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Again, Too Little and Too Late

The presence of famine and the imminent threat of mass starvation in the world today has lately occasioned some desperate pleas to the American people by their president and other eminent persons. Our charity and our liberalism, in which we take traditional pride, have been appealed to. And once again it is certain that most Americans will respond generously.

But there is an overtones to many of these pleas which seems somewhat unfair. We are told that we eat too much, that we must lighten our belts, that it is wrong for us to feast while others starve. All that is true. Yet one senses the implication that the American people are somehow to blame for famine in Europe and Asia. And that is not true.

The present world famine was predictable in its general outline from the time that the nazis overran Europe. In November of 1943, delegates from 43 anti-axis nations met in Atlantic City to set up the machinery for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, which was to avert that famine.

The confused history of UNRRA reveals an immense task complicated by many extraneous difficulties. Among these were a lack of authority and long-range planning, an almost fatal intrusion of politics, and the paralysis of inaction.

Naturally, the winning of the war had to come first, and to be given first call on food and shipping. But the European war has been over a year. And during that year, the fight to avert famine by an agency set up for that purpose has seemed appallingly weak.

Here in this country, for example, food rationing was virtually abolished soon after Japan's surrender. That was a domestic decision, of course. But where was the protesting voice of UNRRA when that decision was made?

In the face of that decision, Americans cannot be blamed if they failed to see that they were eating too much and hastening the world food crisis. A Gallup poll indicates that 59 per cent of Americans today would be willing to go back to rationing in order to send food to hungry nations. We are told, however, that it is impractical to resume rationing now.

Probably that is so. The crisis is here. It would take time to set up the rationing system again, and more time to reap its benefits. So instead, there are tentative half-measures. It is another case of too little and too late.

Nevertheless, the American people will surely be humane, and generous to the best of their ability. In return, it may be hoped that further appeals of this or other governments will not add bitterness to the tragedy of hungry millions and subtract good will from this country by unwittingly blaming the American people for a situation which is not of their creation.

Q—Does Austria have a president?
A—Yes. He is Karl Renner.

Q—What is to be the postwar strength of the marine corps?
A—108,000.

Q—What is aluminum?
A—Aluminum. Aluminum is the English spelling.

Q—What is the G.I. name for bringing war brides to the United States?
A—Operation Lohengrin.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — The war's stormiest hero, Gen. George E. Patton, was the center of many a controversy before he died. But today the war department is still sitting on one of the hottest of Patton's hot potatoes—The general's secret diary.

Only a few people in the war department and the Patton family knew it, but the famous general kept a careful diary all during the Normandy campaign, jotting down his frank comments about the allies and even about the superior officers. Some of the comments just about burned up the page.

General Patton especially paid his compliments to the famous British field marshal, Montgomery, whom he criticized with almost the same bluntness as the soldier in the Sicilian hospital whom he slapped.

Patton felt that Montgomery was entirely too slow and cautious, and that the war could have been won months earlier if the British had been willing to take the same losses as the Americans.

Only four copies of the diary are in existence and the war department to date has frowned upon publication. Should it ever see the light of day, the American public will probably read some crisp comments regarding Patton's lightning rush across France almost to the border of Germany and the real reason he had to stop.

Official explanation at the time was that he had run out of gasoline. However, it will be shown that the real reason was General Eisenhower's decision to wait for the slower British. Marshal Montgomery had not yet decided to move, and it was not considered polite to leave this famous field marshal so far behind.

Patton Family Says No

General Patton also has some caustic things to say about General Eisenhower and the whole SHAER operations.

Another phase of Patton's history which should make significant reading is the manner in which he crossed the Rhine on March 22, 1945, establishing a bridgehead of eight miles in the space of a few short hours. This operation, accomplished with only one small army and few casualties, attracted little attention in the press.

But meanwhile, Marshal Montgomery, commanding three armies including the Ninth American army, advanced March 24, and was able to gain a bridgehead of only one mile. The Montgomery operation was publicized as a great achievement, despite the fact that Patton had already crossed the Rhine and taken greater territory.

