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ITALY IN THE PEACE.

Every country of Europe has its own peculiar problem. Germany, the satellite states, and the liberated countries—all are in the throes of economic distress and political controversies which threaten chaos. But there is one country that occupies a position all by itself. That is Italy. Her problem is to find out what her problem is.

It is true, of course, that Italy brought her troubles on herself. When Mussolini, waiting until France was nearly prostrate, took his country into the war, the Italian people were either enthusiastic or else too laured to Fascist dictatorship to protest. Either way, they were guilty. They should have thrown the Duce out then, even if it meant civil war. Instead, they marched off to war hoping that Mussolini's promises of rich loot would come true. It is no libel to say that many now cheering the Allies would be stanch Fascists had their leader's gamble turned out better.

Probably, too, we should not grant the Italians too much in the way of altruism for their surrender. They were in a bad mess. The Germans had come as allies and stayed as masters. Even in the event of a Hitler victory the future held little hope. But the prospect of an Axis victory was growing dimmer every day. Instead of winning new territory Italy had lost all her colonies. Sicily was gone. Southern Italy was in Allied hands. The longer the Italians resisted, the harder would be the terms which the Allies would impose. Self-interest recommended getting out of the war, no matter what the cost in pride and possessions.

But there was also another side. A considerable group of anti-Fascists had always resisted Mussolini. Another group obeyed only because they were helpless. And a third, composed chiefly of small farmers and tradesmen, did not understand politics, and cared little who ruled the nation as long as they were left in peace.

When, therefore, Mussolini was deposed and the military forces surrendered, the question of what to do with Italy was a complex one. Because she had actually fought against us, she could not be accepted as an ally. Because there were powerful anti-Nazi and anti-Fascist elements in Italy and because that nation had chosen the first opportunity to get out of an unpopular war, even at the cost of unconditional surrender, she could not be considered in the same class as the Reich or Japan.

As a compromise she was given the status of co-belligerent, a rather vague condition which granted certain privileges and imposed certain penalties, leaving the final disposition of the country to the peace table.

Although co-belligerency was something of an anomaly, requiring Italians to help defeat the Germans and at the same time providing for the retention of Italian prisoners of war in Allied prison camps, it was the most practical arrangement which could be devised at the time. Now, however, it is an anachronism. There is nothing to "co-belligerent" about. For more than two months there has been peace in Europe, and all Italy is liberated. Yet political confusion in Italy continues, and it will continue until the Italians know where they stand.

Will Italy be permitted to become a member in good standing of the United Nations?
 Will Italy be stripped of all her

colonies or allowed to retain some of them?
 Will the British or Americans or both continue to occupy Italy for some time to come?
 Will the House of Savoy receive any Allied support?
 Until these and other questions are answered, political issues will be obscure. The shifts from Badoglio to Bonomi to Perri have been in the direction of popular government, but they have not solved anything. Only a change from uncertainty to certainty in regard to the status of Italy in the peace, even if that certainty has harsh commitments, will bring Italy back to something like normal.

The Big Three have plenty of other problems right now, but the sooner this one can be cleared up the better able the Italian people will be to meet the challenge of the future.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The War Manpower Commission estimate that 3,000,000 people will be unemployed by August need not cause alarm. But it should cause some hard thought and careful planning.

First in the thinking about reconversion unemployment is to agree on what is meant by unemployment. The war effort brought many people into gainful work outside the home who never would have thought of seeking a paying job. Most people in this class are homemakers. Also many retired people resumed work for the duration. Many who would have retired during the war years kept on working. Will these groups be counted as unemployed when war work slows down?

Also, during the war many have been gainfully employed who under normal conditions could not have held a job. They can not hold a job under competitive conditions, when able people will work for the same pay.

IN RIGHT DIRECTION.

Even if nothing substantial comes of the president's latest order to department heads, it is heartening to have the White House take positive action to prevent misuse of the government's funds. With billions of dollars being tossed about there are so many invitations to carelessness and so many opportunities for extravagance that an "exacting review" of expenditures is indeed in the national interest.

In emphasizing the need of economy, Mr. Truman is on familiar ground. As a former chairman of the Senate committee which bore his name, he labored long and conscientiously to make certain that the government received some value for each dollar spent on war materials. He knows of his own experience how easy it is to fall into slipshod ways of doing business and how costly inefficiency can be to the country.

So he now directs that there be a prompt investigation and, where appropriate, vigorous disciplinary action in any instance where there is the slightest ground to suspect wrong or careless use of federal money. It is too much to hope that the heads of all departments, agencies and commissions will take the president's words at their full face value, but some of them will doubtless have uneasy moments with their consciences.

