

# Comment

## Columbia Broadcasting System

THIS holier-than-thou institution—operating for a profit—would not permit Father Coughlin to rent time.

And it used its influence and prestige to prevent other radio stations from accepting specific contracts from Father Coughlin.

The *Southern Cross*, Catholic publication of San Diego, California (April 25) recently made mention of the Columbia Broadcasting System and the high priests of the National Association of Broadcasters who are accustomed to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel.

Said the *Southern Cross*:

"We believe it was the N.B.A., or was it the N.A.B., that was righteously indignant and barred certain programs from the air about a year ago. This branch of public information acted as a censor in behalf of the better interests of the country and said what should and what should not be released over the air. Father Coughlin was denied the use of the airways because he did not please some influential persons. His subjects were controversial but his controversies were with the interests whose devotion to America is definitely tainted. He was made to feel the pinch of the censor's clamp and his radio voice was effectively silenced.

"We recall his relentless battle with the intrigues of the Kremlin and his farsighted warnings on the subject of 'friendship' with Russia.

"The papers have given many of their columns in late days to a castigation of the C.B.S. which, through the permission of the National Association of Broadcasters, has released programs productive of race hatreds and designed to familiarize the people with the Red ideology.

"If the National Association of Broadcasters is organized to give a fair deal to all, the question might be asked, 'Whom is the Association fair against?'

"Is this another evidence of brazen boring from within, the very familiar method of the Communist Party? Is it indeed strange to deny to an avowed enemy of Communism permission to buy time while countenancing the sale of such time to friends of the Eden of the Steppes."

## Anthony Eden

THE *San Francisco Monitor* contributes the following thumb note on Anthony Eden:

"Anthony Eden, whose personal quarrel with Mussolini is alleged to have driven Italy into the Axis and thus made the war possible for Hitler, was maneuvering in the Near East not so long ago, appearing in shorts near the Suez Canal and making everything safe and sound in the Balkans and Turkey.

"Wavell seemed to be doing well in Africa, until Eden appeared on the Balkan Peninsula.

"Now if, as a result of Eden's maneuverings, the British lose the Mediterranean,

the government responsible for him may fall, and as talk has it in Washington another government may sue for peace.

"In which event people of the United States would be left holding the bag of the world's war. We would be forced either to pay indemnity to Germany for damage done by every instrument of war we have sent, or else fight.

"The curtain for the second act may show, and probably will show, the Western Hemisphere aligned against the Eastern. Nor will it be easy to hold South America in line if the Germans get control of Dakar on the western bulge of Africa."

## British Food Commission

THE British Food Purchasing Commission has joined the other fifth columnists at Washington, D. C.

On April 3 the officers of these "invaders" went into conference with Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard to discuss "how to make the United States the larder of the British Empire."

The Britishers are not satisfied with the beans, bacon, cheese and other commodities which we are sending.

According to the *St. Louis Daily Record*:

"The British, for instance, like their bacon lean. They are partial to the 'Limerick' or 'Tamworth' brand, which once they obtained from Ireland and the Scandinavian countries. Most American bacon is quite fat; there is more money in growing big rather than small hogs, if only for the pork products. But the British buyers have asked our food purchasers at Washington to see that hogs destined for London markets incline toward the lean side. They also have expressed preferences with respect to other viands, which strike our food experts with any sense of humor as slightly bizarre.

"For instance, they want cheeses from the United States to be well-cured rather than green. The fact is that the domestic demand for cheese has become so great that the sharp, well-cured variety now is almost unobtainable for domestic buyers."

While we have pity for the residents of England, we are also mindful that beggars should not be choosers.

There are enough undernourished, under-

## Old Man's Prophecy

AUGUST HECKSCHER, businessman and philanthropist, died in Florida recently at the age of 92.

Columns of elegies were printed in important newspapers, but, with the exception of one, none mentioned the prophecy he had made in August, 1939, on the occasion of his 91st birthday.

At that time the old man stated: "President Roosevelt will lead the United States into war with Germany because of his opposition to Nazi persecution of Jews."

Although he had previously voted for Roosevelt in 1932 and 1936, he also warned that "a third term would ruin the nation."

People laughed at such senile predictions two years ago.

fed persons living in the United States who do not get the best cheese, butter, beans and pork.

God help Britain if she depends upon this Government to supply Englishmen with the necessities to carry on this war when this Government could not supply Americans with the necessities to liquidate the depression!

