

### Super Tax Plan Seen As Gesture

Might Affect About 11,000 In Upper Group

By DAVID LAWRENCE.

The Treasury's proposal that a 100 per cent tax be levied on all net incomes above \$25,000 after deducting tax liability and other items is much more of a gesture toward heavy taxation than a reality. Actually, a person would have to earn somewhere between \$70,000 and \$80,000 a year before being subject to the 100 per cent super tax. Possibly 11,000 persons in the United States might be affected, but the probabilities are that under the deduction system, not more than 5,000 would have to pay the super tax.



David Lawrence.

What is not generally realized by those who cry out for drastic taxation and who resort to the arts of demagoguery to prove they are soaking the rich is that the soaking already has been accomplished. The time is not far off when the demagogues will have to tell the people the sad truth, namely that sources of taxation in the higher brackets are drying up and that taxes will have to be extracted in larger and larger amounts from the low income groups which have hitherto been favored with a partial immunity.

**Few Retain \$25,000.** President Roosevelt, in one of his recent addresses, used the figure of \$25,000 as a probable maximum that a taxpayer would be able to retain—as if this were some real hardship that was about to be imposed on a large number of the American people. The truth is that existing tax rates already have prevented about 99 per cent or more of the taxpayers from retaining anything like \$25,000 a year.

There are plenty of persons who would be happy if the Government made it possible for them to retain as much as \$25,000 after taxes. Indeed, anybody who earns \$30,000 or \$40,000 or even \$50,000 a year cannot retain \$25,000 after paying Federal taxes. If State taxes were included in the reckoning, it is conceivable that under certain circumstances the taxpayer might be earning as much as \$60,000 or possibly more before he could count on a net residue of as much as \$25,000.

The tax rates being proposed by the House Ways and Means Committee permits a man who earns \$3,000 a year to retain \$2,694 and by the time the \$20,000-a-year income is reached in the tables, it will be found that the taxpayer can retain only \$13,736. So there has to be a large paper earning of somewhere near \$70,000 before the citizen can ever become one of the small class of persons who could be remotely affected by the \$25,000 maximum or the payment of a 100 per cent super tax.

**Would Bring \$184,000,000.** The Treasury's proposal looks more like a fulfillment of the gesture toward drastic taxation that has been banded about in recent months as proof that the taxation is really drastic for the public generally. It is drastic for an infinitesimal few. This is revealed by the fact that only \$184,000,000 will be collected from the super tax. This group of 11,000 persons with incomes above \$25,000 a year have a total income of about \$2,600,000,000, of which the Government collects somewhere between 50 and 70 per cent.

There are 15,940,000 persons with incomes from \$2,000 to \$10,000 a year whose income is about \$54,000,000,000. A relatively small part of this has been tapped for tax purposes. Some day, when a real tax program is proposed that is designed to collect revenue, it can be expected that the tax rates will be made heavier between \$2,000 and \$20,000 and that there will be further taxes on the low-income groups. But that day cannot be expected to materialize so close to a congressional election, where the quantity of votes counts rather than the size of the individual income.

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### Egyptian Cotton Exports To America Increasing

By The Associated Press.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, June 17.—Reappearance of United States merchant ships in eastern Mediterranean ports is steadily boosting Egyptian cotton exports to the United States.

Shippers at Alexandria, the world's third largest market, disclosed that 80,000 bales had been dispatched to the United States this spring, a large part in American cargo ships.

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### On the Record

Expedition Against Aleutians Seen as Prelude To Jap Attack on Siberia This Summer

By DOROTHY THOMPSON.

The Japanese attack on the Aleutian Islands was prepared before Molotov, the Russian Commissar for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Washington, and it occurred in the middle of the negotiations.

In a war like this one, there is a connection between all important events. What is the connection here?

First, why did the Japanese attack the Aleutians? The first suggestion that it was merely a reprisal for the bombing of Tokyo is childish. And it is not true that the Aleutians are not important. They are extremely important—defensively for the United States, offensively for the United States against Japan, and defensively for Siberia.

