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DAILY EDITION  Wednesday July 28, 1943

LETTERBOX

FAIR PLAY

Editor, Daily News:

After reading your issue of July 26, fair play compels me to ask for the use of your columns for the publication of this letter.

After serious consideration of your editorial, "Who is Winning the War?" it is apparent that you are more concerned with denying credit to the Americans than with giving credit to the Russians. Your quotation from the Digest "that the American contribution toward winning the war is less than that of Russia, Britain or China" indicates the negative thought.

You raise an issue which can be real only to that idle-brained group who have spent the past 25 years arguing "Who Won the War?"

What pleasure it must bring to our enemies and what dismay to our allies that, upon winning our first campaign after four years of retreat, we engage in a scramble for credits.

One cannot conceive of a discussion more fruitless or one more calculated to disrupt hitherto amiable allied liaison than an argument as to "who is winning" a war that is as yet unwon and that such polemics be based on a consensus of (in these days of censorship) necessarily ill-informed opinion is akin to checking a gas tank with an open flame.

Had your editorial been headed "who is suffering most" it would have warranted earnest consideration. Everyone realizes Russia's loss in men, material and property is unequalled. This in itself is a fit subject for editorial discussion. Unfortunately, the sincerity of your remarks about Russia is open to doubt when coupled with implied criticism of our great ally to the south that is not only unfair but decidedly unwelcome to all whose object is the defeat of the Fascists.

Whatever the good intent of your editorial may be, the effect is nonetheless disruptive. May I counsel any Americans who felt that effect to observe the customs and manners of our younger generation and if "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery" they will be reassured of our good will.

I consider it my duty as a



GALLANT RUSSIANS

Red Army troops are shown blasting away at the Germans with fire and machine-gun in a fight for a railroad station in the Kuban valley, from which the Red Army drove the Nazis.

The New European Situation . . .

Out of all the welter of rumors, reports and speculation regarding the circumstances which may have attended the downfall of Benito Mussolini as dictator of Italy came one interesting and plausible item yesterday. It suggested that Il Duce had conspired with Adolf Hitler to withdraw the main Axis defence line before the Allied advance to the River Po, thus abandoning all but a comparatively small northern portion of the country to the Allied advance.

The strategy of such a defensive move as far as Germany is concerned is, of course, evident. There can be little surprise that Hitler should leave any of his allies to their fate if it should simplify his own defence to do so. The treachery of Mussolini in collaborating to sell his own people out in this way, might not be so believable to those who, even at the worst, had made a higher estimate of Il Duce.

The fact that the Fascist Grand Council should have rejected Mussolini's plan and turned the weakening dictator out cannot improve Italy's fighting position much at this late date. Hitler will abandon her just the same as far as any pretence at a defence is concerned now that such a defence, in view of the evident collapse of the Italians themselves, would be of no advantage to his own changed position of retreat instead of advance.

Italy is now reaping the reward of having picked the wrong side in the war. She has now been shorn of her colonial empire as Churchill promised she would be. And now Churchill promises that, unless she surrenders unconditionally, the homeland will be "seared, scarred and blackened from one end to the other." Grim words, those, of which Italy, in the light of past experiences, may well be expected to take heed.

Of course, the demand of Britain and the other Allies for Italy's unconditional surrender is the only thing that could have been expected. With the tide of battle now definitely turned against the Axis, it is to be reasonably supposed that Italy, beaten and discredited, will grasp at the only vestige of salvation, ignominious as it may be, that is still open to her.

Hitler and Mussolini have abandoned Italy. What is her alternative now but to meet the Allied demand?

Meantime it may be interesting to speculate on the course which events may take in the near future in the rest of Europe now that Italy is virtually out of the war.

The German offensive on the Central Russian front has developed into reverse.

Russia has not had to wait until winter to launch another offensive. By winter other bridgeheads will have been established elsewhere on the continent, air raids will have been intensified and Germany will be able to gain no respite. Damage to transportation and industry will be reflected directly in German war production since there is not enough of a civilian economy left to absorb these blows.

The Luftwaffe, forced to come out and fight in defence of the Ruhr and against later Allied landings, should suffer decisive defeats this year. With a similar decline in the effectiveness of the submarine, the disintegration of military morale will be accelerated.

Although German propaganda will attempt to represent the loss of Italy as an economic and defensive gain, this will also depress internal morale. German defeat in the last war was preceded by the defection of her allies.

Bombing of German industry and transportation will have a double by-product. The efficiency of foreign workers in undamaged plants will decline; and the community kitchens established in devastated areas will become centres of discontent as family life disintegrates.

Germany is unlikely to be able to weather the crisis that, developing rapidly now, should reach an acute stage this winter or by next spring at the latest.

Prince George

Net proceeds for the Rotary Barrel sweep were approximately \$1,000, Dr. C. Ewert, retiring club president, announced last week.

Fire destroyed the planing mill boiler room at the Penney Sawmills last week. The blaze was discovered at 2 a.m. and pumps from the sawmill and the B. C. Forest Service were brought into action and were successful in keeping the flames from spreading to other buildings. Cause of the fire is unknown.

Directors of the fall fair, in an endeavour to encourage livestock exhibitors, have decided to increase the prize money of some classes by 25 percent. This native son to address this protest to you. I thank you for the use of your columns.

H. J. CHRISTIE.

will also include second and third place prize values.

Crescent All-Canadian Shows will exhibit at Prince George from August 3 to August 7.

Twenty cadets from Baron Byng high school returned home recently after spending ten days at Camp Duncan, Vancouver Island, where they were initiated into the routine of Army life. The boys said that the experience was enjoyable and instructive and they are keen to attend next year.

