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MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1943

With confidence in our armed forces — with the unbounding determination of our people — we will gain the inevitable triumph — so help us God.

—Roosevelt's War Message

Our Chief Aim

To aid in every way the prosecution of the war to complete Victory.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Of weakness and of strength,
How little we can tell
I thought the wildflower's bell
Beside the great oak's hardihood
The frailest thing in all the wood;
Yet in the storm the wildflowers stood.
It was the oak that fell.

Archibald Rutledge

Strange Happenings

Strange and portentous things are happening in Germany. Half a million Berliners have fled the city. Most of them have sought refuge in Poland, the land Hitler desolated in his first ruthless blow and where his barbarians of the gestapo are still slaughtering Poles in droves. The Reich government is fleeing German soil, reestablishing departments in occupied lands.

How long the Army can survive alone, with the people in terror for their lives and the government itself dissolving, cannot be foretold, of course, but it is reasonable to think that the military leadership is already wondering what is left to fight for.

When the German collapse came in 1918, the Kaiser fled, but the government stayed on in Berlin, as did the people. Now people and government, harassed by air attack, are running for cover and the Army is decidedly out on a limb with its war production at low tide and manpower shrinking.

The war in Europe may be far from over, as careful observers declare. But it is still possible to hear, if faintly, the German high command asking itself, "Where do we go from here?" and to envision its perturbation when it fails to find an answer to its question.

Grave Threat To Liberty

We all like to believe that we are doing our part to achieve victory—even when we remain aloof from the home defense program, or take more time off from work than is necessary.

No one willingly admits complacency toward the war. But there is no such reaction when complacency is charged toward domestic issues.

The trouble is that many persons really believe that domestic affairs are something for politicians and theorists of doubtful ideals to settle among themselves. Unless they change their view and assume personal responsibilities for the sound direction of domestic issues, there is reason to fear that the republic and the liberties it guarantees will eventually be destroyed as completely as if the country had been overrun by the hordes of the dictators.

This is not idle talk. The stage is being set for government-controlled industry on a tremendous scale as a substitute for privately owned and operated industry. There is a group at Washington determined to project government by edict far beyond the end of the war. It is this group that gravely threatens the perpetuation of democratic principles when peace has returned.

No government can govern and employ the people it governs, and still remain democratic. So far the people do not seem to realize this. If they did they would be alarmed over the fact that a large segment of the nation's industry is already owned

right by the government as result of the war emergency. They would be indignant that agencies of government, supported by the taxes they pay, are planning the deliberate destruction of the American system of free enterprise.

The depth of the danger can be measured in the words of Fulton Lewis, Jr., radio commentator: "To me it is shocking and frightening in the extreme that those in Washington who conceived the Four Freedoms didn't have sufficient acquaintance with real Americanism to have included in their list the most important and the most vital freedom of all... Freedom of Individual Enterprise."

Mountbatten To Burma

The monsoon season has a month or six weeks left to run. When it is past an Allied offensive will be launched with the object of reopening the Burma road, an undertaking which must necessarily include overpowering and driving out Japanese occupational forces. Lord Mountbatten, chief of the Commandos, has been chosen to direct the campaign.

There is time to accumulate great stores of equipment and supplies, as well as men, while the monsoon continues. In fact, this work has been going on with vigor and is well advanced. With a big army in India, with shipping at hand, an air force growing steadily, it remains for the Allies to detail sufficient naval craft to support the invasion, arrangements for which, we may be sure, have been made. The invasions in north Africa and Sicily prove the Allied high command has mastered the intricate pattern of amphibious attack.

It is not to be assumed, however, that the Burma campaign is to be a pushover. The contrary is true. It will be bitterly contested and may require up to or even more than a year to terminate successfully. The Japanese will contest every foot of Burma with the fanatical zeal that characterized their early conquests in the Pacific war zone. For they know only too well that the reopening of the Burma road will mean not only a trickle but a great flow of war tool into southern China, their ultimate defeat there and the establishment of bases in eastern China from which their own island homeland may be assaulted.

There is but one unknown quantity in the campaign equation: Mountbatten himself. Soldier to the core, though he be, his capability for leadership in a major operation has still to be demonstrated. It may be said, however, that if he has talent for organization and administration to equal his talent for offensive warfare, the issue will not long remain in doubt. With better than ordinary operational skill he will win the battle of Burma.