Therefore, Japan can have three reasons for attacking the islands: (1) To prepare for an invasion of Alaska; (2) To prevent us from using the islands for offensive action against Japan; (3) To cut communications between America and Russia, preparatory for an attack on Siberia.

We can rule out the first. A Japanese attack on Alaska proper would be suicide for her. The second was doubted a consideration. The third is the one which this column intends to discuss. Do the Japanese intend to attack Siberia?

**Parallel to Year Ago.** At first sight this seems unlikely. Why should Japan add another strong enemy to the mighty coalition already ranged against her? In the negotiations between Molotov and London and Washington, the question of Japan was studiously avoided.

But if the anti-Axis powers avoid the question, it may still be in the interest of the Axis powers to put the question.

Actually, the situation of Japan in regard to Russia recalls that of Germany just a year ago. Germany and Russia then had a non-aggression pact as Japan and Russia have now. It seemed insane for Germany to attack Russia, but actually, Hitler was compelled either to attack her or bring her into an outright alliance. In the negotiations between Molotov and Hitler in Berlin in the fall of 1940, Molotov refused an outright alliance.

Hitler has never had confidence in neutrals. He feared an all-out in the west, with Russia and her huge land power at his back. Also he saw the rising strength of the United States and argued that he must destroy Russia before the United States was brought into the war, via Japan.

Now he took the risk. Now the situation of Japan today is similar. Japanese leadership is compelled to acknowledge that the Germans have not accomplished in Russia what Japan must have wished.

A defeat of Germany by a combination of Britain, Russia and the United States would leave Japan alone in the world, and even Russia might then join the United Nations in the Pacific. But if Russia could be defeated this year, the threat to Japan's

flank would be removed, and British and American forces would be tied up in Europe. So Russia is the chief issue for both the United Nations and the Axis.

The risk that Japan would run in attacking Siberia before China is defeated and while the American Navy and Air Force are demonstrating increasing strength, is immense, but Japan, like Germany a year ago, may figure there is no better choice.

The United Nations have been playing for time; the Axis against it. Germany has had to plan one campaign immediately after another in order to conquer pivotal points before her dilatory opponents could mobilize their full strength. Japan is in the same situation. After accomplishing the conquest of the South Pacific in the shortest possible time, she cannot afford to wait for a counter-attack. She must make a choice: Australia, India or Siberia?

**Major Risk Probable.** The conquest of Australia is a naval problem, and the battles of Coral Sea and Midway do not suggest a favorable outcome. India would stretch Japanese communications over the whole Asiatic continent and would not remove the threat from the north. So it is logical to think that Japan should take a major risk to bring about a defeat which might determine the outcome of the whole war.

Rumors that have come through regularly from Stockholm and Switzerland and have been circulating for months have suggested the possibility of a German armistice with Russia, and a comment to the Wilhelmstrasse on the Russian-British treaty was that the question of a separate peace would be settled by the outcome of the Russian campaign, not by any treaties, calling attention to the scrapping of the Anglo-French treaty in the face of the defeat of France.

But the 20-year mutual assistance pact just concluded between Britain and Russia, plus the agreement between Russia and the United States, announce post-war collaboration. The Axis must therefore abandon its perennial hope of achieving an easy victory by division of the main powers. Japan must be asking herself whether there is any hope of a future antagonism between Russia and the English-speaking powers in the Pacific and must conclude it is highly unlikely.

**Axis Chooses Summer.** These considerations, then, would lead both ends of the Axis to decide together to try to strike out one of the three main opponents, and do it this summer, for the winter is as unfavorable a time for a Japanese attack on Siberia as for a German offensive on western Russia.

The apprehension that such may be Axis plans would also account for the quick agreement reached in Washington on the matter of the Baltic states—whatever that agreement may have been. For long-lasting alliances are of infinitely more importance to Russian security than the disposition of a few square miles of soil.

Major strategy can only be met by major counter-strategy. Our only chance in this war is the solidarity of our coalition—and that fact is true for every one of the United Nations, particularly the big three.

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**Kiwians Will Elect International Head Today**  
By The Associated Press.  
CLEVELAND, June 17.—Delegates to Kiwanis International's annual convention learned about Canada's war effort today as they prepared to select as their president either an Ontario attorney or a Tennessee newspaper publisher.