To date, the Patton family also has decided to hush up the general's diary. However, before he died, the general told friends that he would like to have a monument built in France in memory of the Third Army, and some of his comrades-in-arms hope his diary may be published and the proceeds used toward this memorial.

Note—During the war this column published, Oct. 22, 1944, the story of how Eisenhower was exasperated at Montgomery's slowness, and how the British field marshal, demanding more American troops, refused to launch the Normandy break-through at Caen. This column brought an emphatic British denial.

Capital Chaff

President Truman has received a disturbing hush-hush report from Adm. Ellery W. Stone, recently returned from Rome, that communism will become rampant unless Italy gets food. Admiral Stone advised Truman to back the Italian socialists as the middle-of-the-road party, but warned that there may be a vigorous left-wing swing in the June 2 elections. . . . Ex-Secretary of War Harry Woodring may not agree with the administration on some things, but he is pulling no punches regarding OPA. Out in Kansas, he let the folks know what he thought of Congressman Frank Carlson's OPA attack. . . . Italo-American leaders are waging a back-stage campaign against the appointment of Assistant Secretary of State Jimmy Dunn as U. S. ambassador to Italy. Meanwhile Ambassador Alexander Kirk is doing a good job but wants to be relieved. . . . A confidential first draft of the house military affairs committee's report on army courts martial was shown to the war department prior to publication. Some of the generals nearly had fits. They immediately started a counter back-fire by appointing a committee of their own to study courts martial, headed by Jacob Lashley. It is considered significant that Lashley is the former law partner of White House naval aide Capt. Clark Clifford. . . . Under Secretary of War Kenneth Royall, who came from Josephus Daniels' home state of North Carolina but doesn't receive his blessing, described publicly given the Litchfield court martial as "just a lot of hollerin'." Some people are wondering why the army didn't clean their court-martial house before Congress beat them to it.

European Diet

Mrs. Tom Clark, wife of the attorney general, is one of the cabinet ladies who takes seriously both her cooking and the president's suggestion that American reduce their diet two days a week to equal that in Europe.

Mrs. Clark, youngest of the cabinet wives and daughter of the former chief justice of Texas, has done her own housekeeping most of the time since her husband came to Washington. Here is a menu she has carefully worked out, equivalent to a European diet of 1,500 calories, and which she is serving in the Clark home.

Breakfast — one glass orange juice, 8 oz. (78 calories); one poached egg (74); two strips of bacon (35); one slice of wholewheat toast and one-half pat of butter (149); coffee (no calories); one teaspoon of sugar (16); 1 oz. of cream (52); total—404.

Dinner—Pot roast, 2 oz. (116); one-fourth head lettuce (16); one teaspoon oil dressing (62); three-fourths cup buttered peas (92); one hot bran muffin with one-half pat of butter (461); apple sauce, one cup (24); milk, one glass (148); total 619.

Supper—Beef barley soup, 8 oz. (31); broccoli, two 5-inch stalks (32); one-half cup carrots, steamed (35); one-half cup potatoes, creamed (including butter and cream) (124); rye melba toast (50); one-half pat butter (36); fruit cup, pineapple and strawberries (50); milk, one glass (148); total—506. Total for day—1,529.

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UNDER THE DOME

From the PATHFINDER

EMPHASIS ON ABILITY is policy Secretary of State Byrnes is insisting on in filling key diplomatic posts. Note the Harriman, Messersmith and Pawley appointments. Democratic politicians are protesting, would like to go back to giving top posts to top campaign contributors.

RAILROADS DON'T EXPECT to get 25% freight increase just requested. It's a bargaining figure and they'll settle for less. **RESIGNATION RUMORS** which keep cropping up in connection with Agriculture Secretary Anderson can be discounted. He doesn't plan to leave his post, won't run for governor of New Mexico.

APPARENT INACTION by government in the coal strike is misleading. Even before he called in Lewis the President was exerting all the backstage pressure possible to bring about a settlement.

WASHINGTON HEARS that both the American Legion and VFW will pick veterans of both world wars as commanders in their summer conventions.

STATE DEPARTMENT hasn't thought up an answer yet to the Swiss watch controversy. It can't very well restrict imports on watches when it's advocating free and open world trade.

