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Tender

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON—There is no reason why President Roosevelt should duck the question put by Senator Wilkie as to whether he favors the Overton-Russell amendment which gives the Government authority to manufacture plants and factories for use in the production of defense equipment.

In his first refusal to answer the question, the President has struck his own blow. He has well ought to meet the issue.

If this emergency is so grave that we must conscript men, we must conscript men enough to warrant the Government having a club behind the door. The Government would hold up the Government, or would refuse to take its business order for more profitable foreign orders as has been the case in some instances cited by Navy officers in recent Senate committee testimony.

The morale of this country, which is a most serious need right now, will not be stimulated by being hard-bitten about drafting men and soft-pedaling about those upon whom we must rely for guns, tanks, planes and other equipment. We cannot simply summon men to duty and refuse to arm them. It is our duty to arm them.

IN IT ONLY SOLDIERS WHO MUST SACRIFICE

In his acceptance speech, Wilkie said that it was more to take this democracy down the easy road. If elected, he said, "I shall insist that we do not sacrifice and of service to your country." Was he talking to the private citizen as heavily as equipment contractors? Wilkie is displaying a touchy tenderness about the heavy contract equipment of his demand for stern sacrifice.

The Overton-Russell amendment is less arbitrary than the commanding authority given the Army and Navy in the Act of 1916 passed more than a year before we went into the World War. That act provided that the Secretary of War could purchase property at a reasonable price as determined by the Secretary of War.

These writers are not opposing the provision now on the books and which the House subsequently amended to give the Secretary of Navy similar authority, to fix compensation.

THIS IS NO NEW POWER IN BILL

The Overton-Russell Act provides that compensation shall be fixed through condemnation by court action. The Government always has the right to condemn property, through condemnation proceedings. This amendment does not change that right. It merely provides that the Government possession of the property when the proceedings are begun instead of upon the completion of the proceedings intended to prevent a loss of time while the case is in the courts. This is an improvement. Fair arrangements for the protection of the private business man.

Nothing about anything about legislation is this is not that it will be used extensively. The door so that the Government is not left at the mercy of charging the old War Industries Board had commencing power to be used in the event of a war. This is not there it did not have to be used, Chairman Russell got the results proved entirely by voluntary action.

WILKIE DOES HIMSELF NO SERVICE

His remarks in his phrenology may be desirable in the Overton-Russell amendment. For instance, he said that the press and radio, which include press and radio, as has been pointed out. The one who is the help of the freedom of discussion. By that means we test the wisdom of our decisions. It is a democracy that the weapon that distinguishes a strong democracy from dictatorship.

We cannot go into the kind of remarks that have been made in this description suggests without having it clear that the Government is not making any help at all in the matter of contractors for equipment. True, that is not our normal procedure. Neither is the conscription. And the huge taxes this program involves.

This is rather early in the game for Wilkie to be rushing to the wailing wall.



Best Foes
 By William L. White

NEW YORK—She was, if you like, just another one of those smart, out-looking, steel-trap-mind girl executives who make this town tick, who know everything about Wilkie. Then I guess by themselves a 53 lunch without thinking twice, and can get a lot of work done, and are very nice. They come at about \$4,000 each per year, plus an expense account. And was she burned up!

"Of course he was one of those Wall Street boys," she said, "and maybe I should have guessed. But he was so very nice to all of us, at first, and only just a little over on the flowery side. Smart, too. We thought it was going to be fun doing business with him."

THEY GET ANGRY IF YOU NAME FDR

"And I can't remember now how it came up. Maybe someone had said something about Wilkie. Then I guess I said Wilkie was all right, but I'd probably end up by voting for Roosevelt again—nothing violent, mind you, but that was all I needed to say. Because then he blew his top.

"I was only a few minutes in the face—'That's the trouble with our democracy in this country,' he said. 'Now that's an example of it—here I only have one vote, while some Negro woman that runs a juke box dance house down on the waterfront has 100 votes. That's not equal!' Now imagine! 'It's people of your ilk,' he said, 'that are wrong with this country!'"

AND THEIR MANNERS NEED IMPROVING

"Now wait a minute," I said, "let's keep it all straight as we go along. Because I'm a white girl," I said, "and I work here, and this isn't the waterfront, and we don't have any juke boxes—only some spotted cats in the street." So what's left is that maybe I'll vote for Roosevelt, and maybe you won't. Now we'll go on from there."

"I couldn't really let him have it," she explained, "because after all it was business, and because I honestly don't know how to vote. Every 15 minutes I vote two more like that. I'll have to vote for Roosevelt if only for private hysterical reasons.

ROBERTOUGHT TO GAG THEM QUICKLY

"And if there is anybody working on this Wilkie business who is smart, and really cares about it, somebody ought to tip them off to quit down guys like that. Because if Landon wasn't smart enough to have lost all those states all by himself. He had to have some expert help.

"I'd forgotten about those boys," she said indignantly. "Four years ago a long time, and I got into a jam. I was in the election. Or maybe they just did it to reach other, and not the general public.