Fred G. McAllister of London, Ontario, and E. B. Stahlin, Jr., vice president and assistant general manager of the Newspaper Printing Corp. which publishes both the Nashville Banner and the Nashville Tennessean, are the candidates.

Miss Charlotte E. Whitton of Ottawa, consultant for the Wartime Price and Trade Board, said "over half of the Canadian population in industrial occupations is now at work on supplies of war."

Nearly three years' warfare "is bringing to the people of Canada, though all too slowly, a realization that total war demands that all the resources of a nation—her manpower, materials and wealth—be used for fighting to victory," Miss Whitton said.

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### The Great Game of Politics

Roosevelt's Interest in New York Situation—Attributed to Having a Hand in 1944 Nomination

By FRANK R. KENT.

For some time after we entered the war the White House held its position that there was no longer either time or place for politics in the administration schedule. The crisis called for complete concentration on winning and all forms of political activity were to be banished for the duration.



Frank R. Kent.

The President let it be known that he was not now "interested in politics."

In that admirable attitude most people were in accord and no one thought of dissenting until Mr. Roosevelt publicly abandoned his own precepts and gave unmistakable evidence of very active political interest indeed.

When that happened journalistic observers were confronted with the problem of whether entirely to ignore the facts or to comment frankly upon them. If ignored, not only would presidential political activity undoubtedly continue, but the smaller administration politicians, emulating White House example, would cast aside pretense and go wholeheartedly political.

On the other hand, full and free discussion of the renewed White House interest in politics at least might result in imposing a certain restraint, which would be in the national interests. At any rate, the entire openness of Mr. Roosevelt's recent political acts is such as to make absurd any suggestion of impropriety about commenting upon them. In fact, the lack of concealment seems to compel comment, lest the idea become generally accepted that no matter what this President may say, he can do as he pleases with complete immunity from criticism, which is certainly not a healthy condition, war or no war.

**Farley Called.** The most flagrant exhibition, of course, was his appointment of Frank Hague's candidate to the Federal bench, an act so clearly political that it shocked some of Mr. Roosevelt's own friends, such as Senator Norris of Nebraska, and for which no one has offered a defense. But the most revealing instance was the recent White House conference between the President and James A. Farley over the New York political situation. It was the President who asked Mr. Farley to come, not Mr. Farley who sought an audience. He had not seen the President for more than a year.

Mr. Farley, who once ran administration politics but lost favor because he thought Mr. Roosevelt ought not to seek a third term, is chairman of the New York State Committee. He is supporting Attorney General Bennett for the gubernatorial nomination to be made in August. Evidence was given that Mr. Roosevelt preferred Owen D. Young or Lt. Gov. Poletti or some one else.

However, Mr. Bennett's candidacy grew steadily stronger and it became fairly clear a couple of weeks ago that he probably would be nominated. Then Mr. Roosevelt sent for Mr. Farley to "talk things over." Then he sent for Gov. Lehman to "talk things over." Later Mr. Roosevelt said he had "made no promises," but it is accepted that he will not, as was expected, oppose Mr. Bennett with a candidate of his own.

Thinking of 1944. Two things stand out as a result of these two conferences—first, that the President is no longer in position to give Mr. Farley political orders; second, that the President, in 1942, is

thinking of 1944. Upon no other theory can his anxiety about the gubernatorial nomination this summer be explained. No question of national unity is involved. There is no possibility of any one hostile to him being named. There is no issue of foreign policy or war management. Why then, with the vast responsibility of winning the war on his shoulders should Mr. Roosevelt be so concerned about this nomination?

No man experienced in politics will have to be told the answer to that one. It is clearly a question of delegates to the 1944 national convention. It could be nothing else. Every politician knows that if Mr. Bennett is the next Democratic Governor of New York, the State delegation to the national convention will be largely composed of men friendly to his administration. As Mr. Farley is his chief friend and supporter, it would, in effect, be a Farley delegation.

**Seeks to Pick Nominee.** If the war is still on in 1944, beyond doubt Mr. Roosevelt will be renominated and re-elected. Unless he had done some unforgivable thing or had suffered some physical or mental breakdown or something outward and now unforeseen had occurred, it clearly would be against the national interests to change—and few would want to.