GEN. BRADLEY INSISTS Veterans Administration is now "over the hump," will have all its business on a current basis by year's end.

AUTO INDUSTRY is about to have a new labor headache. There's a move on to organize salesmen on a nationwide basis. **REFUSAL OF A FOOD REQUEST** (1/2 million tons) from Mexico by the U. S. has chilled relations, won't make importation of needed farm labor from Mexico any easier.

TERMINAL LEAVE for enlisted men won't now be granted by congress, though most legislators agree that lack of it is an injustice. Trouble is that so many men have been demobilized it would be almost impossible to make adjustments. This will increase congressional sentiment for a bonus.

THOUGH THE "GET TOUGH" POLICY toward Argentina he advocated has had to be softened, Spruille Braden won't resign as assistant secretary of state.

LATEST CHECK by public health authorities shows old belief that living in the country is more healthful is no longer true. Lack of adequate medical service is the reason.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS admit it regretfully, but Washington's information is that Eugene Talmadge is almost a sure bet to become Georgia's governor again, succeeding Ellis Arnall.

WATCH A MOVE by the CIO to organize its own veterans' organization, link it politically with the PAC. CIO hasn't gotten anywhere with efforts to get important power in established veterans groups.

SENATE FARM BLOC is determined to carry on its fight to include farm labor costs in parity. Strategy now is to hook it on the OPA extension bill.

AUTO DEALERS LOBBY, flushed with its success in the House, is starting work on individual senators to get increased commissions on new car sales.

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION is getting demands for increased hospitalization allowances. Seems vets are showing up with vitamin deficiencies, other not immediately noticeable troubles which require expensive treatment.

INTERNATIONALISTS IN CONGRESS are reading some new speeches which will insist the U. S. is taking its proper leadership in world affairs.

ONE ATTEMPT TO EASE LUMBER SHORTAGE being made by Washington is to arrange imports of pine from Honduras.

Louisville

Mrs. Bessie Core

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Pankonin were Omaha visitors Wednesday. Rollie Noyes was taken to the hospital in Omaha Tuesday for observations.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wirth were in Plattsmouth Tuesday morning.

Mrs. H. W. Worthman, Mrs. Jack McShane, Mrs. Carl Burch and Willard McShane were shopping in Omaha Wednesday.

Miss Katherine McGrew was home to spend Easter, Sunday and Monday and Tuesday with her parents. She is stationed at Fitzsimons hospital in Denver. She expects to be discharged about June.

Albert Murray underwent a major operation, Friday, April 20. He is in the Lincoln general hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Blair have

Until the Roots Die, Too

UNDER THE DOME

Easter weekend with relatives in Louisville.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Huff visited Mrs. Huff's mother, Mrs. O. M. Ireland, at the Masonic home in Plattsmouth Easter Sunday.

Miss Donna Williams of Omaha spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. LaRue Williams.

Jess Walker arrived in Louisville Monday to visit his brother, Ned, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Williams of Omaha spent Saturday night and Easter Sunday at the M. L. Williams home.

Harold Dumke and Clarence Stolman are building a new frame building 32x48 feet on the C.B.Q. right of way which will be used as a barber shop.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Von Seggern and family, of Omaha, spent the week end at the T. A. Tennant home.

Val Mayfield entered the Methodist hospital at Omaha Monday for a check-up.

Fred Huff entered the veterans hospital at Lincoln Tuesday for a general check-up.

The Golden Circle club met Thursday evening with Mrs. Ada Wirth with Mrs. Bessie Core as co-hostess.

Dr. and Mr. H. W. Worthman attended a dinner and dance in Omaha Friday evening.

Eagle

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Case and son-in-law and daughter of Omaha and Mr. and Mrs. John Opp and daughter of Nehawka spent Sunday at the Rynhart Ketchum home.

Mrs. Carrie Trimble spent Sunday in Palmyra with her mother, Mrs. Hannah Waite, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Slosson and daughter, Sara Lee, of Walt Hill, spent the weekend with friends in Eagle.

Mrs. Anna Headley, of Seattle, arrived last Thursday evening and will spend a month with her daughter, Mrs. Joe Rudolph, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Dennis, of Elmwood, visited at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Valley Trumble, Sunday evening of last week.