"Maybe Landon would be a good boy to tell Wilkie about it. Only when it was too late. I don't know how he'd go about luring them back into his lair and coaxing them to stay there.

"That it was fascinating—how nice he was to us for awhile, and then how quick it happened—just like the days of the '30s. I don't know what the reaction—'all you need to do is breathe gently.' Roosevelt," and they react like you'd struck them softly with a hot poker."

THEODORE SHAW, New York.

Figaro

A Note Inspired by a Convention in the City

What do barbers talk about at their conventions? We don't know, though probably the reporters do. Anyhow, the odds are 10 to 1 in favor of more interesting than you hear at most conventions.

The barber is a pleasant fellow whose reputation for agreeable chit-chat is not recently come by but which stretches all the way back to classical literature. On there has been a lot said about his great talent, and it is true, people have even intimated that he talks too much. But that is mainly a libel. We have, indeed, encountered a few barbers who kept on talking when we didn't want to talk. But the percentage of such pests among barbers is probably smaller than among other groups.

The barber by and large is simply a good fellow who believes that the dull business of having your whiskers cut can be made more agreeable by casual and pleasant words. And he is entirely right. We can think of nothing better calculated to upset us than having a groomer or client follow us with a razor in one hand and a comb in the other. In a small jacket and deposited in the locker-hatch.

Like the barber and his bright glass for it. The world is a more pleasing place for it.

Powder Key

Rumanian Uprising May Mean Big Trouble for Nazis

The Nazis have good reason to be angry about the popular uprising in Rumania.

For one thing it plainly testifies that the belief in the restlessness of the Balkan lands, that has already been testified to by the stiff-necked resistance of Greece to efforts to make her throw over the English protection.

The Nazis cannot afford to have that idea quietly established in their minds. It is a matter of Belgium, Holland, Norway, Poland and Czechoslovakia. And concerted disorders in these lands would probably seal the doom of German hopes in short order.

But what is more immediately important is that the disorders in Rumania are a warning to the Nazis to invade and occupy the whole country—what they now threaten. That is the last thing they want for the present. They don't want to extend their lines further. But far more important than that is the fact that Rumania might not be Germany's ally in the future.

For the possession of Rumania would place Germany on the Black Sea, between Russia and the Balkans. And if Germany ever gets there and makes good her hold, the Balkans will be Germany's in record time.

War with Russia is of course just the thing Germany wants most to avoid now. Nevertheless, if the Rumanian authorities cannot balk the popular uprising, the Nazis may have to act in order to safeguard both their prestige and their supply. And what will Russia do then?

Lundeen

For His Death, Regret, but For His Record, No Tolerance

Nulla mortuus nisi bonum, runs the old injunction. And so far be it from us to speak ill of Senator Lundeen of Minnesota now that the poor fellow has met with sudden and awful death.

At the same time, his Congressional career lies after him, and the inconsistency upon which it ended should be all the more striking to his colleagues because of the tragic circumstances which thrust it into relief.

For Senator Lundeen, according to the lights of the people, was first and last an obstructionist. Without calling this patriotism into account, it may be said that the man's attitude in the pre-World War House had a sequel in his attitude in the Senate of the 76th Congress.

Since Hitler appeared, he had steadily defended him, not so much directly as by making up excuses which would certainly have landed us in bitter dispute, and maybe a state of hostility, with the Allies.

He had voted against virtually every defense measure offered in that Congress. Only last Friday, day before his death, he cast the sole vote in the Senate against the new national defense appropriation bill.

As an explanation of that vote was not in accord with his record. He laid it to conditions of economy, whereas he was not an economy man at all.

Apart from national defense, the 76th Congress took up sixteen political bills or amendments to do with spending less or spending more. In every last one of these measures to increase spending, the late Senator Lundeen voted yes. On every last one to reduce spending, he voted no.

For Lundeen the man, we have only a feeling of sadness and the wish that he may rest in peace. But of the record of Lundeen the Senator, it would be inexcusable to affect the slightest approval.

No. 1 Debate

Mr. Wilkie Would've Liked To Be at Chicauga Monday

Chicauga would have been the perfect place for the President and Mr. Wilkie to have held one of those joint debates that the Republican nominee has been treating for. In the Tennessee election, he has been illustrating the difference in their conceptions of this democratic Government's proper function.

Mr. Roosevelt had yesterday at Chicauga all to himself, and relished it. This was precisely the occasion he addressed to the people of Tennessee, dedicating a great public work that the poor unrecognized taxpayers have stood security for. No matter the hundreds of millions of borrowed money that went into it, no matter the juggling of cost figures that Government engineers had to practice to make it look feasible as a business proposition.

The mere sight of the vast TVA undertaking set the President to rhapsodizing, and undoubtedly, in all sincerity, he could...

... glow in it as one of the great social and economic achievements of our time.