Limited Recognition

Recognition by the United States and Great Britain of the French Committee of National Liberation, and the terms on which it was accorded, make plain the fact that so far as operational policies are concerned General Eisenhower is still top man in France's colonial possessions not occupied by the Axis.

The chief concern in these areas, while the war continues, is military. Consequently there can be no interference from any agency established for administration of civil affairs, the notes recognizing the committee indicate.

Another point is to be noted: The committee, in its broadest functions, is not to be mistaken for a governmental regime of France. France's government, its form and personnel, is to be put up to the French people when hostilities cease. This can mean only that General de Gaulle's powers during the conflict are to be hedged about with strict limitations and are necessarily temporary, just as General Giraud's present role is to command French military forces arrayed against the Axis under orders from the Mediterranean military chief, who is General Eisenhower.

Under existing conditions it is hard to see how either Washington or London could go farther. But for Allied aid and the successful invasion of north Africa, the French colonies would have been occupied by Axis forces by now, and the best the Free French could hope for would be domination by Vichy.

The Committee of Liberation can do much for post-war France by doing a thorough job within its limited sphere.

Increase Production

William R. Boyd, chairman, Petroleum Industry War Council, warns that: "The huge and increasing military demand, the failure of the government to provide crude oil price incentive to increase desperately needed reserves, our manpower and materials difficulties, and the necessity to make fuel oil in preference to gasoline, have all combined to create what properly may be called a critical oil situation."

"So far," says Mr. Boyd, "no plane, no tank, no jeep, no truck has failed to move; no ship used for war purposes has had to remain in port for want of oil."

And that is the message which the families of men in the service wish most to hear. Though automobiles may rot in garages and homes may be chilly, these inconveniences will be taken in stride so long as oil reaches our fighting men. All of which emphasizes a little-appreciated fact. Individuals holding the highest positions in industry have sons in this war, just the same as the hardest working welder. They have a common stake in quick victory, and in an uninterrupted flow of supplies.

Rubber And The Future

The problem now is to get synthetic rubber into production. The diversion of manpower from tire factories has created a bottleneck, and it will take the best efforts William Jeffers, who got the synthetic rubber industry into operation, to start tire manufacture on a great scale. The New York Times has this to say about it:

Now that synthetic rubber is being produced in ever-increasing quantities, the problem confronting the rubber manufacturing industry is to get enough manpower to make the tires for civilian purposes. With the virtual stoppage of making tires for passenger cars at the outbreak of the war, many skilled workers drifted to other fields. In addition, the processing of the synthetic rubber is more difficult than that of the natural product. In the tire manufacturing industry it is estimated that a plant producing tires from synthetic rubber loses about 25 per cent of its efficiency. However, William Jeffers, Rubber Director, has recommended to the War Production Board that a \$95,000,000 plant-expansion program be adopted for the manufacture of synthetic rubber tires. He considers such an expansion necessary in his goal for the production of 30,000,000 all-synthetic tires for essential motorists for 1944. If he is as successful in his efforts to produce synthetic tires as he has been in developing a synthetic rubber industry here, his tire-production goal will be reached.

Mr. Jeffers has done a magnificent job against tremendous odds. He has proved that synthetic rubber can be produced in volume from domestic material. But not even he can say what is to become of the industry after the war. And its future ranks among the nation's major post-war problems.

When Japan is driven out of the southwest Pacific and rubber plantations of Java and way stations are again in possession of their original developers, are we to abandon our synthetic industry and go back to buying raw rubber from the Dutch at such prices as they set for it? Or are we to take advantage of the Firestone-Edison Latin-American developments, encourage other similar projects, and be independent of producers who in the past maintained a monopoly?

Surely it will be possible to produce enough raw rubber in less grasping areas, to combine with our domestic synthetic product for strength and endurance, and never again be caught so unprepared to meet an emergency as we were when Pacific sources of supply were cut off.

Fair Enough

(Editor's Note.—The Star and the News accepts no responsibility for the personal views of Mr. Pegler, and often disagree with them as much as many of our readers. His articles serve the good purpose of making people think.)