PRICE OF INVASION.

All things considered, there is little reason to dispute the cocky assertion of Lieut. Gen. Roy S. Geiger that American forces can invade Japan "any time we want to." The Japanese navy has been all but chased off the seas. The Japanese air force, with the exception of the suicide dive bombers, has been knocked into virtual impotence. American Superfortresses have been enormously successful in obliterating enemy industrial centers on the Japanese home islands. Tokyo is in ruins.

In view of the present state of Japan's defenses, therefore, there is little doubt that American troops can be landed whenever it is desired to do so. But it is unlikely that the weakness of the enemy's sea and air defenses will lead anyone, at this late date, into the error of underestimating the probable cost.

The campaign on Okinawa made it plain that, even when outnumbered and outpowered, the Japanese can put up a terrifically effective defense. Overwhelming American superiority in the air did not prevent heavy losses in Navy ships and personnel to those suicide pilots who managed to slip

THE NATIONAL WHIRLIGIG
 News Behind the News

WINNING THE WAR
 By ALBERT LEMAN

MISERIES—Officials returning to New York from Europe declare that the American public appears particularly ignorant of the extent and depth of carnage in Europe.

They warn that we cannot let the continent "stew in its own juice." The ferment affects us because convulsions abroad unsettle reconversion here.

As President Truman travels to and from the Big Three Conference, he becomes an eye witness of current miseries and discords. He may return armed with a new desire to speed up remedial measures.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
 From the Files of the Auburn Citizen

The Y. M. C. A. diamond will be the scene tomorrow evening of a baseball game between the married men and the single men of the Second Ward. John Clifford will head the benedicts and Edward Boyje will lead the bachelors.

The Auburn Kiwanis Club will hold its last meeting before the summer vacation on Thursday evening in the Chamber of Commerce. "Phil" Roseboom will give the attendance prize and Dr. E. E. Purinton the "silent boost." William J. Lee and Charles VanHousen will report on the International Kiwanis convention held in Portland, Ore., which they attended as delegates from the local club.

Henry D. DeGroot, high priest of David's Chapter, R. A. M., announced today that the Royal Arch degree will be conferred on a class of candidates by the chapter at its last meeting of the season in Masonic Temple, tomorrow evening.

In an exciting game of baseball, the All-Auburn team defeated the R. H. Franklin Company's aggregate team on the Lakeland diamond yesterday afternoon by a score of 7 to 4. The Auburn-players were: Ringwood, ss; King, 2b; Tobin, 3b; Hubbard, 1b; Krause, cf; Holland, cf; Steigerwald, rf; Wilde, c; Lane, p. Cupits were Doyle and Blumrick.

GRIEVANCES—Among the most hardheaded of Europeans are the stolid Norwegians, whose working classes are democratic and reliable.

Labor is the largest single party in the kingdom. Yet negotiations are under way to amalgamate it with the Communists as a single labor movement, with a socialist community as the ultimate objective.

The program demands "democratic human rights," including the right to work, to strike and to enjoy leisure, and the inauguration of projects which stimulate jobs.

The General Federation of Belgian Trade Unions, the result of a merger between the Socialist and Communist bodies, request a bonus of five hundred francs a month for all workers, to meet the high cost of living. If all of the platforms of radical groups were analyzed, the scariest thread found running through them would be: "Better conditions for workers."

Reactionaries try to brand such movements as anarchistic. In some states alien agitators do foment trouble in a manner similar to the discredited methods of American "Communists." But soapbox orators would not gain so many converts if actual grievances were not so widespread.

FIFTY YEARS AGO
 (From Daily Advertiser Files)

Joseph T. Obhlseier, teacher of violin at the Chicago Conservatory of Music, is spending the summer with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Obhlseier of 20 Franklin Street.

The first race of the season for the Dolphin Yacht Club was sailed today on Owaseo Lake. Capt. Charles E. Thorne's boat, "Nomad," was the winner. Capt. Douglas Beardley's yacht finishing second and Captain Burr's boat third.

Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Herron and daughter, Ella left today for the Bald Mountain House on Third Lake of the Fulton Chain in the Adirondacks to spend several weeks.

Dr. Rev. Bishop McQuaid of Rochester returned to that city today after being the guest of Rev. John J. Hickey of Holy Family Church.

The Germania Glee Club and the Auburn Turn Verein will hold their picnic at Conklin's Point, on the east side of Owaseo Lake, on July 15. J. Gruner and A. Krause are in charge of transportation.

