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EDITORIAL

Hitler continues his work of peace in the Balkans.

Airplane production in the United States passed the thousand mark this month. It will soon pass the 2,000-mark.

It might be a good idea for somebody to explain to the Japanese that all U. S. warships are not like the Panay.

Hitler's blitzkrieg conquered four countries in less time than it took Congress to pass a military training law.

If the United States wants to lose its "place in the sun" all that it has to do is to be afraid of its responsibility in the modern world.

Business in Centre county is improving, according to reports that we hear. Everybody should share in the increased turnover of money.

In Calcutta a merchant offers "fabulous riches" to anyone who can put him to sleep. Is there a dark-complexioned gentleman named Joe Louis in the house?

You have to get out of Germany to hear anybody criticize Herr Hitler, but you don't have to leave the national capital to hear plenty of people criticizing the President.

In line with the policy of creating Negro units in every branch of the service, the War Department announces that an all-Negro pursuit squadron, consisting of 33 pilots and a ground crew of 400 men, all colored, will be trained at Tuskegee, Ala.

The British, it is announced, will soon call to the colors the youth of 19 years and older men between the ages of 37 and 40. With 4,000,000 soldiers under arms the English prepare to defend their far-flung empire from the most dangerous assault it has ever faced.

The national debt of the United States will be limited to \$65,000,000,000, according to new legislation, and this ceiling will be sufficient, according to Administration spokesmen, to meet the present needs of the Government.

Four-motored, long-range bombers are now being delivered to the British by a California aircraft plant which is beginning delivery three months behind schedule. The bombers are said to be able to carry four tons of explosives from England to almost any sector of belligerent Europe and return, non-stop. The planes will be flown from California to the East Coast, where they will refuel for the hop across the Atlantic to Great Britain.

The Army is about 133,000 men short of its expected goal at this time, although 867,000 soldiers are under training. By next June, the Army expects to have 1,418,000, according to the present schedule. Preliminary expansion plans involve the present study of sites for additional camps and cantonments if it becomes advisable to increase the strength of the Army.

Bundles for Britain, the organization that collects clothing for British war sufferers, has 700-odd branches in the United States. Its 650,000 workers are nearly all volunteers, with only nine of its thirty-four executive heads receiving pay.

With France prostrate and Great Britain involved in a serious war in Europe, the United States alone is in a position to exercise a restraining influence upon Tokyo. Whether this will be sufficient or not, is a question at this time and it is not premature for the people of the United States to consider the possibility of actual hostilities with Japan in the near future.

form of ignorance that is perilous to human progress. As we comprehend in full the value of the gifts of our ancestors we are apt to safeguard them. We would not willingly destroy in a day, or a few years, the fruit of humanity's struggle through many centuries.

Parents and relatives of Pennsylvania's 12,000 soldiers coming to the state's military reservation at Indiantown Gap for a year's training will be welcomed any time. Major General Edward Martin announced, "A contented soldier is the best soldier."

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, in his testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, emphasizes that the United States is "laying" not "selling" under the Lend-Lease bill. He insists that this country is "buying time to prepare" complete national defense.

The Secretary realizes that the problem of national defense for the United States has been tremendously complicated by the fall of France and the alliance signed by Germany, Italy and Japan, directed against this country.

No individual is wise enough to read the future and, consequently, no man can say positively that Germany, Italy and Japan will combine in an attack upon this country. Nevertheless, in view of what has happened abroad, it would be extremely foolish for any man to assert that these three countries will never attack the United States.

In view of the uncertainty as to the possibility of attack, it becomes the business of the Government of the United States to be prepared for any eventuality. This means a national defense program designed to enable the United States to stand against any combination of foes. Such a program will require time for its completion and this country must do whatever is necessary to assure sufficient time to become adequately prepared.

Here again we run into a problem. No one knows whether Great Britain will successfully repel a German invasion or how long the British nation, under some circumstances, can continue to fight against Germany. If we were certain that Great Britain would win the present war, we would know that this country has plenty of time for the perfection of national defense plans. Not knowing, it behooves responsible officials to take every possible precaution to guarantee sufficient time for adequate national defense.

This means, under present circumstances, aid to Great Britain in order that the totalitarian powers will not become supreme and free to attempt a combined offensive against the Western Hemisphere and the United States is strong enough to defend itself, unaided, against all enemies.

The House Naval Committee has unanimously approved plans for the development of Guam and Samoa as naval aviation "look-out" stations.

This is interesting because the naval chiefs have been after such a development for several years. The proposal was rejected by Congress, when recommended, because of the effect it might have upon Japan.

Certainly, nothing has happened in the past two years to lead anyone to believe that Japanese sensibilities have been altered. So we conclude that the House Naval Committee is now ready to do what it would not do before, and somebody may wonder why the committee has reversed the Congressional committee.

The explanation lies in the fact that members of Congress have grown-up, so to speak, in regards to international affairs. A year or so ago it was the popular idea that the United States could not possibly be concerned with thoughts of danger, that the mighty republic would promptly slap down any challenger and that, compared with our strength, Gibraltar was a mud-mountain.

Nowadays, since the nation faced the possibility of British defeat, Americans are not quite so voluble in proclaiming their willingness to "lick the world." The sobering conclusion that we might have to assume the task is responsible for the eradication of most foolishness in connection with national defense.