BY WESTBROOK PEGLER

NEW YORK.—Some people tell me that they get tired of reading about unions, unions, unions in these dispatches and ask why I don't throw that change of pace more often?

Well, you go ahead and get tired and turn to the funnies, but I am telling you that you had better pay attention to what goes on or you will wake up some morning to learn that it has happened here. They work while you sleep and while you listen to the soap-operas and read the comics.

Here is something that has happened in the last week in New York:

Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of the CIO, has proposed that every trade union in the state of New York, CIO, AFL, the Railroad Brotherhoods and all others, shall affiliate with the so-called American Labor party and pay into the party's treasury a per capita tax based on their membership. He further proposes that all state and county committees be composed primarily of representatives of the affiliating unions, pledged to carry party policies as determined by these representatives.

Now this so-called party is not American but European. That must be emphasized. It is almost one-half communist and the so-called right wing is no further to the right than socialism. Much of its membership is European by birth and subject to the European huddling or herd political instinct, and many of its bosses are Europeans who bring to their unions and their political careers in this country the philosophies and methods of the Old World, the insistence on "security" for the docile, the weak and the unventured, some at the expense of freedom, individuality and opportunity for all.

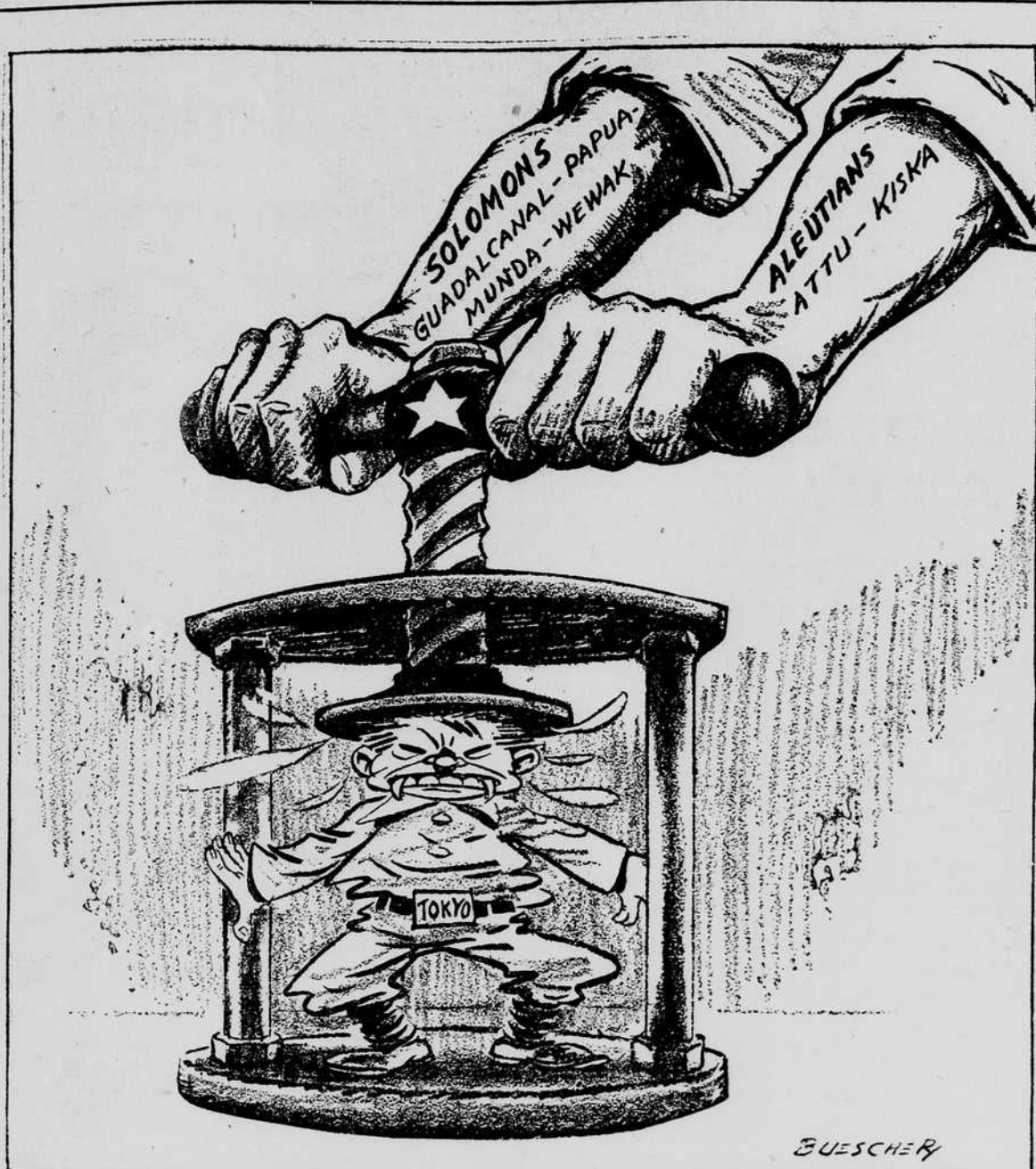
They bring to American union affairs and politics also a cunning deviousness which has never been more shockingly expressed than in this proposal by Hillman, a man who nevertheless has enjoyed the favor of the new deal and, in the early stages of our war effort was given outright political recognition by President Roosevelt through appointment to an important position of authority over American workmen everywhere.