Mrs. Milton Rodaway entertained the East O Street Home-makers club at her home Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Root and son, Lloyd, of Scottsbluff spent a few days the first of last week visiting relatives in Palmyra and Eagle.

Mrs. Harry West entertained the W. C. T. U. at her home in Lincoln Friday afternoon of last week.

Mrs. Murtle Blair of Harlan, Iowa, is visiting her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. John Peterson.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Harsh of Grand Island spent last week end with Mr. Harsh's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Harsh.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pether, of Norfolk, Okla., and Mrs. W. B. Harsh, of Grand Island, were in Plattsmouth on Easter Sunday with their son, Orlin, who is in the hospital here.

Mrs. Sarah Keil and Dorothea were dinner guests of Mr. and

EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—TVA Director David E. Lilienthal, who chairmanned the special committee on preliminary plans for international control of atomic energy, lost his family's regular supplier of fresh eggs early in the war. The man joined the ranks of tens of thousands living near Knoxville, Tenn., who went to work in the big Oak Ridge atomic bomb plants.



Edson

But after a time the man turned up at the Lilienthal back door. He said he was going back in the egg business. Lilienthal asked him why he was giving up such a good-paying job for the uncertainties of egg-selling.

"Oh, the egg man explained, 'I just got disgusted. All those big buildings, all that machinery, all those people working so hard, all the trouble they're going to make whatever it is they're making out there! It looked to me like it would be a lot cheaper if the government just went out and bought it.'"

The latest Truman story is hung on two government girls, overheard talking on a crowded Washington street-car. Said one: "I like Truman because he's so modest." Replied the other: "Well, he certainly has a lot to be modest about."

DEMOCRATIC Governor John J. Dempsey of New Mexico is expected to announce his candidacy for the U. S. Senate in the coming elections. If the governor runs, he will oppose Senator Dennis Chavez, the incumbent, for the Democratic nomination, and the winner of this race will apparently have to fight it out in November against Pat Hurley, the ex-ambassador to China.

Rear Admiral A. S. Merrill, commandant of the Eighth Naval District at New Orleans, came to Washington to get straightened out after President Truman had criticized him, under another name, for giving a newspaper interview in opposition to unification of the Army and Navy. He took considerable ribbing from his friends for having stepped into a fast presidential bean-bail.

PIRELLA LAGUARDIA has been spending most of his time on getting more wheat since he became director of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. But pretty soon, he says, he's going to have to start worrying about fats and oils and fertilizer.

Ex-Mayor LaGuardia's first press conference was held in his office. He said all he had been fed since coming to Washington was "statistical gibberish." Asked what he thought about Henry Wallace's new drive to collect canned goods for relief shipments, LaGuardia put on his blank face and answered, "I don't think about it."

Mrs. G. H. Palmer Sunday of last week and lunch were given. Mrs. Fred Marquardt reported that 39 dozen eggs were sent to a children's home just before Easter. Final plans were made for serving the activities banquet and also for the mother-daughter dinner coming soon.

Fred Marquardt served on the jury several days last week. Dr. and Mrs. Brenslak, left for Franklin where they will visit his brother, Jeff.

Mrs. Zimmerman reports that Oscar is recovering satisfactorily but is still carrying some temperature. Leona Everett is back at the switch board again as her mother is better.

Lawrence Rohlfis is home after a year in the navy. Pearl Hillman of Otaw was greeting old friends Wednesday. He was recently discharged from the navy.

Mrs. Clara Ruhra was shopping in Lincoln Thursday. Supt. and Mrs. Claire Wulfer gave a party Friday evening honoring the girls volleyball team. After several games they served a delicious lunch.

BARBS

BY HAL COCHRAN

It only takes two wearings to make a woman's new dress an old story.

If you're interested in digging up some buried treasures, plant the vegetable seeds now in your own back yard.

"Killing" frosts thus far haven't done as much damage to fruit crops as was feared. Nice going bud!

The government promises a balanced budget by 1947—beating the average housewife by several years, no doubt.

The American Chemical Society reports a new rubber that will stretch farther. To beat the band as 'twere.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



NEXT: Where does the Black Widow gets its name?