

sch der Zeit

Walter Winchell and "Enemy Aliens"

"The most irritating and aggravating annoyance to Americans in all the armed forces is the "special distinction" for enemy aliens who patronize the swank spots. . . . They avoid the war in Europe and avoid the draft, too. . . . Not all are Germans—many are Rumanians, Hungarians, Italians and nationals from other nations at war with the U.S. . . . Our peculiar laws keep them from internment and war service because they are "enemies". . . . But they are permitted to function as store owners, wine salesmen, etc. . . . And are wooing all the gals the drafted left behind."

No, this was not written by Westbrook Pegler, but by Walter Winchell in the "Daily Mirror" of Monday, June 29, 1942.

We do not want to comment on our own feelings in the matter. The facts alone will speak for themselves. It so happens that there is not a single correct statement in Mr. Winchell's accusations.

"... and they avoid the draft, too. . . ." Winchell is the type of man who gets around. Is it possible that he has never heard of the Selective Service Act under which every able-bodied man in this country is eligible for service, no matter whether he is a citizen, declarant or non-declarant alien, friendly or enemy alien?

Is it possible that Mr. Winchell has never heard of the Second War Powers Act signed by President Roosevelt according to which aliens serving in the United States armed forces may apply for their citizenship papers after one month's service, while enemy aliens have to serve for three months before they may apply?

Will Mr. Winchell, or any other authority, kindly name the "peculiar laws" which keep "enemies from internment and war service"? Is it possible that Mr. Winchell has never heard of Italians and Ger-

mans being interned, of the mass evacuation or internment of Japanese?

Has he ever heard that Austrians who are considered friendly aliens (only the draft and the visa regulations exempt them from this category) may be apprehended by the FBI whenever it is deemed advisable for the security of the state?

Is it possible that Mr. Winchell has never heard of the many thousands of "enemy aliens," Germans, Austrians, Italians, Hungarians, etc., at present serving in the United States armed forces? Has he ever heard of the great number of "enemy aliens" who since Pearl Harbor have tried to enlist, but cannot do so because the law prohibits it?

"But they are permitted to function as store owners, wine salesmen, etc. . . ." What does Mr. Winchell suggest? To put them on relief? If that were done, he would probably say that those damned enemy aliens get relief while American unemployed are starving.

Supposing Mr. Winchell actually met one, two, three or even ten "enemy aliens" getting drunk at the Stork Club, is that a reason for a responsible journalist to state that a whole category of people most of whom don't even know what the Stork Club is are dodging the draft, and tell this to over four million readers?

As regards the girls whom those sinister enemy aliens are wooing while nobody is looking, this is too absurd for words. Suppose we leave that to the girls.

Winchell's frivolously worded attack is not designed to strengthen the morale of those "enemy alien" soldiers now fighting for this country. Nor will this kind of attitude help to win the war.

Staaten, wo er nach kurzer Haft nach Stellung einer Kaution von \$15,000, die das New Yorker Nazi-Konsulat gezahlt hat, freigelassen wurde (um dann von hier über Mexiko zurück nach Deutschland zu entkommen), schrieb Paul Scheffer ein Interview mit Werra, das im "Reich" erschienen ist. Werras Flucht wird da verherrlicht und wie eine Köpenickiade hingestellt.

Mit diesem Interview liefert Paul Scheffer den Beweis, dass er ein guter Vertreter des Herrn Goebbels in New York war. Er beschreibt gross und breit kanadische und amerikanische Kurzsichtigkeit in der Verfolgung flüchtiger Nazisoldaten und gibt allen eventuellen künftigen Nazigefangenen wertvolle Hinweise, wie man die Behörden an der Nase führen kann.

40.000 Juden im englischen Heer

Wie Sir Maurice Bloch, Präsident des Jewish Board of Guardians in London mitteilt, dienen gegenwärtig 40.000 Juden, d. h. 11% der gesamten jüdischen Bevölkerung in Grossbritannien und Nord-Irland in den britischen Streitkräften.

Sir Maurice gab diese Erklärung in einer Rede bei der Jahrestagung des Jewish Board of Guardians in Glasgow ab. Die Juden in England stellen weniger als 1% der Gesamtbevölkerung dar.

KALENDER

25. Juni

Kriegsschauplätze: Russische Marine landet auf der Krim, um die Nazioffensive auf Sevastopol zu entlasten. — Scharfer argentinischer Protest an Deutschland wegen der Verpedierung eines Frachters. Präsident Ortiz tritt aus Gesundheitsrücksichten zurück.

26. Juni