A New Yorker In Washington

By JIM MURN
 Washington, July 12.—(AP)—A children, 38-year-old wife of an Army private wants her New York congressman to help obtain a military discharge for her husband so that she may have a baby before it is too late.

In a letter to her representative in the House, the woman explained that she and her husband were married when in their middle thirties. She added:

"My future happiness depends on my having a child, and if I am not given a chance now it will be too late."

Worry over the problem, she said, has brought her to a condition "bordering on insanity."

"The thought that life is passing me by constantly pressing on my mind... If I were younger I would not be so heartbroken."

She said that while the war continued in Europe there was "no question" of asking for her husband's release.

"But now," she asked, "is there real need of keeping men over 35 in the Army?"

The congressman, keenly sympathetic, told her there was a probability—not a certainty—that that man of her husband's age will be given special consideration "when war conditions permit."

War Department figures, he told a reporter, indicate that currently 1,100,000 men over 35 are in service.

Members of the House and Senate are receiving hundreds of letters from relatives of servicemen asking whether "something" can be done to win them discharge.

Most first inability of wives or parents to support themselves. Others complain of illness or loneliness, or that jobs will not be available if the soldiers' return is "too long delayed."

In most cases the letters fail to achieve their purpose. T. Experience of one separate of the House. He estimated that only 100,000 men are available to be discharged.

TRAGIC—A delegation from the Greek War Relief Association returned to New York after inspecting seventy-five districts.

"Everywhere there is still a tragic lack of clothing, shoes and bedding," said one observer. "In Elkhia, a building constructed to house sixty soldiers now accommodates five hundred women and children."

Of course, a philanthropic organization is bound to emphasize need and overlook signs of prosperity. But such tales of distress come from every source, including United States Army officers and realistic newspaper correspondents.

Long before the war, great numbers of Europeans sailed to the U. S. A. because economic opportunities were denied them at home. The poor man, the member of an exploited class, the younger son emigrated to get a break. If ambitious persons had difficulties in forging ahead in Europe then,

through the screen of fighter planes and anti-aircraft fire.

American superiority in firepower on land, supplemented by the big guns of the fleet, did not prevent the Okinawa campaign from being a long-drawn-out affair and one extremely costly in casualties.

To counter the invasion of Japan, the enemy has available approximately 4,000,000 trained troops compared to the 115,000 on Okinawa. Unless their morale and will to fight falters, it will involve a long and bloody struggle to subdue them.

think how much more handi-capped they are today with all of Europe disorganized.

There is now no escape across the frontiers or beyond the seas. Amid economic stagnation, racial and class animosities flourish. Even the stoutest finally sink into apathy or chaos after rain-bows pictured by political agitators.

Governments concoct plans for military security but plain, ordinary citizens grope for economic security.

Curtain-Raiser For Invasion?

BY DEWITT MACKENZIE
 AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

The fierce aerial bombardment which Admiral (Bull) Halsey's carrier-based warplanes bare administered to Japan has led the Tokyo radio commentators to speculate whether this is the curtain-raiser for invasion.

Well, it could be, but the signs are that (barring some unexpected development) the Mikado's mother islands will undergo an awful softening up before we send our gallant troops up onto the beaches of Japan's serrated and strongly fortified coast. Undoubtedly the little men of Nippon would like to see us strike now, before bombs have anaesthetized their homeland.

However, the Allied command is under no enemy pressure in the Pacific and may be expected to proceed methodically in carrying out its program. That contemplates the blasting of Japan with continuous air raids until she is thoroughly off balance and numbed.

How long will it take to reduce the main islands to the point where we can carry out amphibious invasions without undue casualties? That's a matter of pure speculation, of course, but it's safe to say we can do it much more expeditiously than in the case of Germany, and we have the testimony of German Field Marshal Keessring and Von Rundstedt that Allied bombing was the chief factor in the collapse of the fatherland.

Many observers have the feeling that the bombing of Japan may continue for several months as a preliminary to invasion—always making allowance for some fortuitous circumstance which would invite an earlier landing on the Japanese mainland. However, by October we should have a good idea of how things stand.

There are several reasons for this viewpoint. One is that we should be able in that period to bring sufficient aerial striking power into play to give Japan's stamina a thorough test. Then it's going to take much time to transport troops and equipment from Europe and America to the Pacific theater for the clean-up.

And finally, one wouldn't expect an American invasion of Japan to deal with requests for discharge assistance.

"There's really very little we can do," he said, "as almost everyone knows. It's strictly up to a man's commanding officer, who decides whether or not a discharge recommendation is in order."

"We'd like to help—but that's how it is."

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