However, if the war is over in 1944, Mr. Roosevelt may not want to be "drafted" for a fourth term, but he certainly will want to name the Democratic candidate. In the latter contingency his choice is believed to be Vice President Wallace. In either case, the New York delegation would be essential. Hence, Mr. Roosevelt's interest in either controlling it himself or having it controlled by friends. Hence, his invitation to Mr. Farley, who understands very fully the situation—and Mr. Roosevelt—to "talk things over." If there is any other explanation of present White House politics, it would be interesting to know it.

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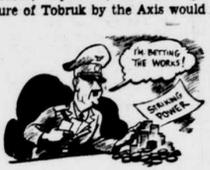
### This Changing World

Nazis' Main Effort Directed at Smashing Russia in Greatest Battle of War

By CONSTANTINE BROWN.

Reports from both the Allies and the Axis are scant regarding developments in the greatest battle in this war, now raging from the Libyan Desert to the Arctic Circle.

All that is known is that in the preliminary stages the Russians are holding stubbornly to most of their key positions while the British are taking a terrific hammering from the mechanized divisions of Marshal Erwin Rommel. The situation in Libya is, of course, important, but the capture of Tobruk by the Axis would



mean more a loss of prestige than a defeat for the British. The main defense lines of the vital Egyptian bases are still intact, and if sufficient forces are maintained in those lines the Nazis will still be a long way from victory, even if they take Tobruk.

The British have not yet reached a point where they must stand and fight in North Africa. Reverses will not be fatal as long as the Germans do not reach their main objectives in the Near East—the oil fields.

**German People Determined.** Unless the whole British Army in the Near East collapses, and this appears improbable, a Nazi victory in Libya will be merely another local success, and American military observers concede that the Nazis are bound to have more such successes this summer.

The German high command's main effort is directed, of course, against the Russians. Compared to action which is under way all along the huge eastern front, the Black Sea to the Arctic Circle, the Libyan battle appears picaresque. The task of the German Army is the greatest ever undertaken by any force. The Nazis must destroy Russian military might, otherwise they cannot even hope for a stalemate.

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The position of the Germans is difficult because they must obtain a decision, either against the Russians or the British, in the next few months, and not later than fall.

The German people are fully aware of what will happen in the event of defeat and are determined to stick it out. But unless one of the Reich's two European enemies, Britain or Russia, is knocked out this year, the situation will change radically in 1943. Nazi military leaders are aware that if they win mere successes, and not victories, between now and the beginning of winter, it is the Axis which will be on the defensive, and the initiative, which has been in Nazi hands since 1939, will pass into the hands of the United Nations.

**Fate of Reich at Stake.** Even though the German population shows great discipline and willingness to submit to further rationing and privation, it is hardly likely that it will stand up long against a two-front offensive.

These considerations lead American military experts to think that the Nazi high command will throw everything it has into an effort to annihilate the Soviet armies. The Nazi high command is not going to stress the conquest

of cities and strongholds, but the pulverizing of the Soviet forces. Unless it succeeds in doing so the possibility, cherished by some Nazi military leaders, of a peace by agreement, cannot be brought about.

The battle on the Russian front, which started Sunday and is still in the making, will be the most gigantic effort the Nazis have made in this war. On its success or failure depends the fate of the Reich.

foibles and get together for the big push. Happily, relations between British technicians and fighting men and their American opposite numbers are on a satisfactory basis. This solid professional meeting ground has done more for British-American relations among propaganda-shy Americans (who have had the bugaboo of "smart British propaganda" held up before them by German-Americans and by German professors since the last war) than all the efforts of British public relations men and professional diplomats.

When American naval officers heard that Lord Louis Mountbatten was coming to Washington on a special mission they sighed: "Another little come over to impress us." Lord Mountbatten started off with a minus sign, which he carried into a big plus, not by turning on charm but by demonstrating his thorough knowledge of his own field—the organization of the Commandos—and by his plain speaking about the whole World War problem.