Now let us see what this proposal comes to. It means that first you have to belong to a union or you can't work for your living. You simply have to join and pay and submit to the authority and discipline of the union. It means that, under this authority and discipline you must not buy certain prescribed goods and can be fired from membership if you do or in some unions, even if some members of your family should buy goods black-listed for any reason, good or bad, legitimate or crooked. It means that you must renounce your right to appeal to the public courts for redress of wrongs inflicted by the boss union, unless until you have first fought your way through all the dragging processes of the union's courts and then may be thrown out, anyway, for appealing to the public courts.

All right, to work you have to join and then, in order to remain a member in good standing and retain your right to work, you must pay a per capita contribution to a political organization which is not a party but a conspiracy against Americanism, to finance the attack on your American liberties. No matter how strongly you may oppose the purposes of this European organization you must give your money to promote its program or be thrown out of work in your own United States.

Is this Americanism or Fascism? It is pure fascism, right out of Mussolini's book, for Mussolini's labor front, composed of unions called syndicates, had precisely the same system. The Fascist party controlled the unions just as the so-called American Labor party would control all the unions in the state of New York and, presently, in Jersey and Connecticut and Pennsylvania and,

THE SQUEEZE PLAY



Raymond Clapper Says:

Administration Fumbles On U. S. Foreign Policy

By RAYMOND CLAPPER

WASHINGTON.—It is depressing to witness the frightening fumbling of the Administration on foreign policy lately, and its backward-looking obsession with trying to prove that it has been infallible in the past, and to see President Roosevelt, in a streak of uncharacteristic political timidity, throwing into the wastebasket skillful and much needed men like Sumner Welles.

It begins to seem as if the initiative, the courage, the imagination, the readiness to look ahead instead of backward, may come from the Republicans. From some of them, anyway.

Certainly there is hope if there is anything typical in the constructive thinking that is voiced now by Clarence Budington Kelland, Republican National Committee man for Arizona, in a specific blueprint laid before the National Republican Club at New York this week. He will offer it to the Republican party conference at MacKinnon island two weeks hence.

Somehow I had Bud Kelland hard-bitten isolationist. Whether that was fair or not, he says he has been thinking, searching his mind, cleaning his mind of past prejudices, past errors and "of the rubbish of inherited ideas." You don't have to agree with every line of his blueprint to applaud the spirit that is ready to make a fresh start now and to think through. How much better than the butlerly personal spirit and narrow-minded, rear-vision driving that we are getting out of the State Department now with Mr. Roosevelt's personal support!

There isn't space enough here to cover the plan, but you could well read it all to stimulate your thinking. Certainly it contains refreshing vitamins for Republicans to feed on right now, and it wouldn't make a bad diet for some of the people in the Administration. Mr. Kelland suggests that America's program be shaped around the following main points:

1. A trusteeship consisting of Russia, Great Britain, the United States and China to administer territories of our enemies and other nations bankrupted by the war to preserve order and assist each nation in establishing a form of government of its own choice. With this would go a fact-finding international commission, with the final peace settlement delayed until terms could be deliberately arranged after stable conditions had been restored.