## Senator Smith

THE *World-Herald* of Omaha, Nebraska, disclosed the following information (April 12) relative to a Southern Senator who voted to send American boys to war.

Here it is:

"As the United States continues its preparedness effort, more and more attention is being centered on the amiability of certain draft boards. Baseball players, football stars, prominent young men in every walk of life have been certified as 'disabled' or 'indispensable,' and there are signs that other young men don't like it a little bit.

"One draft case recently received the attention of the Washington Merry-Go-Round conductors. Ellison D. Smith, Jr., is clerk of the Senate Agriculture Committee, of which his father, Senator Ellison D. 'Cotton Ed' Smith, is chairman. The young man is in the draft and asked deferment, on the grounds that he is indispensable to the committee. The senator himself, it is said, obtained a statement from other committee members, telling how important the young man's work is.

"Senator Smith voted for the conscription act."

But, even more significantly the Smith story did not break in the newspapers until Senator Smith had incurred New Deal ire by daring to disagree with the pro-British clique's war will.

## Winchell on Lindbergh

GOD HELP Lindbergh if Winchell said anything decent about him! God bless Lindbergh because Winchell smears him!

That is a pretty good rule for American readers to employ.

It is the old rule of gaging a man by the enemies he makes.

Here are some recent weasling Winchellisms:

"Lindbergh is a ham . . . And so is his act . . . Anybody who knows his Times Square sector can spot a ham at first sight . . . The symptoms are plainer than Durante's nose . . . Try to find somebody to compare Lindbergh with and the first thing that comes to mind is a faded actor trying to fight his way back to the drama pages and the pay-rolls . . . He won't be happy until he has people looking at him and listening to him. Hams can't help it, and neither can Lindbergh . . . The spotlight sheds a poison and nobody has found a cure for it yet.

"Yes, Charlie Lindbergh is a big ham!"

Time was when decent people flinched under Winchell's flayings.

That time has passed; and a decent American makes the front page of respectability when this Saduj sells him for 30 pieces of silver.



# Comment

## Buck Private Bucks Jingoists

FROM *The Voice of the People*, "The Tribune," we lift the following letter addressed from Camp Grant:

"Camp Grant, April 9 — Some ardent pro-British New Dealer would probably love to have me court martialed and shot at sunrise for expressing this opinion, but I'll probably end up shot anyway if the Britain First Committee has its way — so, here goes.

"Congratulations on your editorial captioned 'Senator Wheeler's Message.' We fellows in the army wish there were a few more people and organizations in the country who would exercise some pro-Americanism. The Union Nowists, the Gibson Girls, and the Give Away a Few Billionists have hog-tied American sentiment just about long enough.

"Isn't it singular that 99 44/100 per cent of these Britain firstites are those who can't hold a cane in their hands without shaking, let alone a gun? They spiel off 'fightin' words,' but we're the poor suckers who will have to do their fightin'. Why haven't we just as much right to express where the majority of the members of the army stand on this defending America business?

"Would it surprise the Britain First Committee to learn that the vast majority of boys and officers in the army are in favor of aiding America first? They can get a cross section of sentiment in no time by coming up to Camp Grant and sitting in on a few discussions around the barracks. Some of them would be profoundly shocked.

"But some say: 'You aren't supposed to say anything, now that you're in the army!' Sure we're in the army — the army that will have to fight to defend even those fifth columnists and British propagandists who would take our very freedom and liberty away from us. What do these birds have at stake, anyway? Who runs the risk in the long run?

"Actions speak louder than words. I haven't seen Gibson, Pepper, the socialites, the internationalist bankers, and the strikers volunteering for active duty.

"I'm not a pro-Hitlerite, a Nazi sympathizer, a Fascist, a Communist, or an appeaser. I'm just like the thousands of other fellows with me — I'm an American and

A Buck Private.

As yet no one has gauged the dissatisfaction existing in army camps — if any.

We do know, from contacting individuals, that the boys are reluctant to leave American shores to fight the battle of the gold mongers which is in the offing as a result of a misconceived foreign policy.

We do know that some of the boys grit their teeth when they meditate upon the security which the refugees, the Congressmen and the international bankers enjoy while they — the boys — must risk becoming cannon fodder for a golden calf.

SOCIAL JUSTICE believes in a conscription law — but with reservations.

