man who has been a member of one of the principal old-time labor unions for 26 years, and who is now serving in the Army, recently protested some of the current comment on labor. He said that some writers are "poisoning the public mind about organized labor," and observed that the union to which he belongs has called only one strike in more than a generation. That strike was called to obtain the 44-hour week and was won by the union.

This man has a case. But the unfortunate part of the matter is that labor raacketeering has cast a dark shadow over the entire labor movement. There are good unions, of course. There are unions which have done the working man and the entire country a tremendous services. There are unions which fully realize their responsibility to the country in war or peace, they have accepted the decisions of official arbitration bodies. But other, irresponsible unions have undone much of this good work. The excess of a few labor leaders have tarred the entire union movement with the same brush.

The union man in question said he hoped that someone will find "a panacea for the wrong impressions being formed in the public mind about organized labor." The only possible panacea is for all unions, all labors leaders, to live up to the vast public responsiblility which confronts them today.

Brow Sweat and Taxes

No patriotic person should object to making a supreme sacrifice, finan cial and otherwise, in order to bring peace to this warring world. Nevertheless, conservative men, who have been taught to respect money, resent the prodigious waste of the public funds by those political factions which have adopted the dangerous notion that a nation can spend its way to everlasting prosperity.

President Roosevelt, prior to his election, repeatedly pointed out that taxes are paid by the workers' brow sweat. As this stream continues to flow in ever-increasing volume, one wonders if the taxpayers will have enough money left to purchase a few towels when the spending spree is over!

The Home Front

I often wonder how many of us realize the magnitude of the task which we have undertaken in the defense of liberty, how many of us realize that we are so far committed that there is no turning back. That our decision has placed upon us the necessity for the submergence of many of our own personal comforts, ideals and traditions, and that we are committed to any and every sacrifice essential to the success of our cause. That even our greatest sacrifice—our sons sent to the front—is insufficient evidence of an appreciation of the gravity and fullness of our personal obligations.

It seems to me that too many of us think in terms of national rather than in terms of personal sacrifice; too many of us are more willing to obey rules than to cherish the spirit of their birth.

As illustrations: We may drive our cars only as far as the gasoline and tires alloted us to permit, but how many of us seek ways and means of saving the gasoline and tires alloted as the fulfillment of a solemn obligation to help win the war? And how many of us are willing to forego profits which are seriously disturbing our national economy and how many of us seek ways and means of increasing our taxes to insure an ever-growing flood of arms and ammunition to the front?

Such sacrifices are genuine; while they do not match those of the soldiers and sailors at the front, they show a real recognition of an exacting duty, a duty which must be recognized if we are to win the war.

Dye Given the Boy Scout Fast Colors

The promotion of Douglas A. Dye, Field Scout Executive of the Del-Mar-Va Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America, residing at Easton, Maryland, to the position of Scout Executive of the Ulster-Greene Council at Kingston, New York, was announced today by Scout Executive Frederick Wellington of Wilmington.

Dye, who has served the Del-Mar-Va Council for two yeare as field director of organization and activities in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties, has helped Eastern Shore Scouters increase the number of boys in Scout Troops and Cub Packs by 32 per cent during this period. He helped re-organize dormant Troops at Easton and Trappe and the following new Troops and Cub Packs:

Millington Pack 156, Vienna Troop 187, Wittman Troop 188, Easton Troop 119, Coleman's Corner Troop 113, Easton Troop 190, Oxford Troop 191, St. Michaels Troop 114, Easton Pack 190, Cambridge Troop 162, Secretary Troop 193, and hopes to complete organization of Troops at Henderson and Church Hill and the first Cub Pack at Cambridge before leaving.

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Retailers and the Price Laws

Reports indicate that the Office of Price Administration is now starting to crack down on violators of price ceilings. In other words of Leon Henderson, "We propose to enforce price regulations wherever it is necessary to enforce them. Every willful violator of price regulations every landlord who seeks to evade rent control, every trader in black markets of goods—whatever his motive or station—challenges the war effort of the nation."

The duty of the OPA in this vital matter is clear, and tte public will support strict and fair enforcement of the price rulings. At the same time, it is to be hoped that OPA enforcement officers will refrain from trying to make "examples" out of merchants who is advertently violate the law. The price regulations are extremely complicated. As one authority on retailing has said, "It seems probable that some unintentional errors, minor violations, might be found on a minute inspection of any type of establishment." Many merchants are definitely confused, and simply don't know what price can be legally charged for certain kinds of goods.

The past record of retail merchandising has deserved and won public confidence. Both chain stores and independent stores have been aggressive fighters against price-inflation. Both have protected the interest of the consumer in every possible way—and they did that long before price ceilings were established by the OPA. It is a matter of record that very few cases of willful profiteering have been discovered. In the light o fthis fine record, there must be no effort or attempt to make accidental price violations appear as willful and criminal violations. The OPA must be scrupulously fair and just.

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One of the fundamental principles of the American System of Government is that a Judge be free of Obligation to any man or group. The Maryland law even prohibits a party designation, on the ballot, in connection with a candidacy for Judge. This is done in order that the people shall make their selection wholly upon demonstrated qualifications.

EDWARD D. E. ROLLINS, of Elkton is a candidate for Judge in the Second Circuit of Maryland, of which Queen Anne's County, is a part.

He has been elected States Attorney three times, with increasing majorities. He has practiced law in this Circuit for twenty years; appearng many times before the Court of Appeals. He has earned the respect of the members of his profession, throughout the State.

His opponent was admitted to the bar only six years ago.

Mr. Rollins served his country with distinction in the first World War. Always he has taken a leading part in community work. His neighbors have learned to rely upon his judgment.

He deserves your active support.

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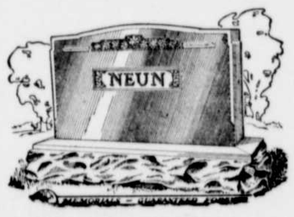

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