2. Great Britain, China, Russia and America to combine for offensive or defensive joint action against any nation threatening to breach the peace. Such a combination would be so powerful that no nation would dare challenge its jointly stated will.

3. A permanent defensive alliance between the United States and Great Britain. They should act as one in case of attack upon either. This alliance should be permanent and openly declared.

eventually, it hopes in the whole nation. And the Fascist party maintained itself in large part by dipping into the union treasuries. That is exactly what Sidney Hillman is proposing here and that, of course, if adopted, would be put over on the rank and file by those union politicians whom Hillman calls the "representatives" of the unions.

Does this bore you?

All right, go back to sleep.

as a policy of insurance for both nations.

4. Complete solidarity of the Western Hemisphere against any threat to any American nation.

5. Underlying all this is a strong American Navy and Air Force plus a standing Army, ready for war, with heavy offshore defenses in the islands of both oceans. The Pacific must be an American lake, and in the Atlantic we must have defenses at Dakar and Casablanca, in Iceland, Greenland and Bermuda. We have them now and they must be kept.

If Republicans can advance a program that will take some such positive direction as this, they will have served the best interests of the country immeasurably. Our failure to follow through on a constructive foreign policy after the last war has, as part of the cause, led to our men having now to fight in Africa and everywhere around the world.

But why should anybody gag at such ideas? They are not really new. Mr. Kelland has only outlined what we are actually doing now and have been doing since the war began.

In reality his proposition is to take the arrangement that is winning the war and continue it after the war.

You're Telling Me

A front porch political campaign is hardly feasible these days with gas rationing confining the electorate to their own front porches.

The Japanese are said to be building boats made of raw rubber. When we sink them they can save face by blaming it on an unavoidable blow-out.

Zadok Dumkopf, fresh out of gas coupons, thinks now would be a good time to get all those highway detours taken care of.

The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY

Anna Mary Wells' second mystery, "Murderer's Choice," is as good as her first, perhaps better. This means it is very good indeed, particularly because she has taken pains to make her people live rather than to use them as chessmen in the usual way of mystery writers. The first scene is typical of her method—in it two cousins are having dinner together. One is rich; the other poor. And the rich man announces that he has executed a will which leaves all his property to his poor relative, but also that he has decided to commit suicide, and has arranged matters so that his beneficiary will appear to have murdered him. (Knopf; \$2.)

"The Arms Are Fair" is a title out of Shakespeare, but the novel's action is in the Orient. Specifically, Bradford Smith has written about the dilemma in which an educated and sensitive Japanese found himself when he was called up for military service. He did not believe his emperor was divine, and he did not hate the Chinese. But he had to do his share in the "China Incident," and

OPA PROMISES SERVICEMEN'S GAS ALLOWANCE

PLEASURE BOATING OK

September 1 Set As Day For Lifting Ban On Small Craft Fuel

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—(AP)—The Office of Price Administration tonight promised servicemen gasoline for their furloughs in the East and ordered the ban lifted from East Coast pleasure boating, effective September 1, bolstering indications that he no-pleasure driving clamp may be taken off Eastern motorists soon.

An OPA spokesman said, however, the liberalizing order could not be taken as official assurance that the Eastern pleasure driving ban would be lifted or that gasoline rationing for the area would be increased, but the agency was working to get the pleasure lid off before Labor Day.

There were authoritative indications that the Petroleum Administration for War might increase the East's daily gasoline allowance about 50,000 barrels next month, far more than the amount saved by the pleasure driving ban.

Under today's order servicemen on leave in the East will be granted five gallons of gasoline for travel, as they are in other parts of the country.

Since the Eastern restrictions went on June 1 they have had to rely on family gasoline for driving done while on furlough. A man or woman in the armed services may get the special ration by presenting furlough papers to a local rationing board.

OPA liberalized the East's gasoline use despite reports from PAW that gasoline consumption in the region exceeds the amount allocated.

