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CLINTON, S. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1943

It All Depends

There may not be much in a name, but the price will vary considerably according to whether the article is called an antique or merely junk.

A Mopping Up Squad

The income tax appears to be the mopping up squad of the revenue realm. If too much of your income escapes the other forms of taxation, you may rest assured it will become the victim of the income tax.

It Lacked Color

Armistice Day passed last week without attracting very much attention throughout the country because of war conditions. It brings to us each year grateful memory and appreciation of those who battled so bravely in World War I to make the world safe for democracy. It also brings its tinge of bitterness as we recall how the politicians bungled before, during and after the peace conference. It finds us hopeful that there will be another Armistice Day in the not distant future and that it will find nations ready and willing to profit by the mistakes of the past and to hedge with certainty the smashing victories which our armies are winning now.

Only Making A Show

Our government may very plausibly be accused of preaching economy and practicing prodigality, of making a false show of fighting inflation while it feeds the fires of inflation by granting the greedy demands of labor unions and maintaining a wage scale in government industry which is out of all proportion to the ability of the workers and the service rendered.

There are a great many things this country needs. Standing at the top is the need of more politicians and office holders who at some time in their lives earned a living.

Ban On Weather Reports

For almost two years, newspapers and radio stations have been severely restricted in the reports they have been permitted to give out regarding the weather. It was felt that weather reports would be of great benefit to the enemy if they were planning attacks on this country.

Therefore, the government's recent lifting of the ban on weather reports clearly indicates that our war leaders now consider attacks by enemy planes to be a very remote possibility. The weather bureau has realized that weather information is of great importance to farmers, ship captains on inland waterways and to aircraft operation in this country. But until now the need of many civilians for weather information has not been considered great enough to offset the danger of supplying vital information to the enemy.

From now on the enemy can learn about the weather in this country if they want to—but there is little chance that they will have any use for this once valuable information now. The enemy is too busy fighting off our planes in their country to spare any for raids on ours. They have their hands full.

Our Postwar Plans

Have you a postwar plan for your home?

That may not seem an important question, but actually the plans of family groups may be the answer to whether we will have a serious depression or widespread prosperity after the war.

For what happens after the war will depend upon what we want to buy in a hurry, what we have the money to buy and when we intend to buy it.

If the automobile manufacturers, for example, were assured that they could sell two, three or four million new cars as fast as they could turn them out, they wouldn't waste any time about re-tooling their plants to turn those cars out at record speed. But if they have to guess, or deal with people who want to wait and see what the cars are like before they commit themselves, there might be just enough uncertainty in industrial circles to cause a major business slump.

From now on countless surveys will undoubtedly be made to determine what our needs are and the details of our postwar purchasing plans. It will be of definite help to our whole nation if we answer any questions that are asked us along this line honestly and seriously. In fact, before the questions come up, it would be highly advisable for us all to give the question of postwar purchases serious forethought and determine, as closely as we can, what major items we intend to purchase as soon as we can after the war ends—if we have the money.

Germany's Losing Hand

The German hope of a split in the United Nations line-up has been blasted by the announced results of the recent Moscow conference. The Germans now know that they face a war to the finish, that they don't have a Chinaman's chance to win.

Before the Moscow conference there were all sorts of rumors afloat to the effect that the United States and Britain were not in accord with Russia's war objectives. There was much talk about Russia making a separate peace with Germany; and there was—as usual—a good deal of surface friction between Britain and ourselves being fanned by enthusiasts on both sides of the Atlantic. It all made good editorial stuff for the German press and excellent morale sustainer for use in Herr Goebbels' propaganda organs.

The question now naturally arises: Will the loss of this hope—for a breakdown between the United Nations—shorten or lengthen the war? It will serve to shorten the conflict, in our opinion.

The German civilian population may be unaware of the intense hatred for all people and things German, but it exists almost to a unanimous degree throughout the world. When they see how their enemies are closing in on them what more proof can they ask. They are naturally not informed by the powers that be of the atrocities which are driving these enemies blood mad. Soon they will realize they have nothing to gain by continuing the fight. It is only natural that their leaders will attempt to persuade every living German that his or her life may be forfeit, to the vengeful soldiery of their enemies if their country is invaded and conquered.

The German people who are not fools have been buoyed up by the undoubtedly much advertised hope of an Allied split. They have been told that by sustaining a delaying action they will win the war on the political field if not on the battlefield. With this hope gone, and with only a mounting death list among their sons and brothers to look forward to—will they decide to turn their leaders over to the justice of their enemies and hope thereby to "cushion" the resentment towards themselves as a people?

All of these possibilities summed up means that only time can tell whether the war has been brought closer to a conclusion; but we know now that the history-making conference on the Moskva river has done more for the general morale of the United Nations than any major victory yet won on the field of battle; and it has cleared the atmosphere more than the most optimistic had hoped. What all the United Nations are fighting for has now been clearly defined.