Mr. Wilkie could have piled into him on the strength of that statement. For Mr. Wilkie has a pretty clear idea of what the power-producing facilities of TVA ought to have cost without the device of charging up to inordinate a percentage of the total to food control and navigation.

And Mr. Wilkie knows how the Government, not content with using the taxpayers' money to drive power companies out of business, actually handed out emergency relief funds (PWA's) to help them pay their taxes, and in building their own distribution systems and thus complete the rest of private enterprise in that place over the whole TVA area.

So Mr. Wilkie had to sell out to the Government. "You can't compete with that kind of competition," said Tennessee Electric Power Co. "It was a good company and never had any trouble with its customers, and it had a real future in the development of Tennessee."

— became a part of TVA, a Federal corporation.

And as Mr. Wilkie sees TVA, it is not as in the happy Roosevelt view, "one of the great social and economic achievements of our time," but a token of the displacement of a free private enterprise in favor of a business managed by bureaucrats in Washington.

That is an essential difference between the two candidates, and one which the people must take into consideration in making their choice.

The Champ

A Celebrated Gentleman And His New Rival

The man with the obvious hangover was quite positive about it.

"The devil," he said with conviction, "is going to get that Hitler one of these days."

But the man with the glass of wine only grinned.

"Nax," he said, "the devil wouldn't think of it. He'd be afraid. He knows when he's beat at his game. That fellow Hitler would take over hell ten minutes after he moved in!"

In Kansas a city man reads from the rear square to become an evangelist. He probably a distinction there somewhere.

Letters to the Editor: Denies Arms Are Needed

Dear Sir:

I want the American people to be on their guard against certain godless communists who are gathering at the hands of other nations. Because these writers are traitors to our country, they shall hear my words; for they are aware."

—CHARLES HOOPER, Hotel Terminal, San Francisco.

Likes News Editorials, Raps Drunken Drivers

Dear Sir:

I wish to congratulate you again on your open free-press editorials. I think The Charlotte News one of the purest American newspapers in the United States.

If you think the following worthy of publication, let the reading public know how I feel about our highways and drunken driving on our highways.

The citizenship of our state and country has long been pestered with highway robbers and numerous other species of slaves, but I think the worst of these species that we have to contend with today is the reckless, intoxicated automobile driver.

I don't think we will ever be able to keep people from drinking intoxicating liquors. I think that should be left entirely up to the individual. However, I do think he should be temperate, and above all things respect himself and the rights of his fellowman.

Revolving the drunken driver's license and placing a small fine upon him is not enough, for if any man has ever placed himself in a position to infringe on the rights of a fellow citizen, it's the man who sits under his steering wheel with his head flopping and his nerves numbed from the effects of alcoholic beverages. He has forgotten that his neighbor has any part of the same highway. He thinks he can get on trucks by making his car do tricks by itself. He can turn a curve on top of him and whip back to his side of the road before the opposing car can meet him. Really, he can take the hiccups off a passing car on a narrow highway and reach a tender. He can turn around on a dime and ask his audience for a nice change.

He is a driving cowboy, a mauler, one of the seven wonders of the world. He is a fine fellow.

Mr. Bilpott: On The Rocks Side Glances

Do you want to go for supper on the rocks? Of course you do, and it's mighty nice of them to include you in the party. Think of looking forward to the pleasure of:

Heating the food to the rocks.
Collecting stones to build the fireplace.
Collecting wood for the fire.
Getting smoke in your eyes while you help to try the bacon, boil the coffee and scramble the eggs.

Accepting the word of the old-timer that cooking fires with the eggs makes wonderful diet, and helping to grate the cheese.

Setting "the table" and seeing that the charming people who have sat around and done nothing are served first.

Admitting to the old-timer that his eggs and cheese dish is wonderful; that you have never before tasted anything so delicious.

Drinking the coffee in a hurry before the paper cup has time to collapse.

Cleaning up and burning the litter while the charming people think of games to play and songs to sing.

Playing games and singing songs while you await molasses.

Accepting the compliments of those who tell you how very helpful you have been; but noting that they don't compliment you on your singing.

Returning home tired but happy and when you get there, eating the yumyum cream to see if it is any good for molasses to eat.

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The Inappitible

Norfolk, Virginia-Pilot

It is now believed that Hitler may not attempt an invasion of England after all; his aerial assaults may have brought back the report that the English look upon the project with great unfriendliness.

Visitin' Around

He Lose It or Somebody Take It? (Finger Line, Concord Tribune)

R. A. Lips has recovered his barn.

Minor or Major? (Barnum News, Shelby Star)

Mrs. Minnie Deaton has returned to her home after having been a patient in the Stiebel Hospital for two weeks' treatment after an operation.

How Well We Remember (Esum Item, State Post Pilot)

Misses Lola and Mavis Gladly delightedly entertained a group of friends with a wicker roast at their tobacco barn on Friday night. After the wicker roast the party turned out in, as a extension of the party, the birds being used in a free-for-all battle. It was fun from beginning to end.