MUSSO'S EXIT

The latest rumor about Mussolini's exit is that he was drowned when a submarine in which he was fleeing from Italy was sunk by an Allied plane. The idea seems to be that Mare Nostrum got Il Duce instead of vice versa. —Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Interpreting The War

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON

Expected September rains in southern Russia offer Nazi forces some hope of escape behind the Dnieper river from the trap which multiple Russian columns are attempting to force southwest of Kharkov.

Holding open an escape route undoubtedly is the purpose of the furious Nazi counter-attacks on the flanks of the Red army thrusting westward north of Poltava and the Russian forces driving southward from the Kharkov area toward Lozovaya. If either point falls before the rains begin, the German escape route from the Donets basin would be shut.

The crisis is that close for the Nazis in that theater, where only premature spring thaws prevented the Russians from reaching the Dnieper crossings at the peak of their last winter offensive. So long as they can hold intact the Lozovaya - Dnepropetrovsk rail line which is the new Russian target they have a means of wet-weather escape.

In contrast the Russian attacks both westward above Poltava and southward toward Lozovaya are moving over open steppes. They are certain to be slowed or completely halted when the rains come at least for a week or two, while the enemy might use the rains to mass forces for a counter-offensive, or employ the rainy period to draw back behind the Dnieper.

To avert that, Russian strategy seems to have shifted the main attack, in the fighting south and west of Kharkov, toward Lozovaya—key junction to all German rail movements east of the Dnieper bend. The Red drive is within 60 miles or less of the junction.

The Red column which crosses Zenkov, 40 miles north of Poltava, is astride one minor railroad connection between Poltava and the East. It has also driven deep into the Poltava and Sumy, the main German strongpoint northward. German failure to hold the Vorska river, naturally strong position linking Poltava and Sumy, suggests a dangerous lack of reserves at that point of which the Russians took quick advantage.

Zenkov is some 20 miles east of the Voska and Moscow advances describe the Russian spearhead at that point as pointed directly at Kiev, 180 west on the north-south line of the Dnieper. I does not seem likely, however, that Kiev is the real objective of the Zenkov push.

It is more logical to expect a Russian southward wheeling movement to encircle Poltava from the north and west by pushing down the high ground between the Voska and the Goltva rivers. That well-drained ridge some 30 miles wide could be used to push southward even in rainy weather.

Poltava, the northern covering bastion for the Dnieper crossings at Dnepropetrovsk, is described by the Russians as heavily fortified. The Red thrust to Zenkov looks like the beginning of an encirclement movement to outflank it from the east and west, or to bypass it in a drive to the Dnieper.

With the drive toward Poltava coupled with the thrust at Lozovaya, the menace of the Dnieper crossings this time is far greater than it has been in any previous Russian attempt to reach Kiev.

Once Red forces seize control at both points on the prime transportation artery of the Nazi flank, a retreat from the Dnieper plateau must be forced upon the German high command. Nor will it be a delay due to rain greatly matter unless there are sufficient German reserves to mount a strong counter-offensive in south Russia promptly.

Winter is not far away, even in southern Russia. And Russian ability to out-maneuver and out-dodge the Germans in winter is too well established for doubt as to what must happen. The German answer probably will be a retreat before the Dnieper before it is too late—if the necessary railroad can be held until the September rains slow the pace of Russian attacks.

Daily Prayer

FOR WOMEN WORKERS

Out of the quiet life of the home, Thou hast called a great multitude of women to do varied service in our sacred Cause. We commend them to Thee, O God. Thy special protection and guidance. In these new tasks may they display the old qualities of discerning devotion and loyalty of efficiency. May naught of the womanly qualities be tarnished as they enter these untrodden paths of ministry. Grant them strength of body and clearness of mind, and a satisfying sense of partnership with all people everywhere who have heard Thy call to struggle for great goals that are of Thy realm. Behind the monotonous task may they discern the spiritual vision. Be Thou ever at the side of ministering nurses and Red Cross workers, and all who labor and sew and do other war work. May the companionship of the Carpenter Christ be real to the women who toil at machines and in factories. In all these forms of service may there emerge new conceptions of life's purpose and of the immanence of the divine. Our prayers, and the desire that they outrun all speech, are for Thee, in the name of Mary, the Mother of God, Amen.—W.T.E.

Amber necklaces, according to Factographs, have been found in the cavern homes of the stone age. Imagine a cave man having to pay a luxury tax, just like us!