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**800,000 Tons Called Tops for Rubber Drive**  
By The Associated Press.  
HOUSTON, Tex., June 17.—A determined rubber reclamation campaign might gather between 500,000 and 800,000 tons from American junk piles, Chairman C. D. Jacobson of the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Institute of Scrap Iron and Steel believes.

He ridiculed predictions that the current rubber drive might net 10,000,000 tons, saying less than 12,000,000 tons have been imported in the 105 years the United States has been using rubber.

May Be Move on Russia. There is a third possibility. For some weeks, there has been a growing conviction in the minds of careful observers that the Japanese are going to be compelled to attack the Russian Far Eastern provinces this summer.

The greater the threat to Japanese sea communications, the greater the compulsion to improve their land communications with their southern conquests in South China, Malaya, Burma and Indo-China. For the strengthening of these positions and communications, the elimination of the Russian threat is a necessity; or to take the longer view, the Japanese have gambled on a German victory in Europe, lacking which they can never be secure in possession of their loot, and they must now, whether they like it or not, do their best to bring such a victory about.

Considering the matter thus, they would have a definite reason for desiring to occupy at least a temporary position in the outer Aleutians. This would serve as a listening post, an observation station from which they could get some warning in case we were to move to the aid of the Russians in the northern Pacific. As long as they could maintain it, such a post would be of great value to a Japan embroiled with Russia.

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### Japs' Move On Aleutians Analyzed

May Be Part of Force Retiring From Dutch Harbor

By MAJ. GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT.

Reports of enemy activities in the Aleutian Islands, following the unsuccessful attack on Dutch Harbor, have been persistent. The Japanese undoubtedly have some purpose in sending men and ships to these islands, the outermost of the Aleutian chain, though it is not yet clear what that purpose may be.

There seems little reason to suppose that the purpose is an offensive toward Alaska or the larger islands of the Aleutian group. The Japanese capacity for the amphibious offensive in the North Pacific was pretty well wiped out at Midway.

They have learned, as we have, that air support is an absolute essential for any such proceeding and air support is the one thing the Japanese cannot now give to any serious attack in such distant waters. Their large carriers are gone, their smaller carriers, while few they have remaining, would inevitably be overwhelmed by our shore-based aircraft were they to come within our radius of action.

**Islands Not Well Adapted.** As for building up a chain of land bases, such as they did in the Netherlands Indies, the outer islands of the Aleutian chain do not lend themselves to the construction of runways and are not well adapted for the operation of seaplanes. Moreover, the weather appears to be unpropitious.

There is, therefore, good reason to accept, within the limits of a projected offensive against ourselves, the published statements that the temporary presence of the Japanese at Attu and in the Rat Islands is of little strategic importance. Yet they are there, and so far in this war they have done nothing without reason.

One answer might be that the Japanese forces reported in the islands may be merely a part of the force which thrust at Dutch Harbor, a part of the preliminary moves leading to that attack, and that they have been trapped in their exposed positions by bad weather, which has prevented their withdrawal.

**Simplest Explanation.** This is the simplest explanation, and may well be the correct one. If the Dutch Harbor attack was meant as a serious attempt to effect a lodgment, its repulse would naturally be followed by retirement of the advanced posts; if, as is far more likely, it was a mere diversion and reconnaissance, forming part of the larger picture of the Midway attack, then the future fate of the advanced posts in the Aleutians would be dependent on the outcome of the main operation; and that having failed, these posts would likewise be withdrawn. In either case bad weather may have been the determining factor.

There is also the possibility, though it is remote, that the Japanese decided to maintain these positions as long as possible for propaganda purposes, to offset the heavy defeat at Midway. This is borne out by the tremendous playing of the "Japanese landings in the Aleutian Islands." It is, however, worthy of note that the German radio has been the most assiduous in this regard, which suggests that Tokyo may attach to these landings, the Germans are badly in need of a few more Japanese victories to bolster up their own morale and to maintain their psychological position vis-a-vis the rest of the world, and are desperately anxious to find some counter-word as against our reports of the victory of Midway.

There is a third possibility. For some weeks, there has been a growing conviction in the minds of careful observers that the Japanese are going to be compelled to attack the Russian Far Eastern provinces this summer.

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