Germany got so cock-sure of victory that she relaxed in the early days of the war and "took on" Russia in her spare time. Look at her now—and that man Stalin. What can she hope for?

TODAY... TOMORROW

By Don Robinson

BILLIONS — 80%

If 80 per cent of the nation's spending money goes to people earning under \$5,000 a year and 20 per cent goes to those earning over \$5,000, which group is it necessary to tax in order to cut spending power in half, as seems to be necessary to prevent inflation?

Or, to put it another way, if a total of 100 billion dollars is paid to the under-\$5,000 group and 25 billion dollars to the over-\$5,000 group, where must further taxation or forced savings hit hardest in order to reduce spending power to the estimated safety point of \$80,000,000,000?

Obviously, if the above figures are correct, as the treasury department estimates they are even if every red cent was taken away from the over-\$5,000 group, the total annual income would still be inflationary.

But, for some non-understandable reason the treasury plan for reducing purchasing power by taxes is based on trying to continue to squeeze most of it out of the higher income group.

That is why the treasury plan was looked upon as so political that even a politically minded congressional committee couldn't stomach it. For, poor as that committee is at keeping tax arithmetic simple, its members could not help but see that you can't hope to collect \$65,000,000,000 in taxes from a group of people who only have a 25 billion dollar income.

CREAM — Blessing

The house committee, which is given the responsibility of planning a tax program, turned down the treasury

idea, but it is still trying to follow in the treasury's footsteps by groping for tax plans which do not step on the toes of the majority of voters.

The tax committee is trying to get around it by approving additional taxes on luxuries and then suggesting that, instead of more high taxes, the money which is needed by the government be raised by reductions of government expense.

We are all for that reduction of government expense idea, but, in this case, it seems likely that this suggestion is only being used as a subterfuge for avoiding additional taxation of the average voter.

If it is true that we will have dangerous inflation unless both the heavy and light cream are not taken off of spendable income, it would prove of actual financial benefit to the man of average income to increase his taxes, or at least to force him to save his money instead of spending it. High-paid labor might resent having additional taxes imposed upon it unless it understood inflation arithmetic—but if it was explained that the price of a \$1 article might go up to \$2 or \$5 unless he paid a 10 cent tax on it, it would not be difficult for him to see that additional taxes would be a blessing in disguise.

SALES TAX — Benefits

The purpose of the preceding paragraphs is to give support to my belief that a national sales tax of 10 per cent on all expenditures is the logical answer to preventing inflation and at the same time would help in paying off a small additional part of the government debt.

I cannot help but feel that, if additional taxation is necessary, as it seems to be, the sales tax is the obvious solution to many of our nation's financial problems.

A sales tax would put the heaviest burden of taxation on those who spend the most money... and would automatically tax all of us proportionately in accordance with the amount of goods we buy.

A sales tax would discourage spending to some extent and would consequently encourage saving by the purchase of war bonds.

A sales tax would be the ultimate of pay-as-you-go taxation, which most of the people approve, and could be so enacted that it could be called off the day the war ended.

A sales tax would mean slightly higher prices but it would mean that our additional payment for goods would not just be absorbed in an inflationary whirlpool but would be helping to reduce our government debt.

And, perhaps most important of all, a sales tax would make all of us so very much aware of taxation that we would demand investigations of government expenditures and insist that this tax money be used to the best possible advantage and not squandered by our nation's only remaining rich uncle—Uncle Sam.

"This Is The Army" At Casino For Special Premier Tuesday Night

All Proceeds for Army Relief Fund. Air Cadets To Put On Stage Show.

"This Is The Army," the army's own musical show that was so great it had to be put on film for the whole world to see, will be at the Casino theatre Tuesday night, the 23rd. Two performances will be presented, the first beginning at 8:30 and the second at 9:00 o'clock. The entire proceeds will be donated to the Army Emergency Relief fund, it has been

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stated, and the presentation is being sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are now being sold by the sponsors.

In addition to the screen show, the 39th AAF College Training detachment at Presbyterian college will stage a half-hour original show, with an accomplished cast of air cadet candidates of the local unit.

The Sergeant Irving Berlin of World War I was responsible for "This Is The Army," and, of course, wrote the music; music that is already famous and loved. He wrote one new number for the picture version, entitled "What Does He Look Like," sung in the film by Frances Langford.

Happily, it's a case of "something new has been added" and, just as happily, nothing has been taken away. The entire accomplished original cast remains.

In addition to the army cast, the Hollywood contribution is a lavish cast of players including George Murphy, Joan Leslie, Lieut. Ronald Reagan, George Tobias, Alan Hale, Charles Butterworth and Una Merkel.

"This Is The Army" is a big show and a great show, a full-scale offensive of high spirits and good cheer!

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