And the chief reservations are these:

That the conscriptees should be men between the ages of 40 and 65 — Congressmen and Cabinet members included.

Wars are the result of diplomatic blunders and economic greed.

The boys — aged between 21 and 35 — have made no diplomatic blunders.

As yet they have been guilty of no international greed.

And yet, this Government which has been constantly engaged for many months in telling Germany to knock a chip off its stooping shoulder, is seeking to militarize the innocents of this nation.

Possibly, it is not too late to demand that all Congressmen and Cabinet members set a good example by becoming the first Americans to leave these shores for foreign battle.

In fact, we who are so anxious to send destroyers abroad to aid Great Britain, should not be reluctant to send all our two-legged destroyers — covered both with trousers and skirts — to practice what they preach in defending John Bull's stolen empire.

Who knows but our soldier boys, enjoying the right of democracy, might be anxious to march on Washington and take their beloved Congressmen and Cabinet members along with them as they sail abroad.

There is a germ of an idea in that.

Where could they get a better weather prophet than Henry Wallace, who is an expert in star gazing?

Who could assuage the wild spirit of the Nazis and Commies more successfully than Mrs. Perkins, long since their little mother?

And, if the worst came to the worst, horrendous Harold Ickes could be useful to offset any gas attack. One blast from him and Hitler's air force would come tumbling down to the humble ground.

Perhaps there are two ideas in that.

And, for companionship, the boys might

## Guinea Pigs

A NEWS dispatch from Washington tells of experiments in which 30 soldiers of the United States Army, wearing regulation uniforms and carrying regulation field kits, will "march for hours in tropical heat and Arctic cold without ever arriving—or even departing."

Purpose of the tests, to be conducted on treadmills in rooms where extreme desert and Arctic temperatures will be simulated, is to "ascertain the durability of the soldiers and their uniforms under varying climatic conditions."

To be certain that the findings will not be put to use by an A.E.F., we suggest that Harold Ickes, Senator Pepper, Carter Glass, Thomas Lamont Col. Knox, Henry L. Stimson and the rest of the swivel-chair war-mongers take the endurance tests with the soldiers. Upon completion of the experiments the jingoists should have the honor of being the first to go abroad to die for the Empire which they love so dearly.

Faced with the reality of this great opportunity, preserving the British Empire wouldn't be quite such a glorious enterprise — nor a necessary one.

take the Rothschilds from the St. Pierre Hotel and baggage them off, with the Sassoons and the rest of the refugees, all of whom are so well acquainted with European terrain.

Indeed, there is an idea germinating in those thoughts.

And, if the worst came to the worst, we are sure that Claude Pepper of Florida would be a valuable asset. In any crisis, he could be thrown into the eyes of the German public — and that would be the end of the war.

No fooling. We are serious about drafting the gray heads, the bald heads, the sap heads and the Government heads to fight our battles after they have messed up our foreign diplomacy and our economic security.

College papers, please copy.

## Highland Park, Michigan

THE City of Highland Park is an island municipality surrounded by the metropolitan City of Detroit.

The Highland Park Junior College is recognized in the State of Michigan as one of its most representative and progressive institutions.

It houses a cross-section of all types of students.

Last week a poll at Highland Park Junior College revealed that its students are against the United States' entry into the European War 10 to 1.

The poll, conducted among 300 students of the institution on their own initiative, turned in a vote of 90 per cent "no" and 10 per cent "yes" on the first of four questions: "Do you favor American entrance into the present European war?"

Three other questions were submitted to the voters. First, "If the defeat of Great Britain seems imminent, do you believe the United States should enter the conflict?" This question received 36 per cent "yes" and 64 per cent "no."

Then followed the question: "Do you believe in aid to Great Britain at the risk of war?" This question received 42 per cent "yes" and 58 per cent "no."

The final question was: "Do you favor the use of American convoys?" The answer to this question was 24 per cent "yes" and 76 per cent "no."

The poll covered 300 of the school's 450 students, representing nearly 75 high schools in the Detroit area.

Incidentally, the poll was conducted by Herman Wulf, president of the Student Council, and Albert Lewis, a post-graduate.

There is food for thought in the above questions and their percentage answers — food for thought for the war-mongers, at Washington and elsewhere.

No wonder some persons are hinting at a revolution should the war gang finesse this country into a war.

Incidentally, those who read this comment might undertake to take the same questions into the high schools and junior colleges in their district.

We feel that the results would be the same from Maine to California.