In preparation for the inauguration of the six mail car a week service, five Prince George youths have been appointed assistant mail clerks on trains. They are Bill Homewood, Bill Carmichael, Larry Wade, Marvin Barrington-Foot, and Bill Blackburn.

REGIMENT OF JANITORS

A force of 700 janitors and charwomen is required to clean the U. S. War Department's Pentagon building in Washington.

Sport Chat

Some postponed games in the Service Softball League are to be replayed, the managers of the respective teams are to make all arrangements. Games may be played on Saturday or Sunday afternoon. The postponed games are listed below.

Artillery vs. Navy No. 1.
Coasts vs. Signals.
Coasts vs. Air Force.
Ordnance vs. Watts & Nicker-son.

Ontarios vs. Navy No. 1.
Air Force vs. Ontarios.
Midlands vs. Ack Acks.
Americans vs. Midlands.
Service Corps vs. Ontarios.
Aging Henry Armstrong, the Negro boxing whirlwind, has one of the most different occupations than any other boxer. After his fighting days are over, Henry, after his comeback trail is over, plans to become a preacher.

Most of the big shots along the National League are laying big odds that Lippy Durocher is spending his last year as coach of the Brooklyn Dodgers. If true, somehow it won't be the same without Lippy at the head of "dem bums."

Most loyal of all the softball fans in the local Softball League are J. S. Wilson and B. Allen of the Dry Dock office. They never miss a game of their team. Mr. Allen even brings his wife along which one must admit is really supporting a team.

GROUPS OF CANDIDATES

Many Have Offered Policies and Panaceas Over 77 Years of Political History

TORONTO, July 28 (C)—Indications are there will be few "lone star" or small group candidates on the ballots in the Ontario general election August 4 but the province has had elections when as many as eight or nine parties or groups stormed the hustings and offered their services as M.P.'s to an harassed electorate.

In the present 21st general election campaign and Ontario's 77th year as a province it is expected that while there will be three-way contests in many constituencies the issue will be largely between the Liberal, Progressive-Conservative and Co-operative Commonwealth Federation parties.

Generally speaking, government of the province since Confederation has remained in the hands of either of the two old-line parties. Total years of power enjoyed by various parties or groups follow: Union 4, Reform 1, Liberal 42, Conservative 25, Farmer-Labor 4.

Earlier Groups

Reflecting differences of opinion on the form and operation of Confederation in 1867, the earlier Ontario elections were fought largely by Union and Reform parties. John Sandfield MacDonald's Union government of 1867 gave place in 1871 to the Reformers under Edward Blake, a member also of the House of Commons. Blake resigned the provincial leadership in 1872 to devote all his effort to federal affairs.

The election of 1875 saw the Union and Reform parties renamed Conservative and Liberal following the example of the Dominion House. The provincial Liberals were then led by Sir Oliver Mowat, who had forsaken the judiciary for politics. Shrewd leader of men, he held the premiership 24 years, still an Ontario record. He was appointed lieutenant-governor in 1897.

Led by Joseph Haycock the Patrons are recalled by many as the genesis of the United Farmers' political movements in Canada. For four years the P.F.'s were an effective group in the Ontario House and put the older parties on their mettle. Mr. Haycock was defeated in the 1898 election. The new party broke up.

The Protestant Protective Association rose from the agitation born of the payment of \$400,000 by the province of Quebec for Jesuit estate claims. It became an issue in the Dominion House and was echoed throughout Ontario. With the ebb of sectarian sentiment the P.P.A. movement subsided.

Later Governments

The general election of 1905 ended a 33 year Liberal regime. Conservatives, first under Sir James Whitney, then Sir William Hearst, were in office until 1919.

Post-war reconstruction and the election of 1919 brought Ontario's first venture in government outside the two major

parties. The United Farmers elected 44 members, Liberals and Conservatives 25. With help of 11 Labor members Drury formed the Farmer-Labor Coalition which held the seat nearly four years.

Led by G. Howard Ferguson the Conservative party regained office in 1923, taking 76 seats compared with 17 U.F.P., Liberal and three Labor. Ferguson succeeded Ferguson as premier on his appointment as High Commissioner to London.

In the election of 1934 the Liberals under Mitchell, who swept the province and over the government with supporters in the House, a majority of 42, the Liberals since 1908 when Conservatives were elected to 86 of 106 seats.

The Hepburn government returned Oct. 6, 1937 with following result: Liberal-Progressive 23, Liberal-Progressive 2, Independent-Liberal total 90 seats. Standing at solution of the Legislature on 29, 1943, was: Liberal 59, Progressive-Conservative 19, Liberal-Progressive 2, vacant 10.

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H. J. CHRISTIE.

Your Electric Refrigerator is FLYING HIGH Mrs. Canada!

Yes, the copper, steel, aluminum and brass that used to go into Electric Refrigerators is now flying the skies, ploughing the seas and roaring through battlefields. Manufacturers are almost wholly converted to war production.

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REDDY says:
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MOOSE JAW

Sgt. Albert Dixon of Moose Jaw is reported missing following air operations overseas in the latest casualty list issued by the Royal Canadian Air Force. Sgt. Dixon's wife lives here.

The third draft of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Robert Hood left for their summer camp at Shepley Island, Saskatchewan, last week-end.

J. G. Pettigrew, truck control officer of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, announced last week that farm or commercial trucks in Saskatchewan cannot be used for personal transportation from now on. He said that it is the duty of every truck owner to take exceptional care of his equipment so that it will last as long as possible.

Seasonal Summer Goods . . .

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