Such news as we get from the occupied lands of Europe informs us that the Nazis make a practice of taking what they find in conquered territory, paying for the spoils in marks which are of doubtful value.

In fact, Hitler is utilizing the full resources of conquered areas to wage war. The industry of France, Czechoslovakia, and other nations, is producing for Germany. The stocks of the conquered peoples have been transported to Germany and even foodstuffs have been dangerously depleted.

Some reports say that railway transportation facilities have been taken into Germany, that livestock has been seized and removed and that private property has been ruthlessly appropriated to German use.

The conquered people have no civil rights and many of them are required to labor for their enemy. The German surge for peace is dependent, apparently, upon the sacrifice of individual liberties everywhere and the stealing of valuable properties.

There may be people in the United States who think that we should not take cognizance of this organized free-booting, that the pirates would not dare attempt to use force against us and that we will bury our heads in the sand the storm will blow over. We are not among them.

President Anastasio Somoza, of Nicaragua, establishes a new high in cooperation with the United States by inviting this country to establish air and naval bases on both coasts of Nicaragua, "as will best protect the interests of the two countries and the Panama Canal."

On his forty-fourth birthday, the President of this Central American Republic declared that "the keynote of Nicaragua's foreign policy is all-out cooperation with the United States. . . . Nicaraguans are firmly convinced that their interests are parallel with those of the United States, while I, personally, look upon the United States as my second country."

This is an interesting statement in view of the fact that in 1912, the United States sent Marines into Nicaragua, following a revolt and only withdrew the legion guard in 1925. Almost immediately Nicaragua was plunged again into civil warfare but this was ended when the United States sent Marines to the country again and supervised the 1928 election.

It is worth noting that the United States, after landing armed forces in Nicaragua, upon two occasions, withdrew the Marines, without seizing territory or attempting to make Nicaragua a colonial possession of this country.

Human beings, alive today, should appreciate the inheritance that has come to them from the men and women who lived in the years that are gone. This may seem commonplace but the essence of education involves an understanding acceptance of the institutions that have been bequeathed to us. Those living today arrived in a world that had been developed by others. They enjoy modern family life, churches, schools, governments, and, it is added, an economic setup that makes for comfortable living.

THE OFFICE CAT "A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men"

At Our House (Contributed) 'Twas a cold night in winter when all through the house Not a cootie was stirring, not even a louse. Our hair hanging down our backs with care In hopes that stray cooties wouldn't find them there.

He Knew the Kind Teacher (lecturing on perseverance)—"He drove straight to his goal. He hooked neither to the right nor to the left, but pressed forward, moved by a definite purpose. Neither friend nor foe could delay him, nor turn him from his course.

Trading a Belt For a Sock Tailor—"And how would you like a belt in the back, mit a cuff in the pants?" Irritated Customer—"How would you like a sock in the nose?"

It Made a Difference The fellow was sitting along a favorite fishing hole on Spring Creek when a heard footsteps behind him. "Cathin' any?" the bystander asked the fisherman.

Making It Safe Visitor—"So you say that the water you get here is unsafe?" Native—"Yeah." Visitor—"Well, tell me, what precautions do you take against it?" Native—"First, we filter it."

He Was Only Worried "Your Honor, I was not intoxicated," declared the defendant. "But this officer says you were trying to climb a lamp post."

Out of Sight Paw—"I sure miss the old cuspidor." Maw—"You missed it before, that's why it's gone."

Dippy Pome I love Toots Because she has naughty eyes, Pretty clothes, lovely form, Well-filled hose. Toots loves me Because I tell her she has naughty eyes, Pretty clothes, lovely form, Well-filled hose.

We Can Do Better Methusalem, they tell us, lived for over 800 years and then died. We can do it in much less time.

Include Him Out Twenty or more bar flies were gathered in a little beer joint when an ugly-looking hombere came strolling in, a pistol in each hand, and said to the boys, "Everyone of you dirty skunks get out of here."

Too Bad, Isn't It? An asylum inmate, who was recently declared sane and released, took the next boat to Germany. The authorities have now realized their mistake.

Let's Have Something New With all the Ask-It, Battle of the Sexes and what have you quiz programs now heard on the radio, why hasn't some sponsor put on a debate between two deaf and dumb societies?

Lesser of Two Evils During the recent flood in the Kentucky lowlands, one family sent its little boy to stay with an uncle in another part of the State, accompanied by a letter explaining the reason for the nephew's sudden and unexpected visit.

One That He Missed "Has your husband any hobbies?" he asked the neighbor. "No," said Mrs. Tuggle, "he has rheumatiz a good deal, an' hives now and then, but he ain't never had no hobbies."

They Tell 'Em American Sailor—"Battleships? Why the flagship of our navy is so big that the captain goes under the deck in his car." British Sailor—"You ought to see our flagship. Have a look at the kitchen. It's so large the cook has to go through the Irish stew in a submarine to see if the potatoes are cooked."

Theory Tested Conservative—"So you believe in dividing everything up, do you?" Socialist—"Yes." Conservative—"Would you be willing to give me half your cows?" Socialist—"Yes, most certainly." Conservative—"Would you give me half your chickens?" Socialist—"No, that's different." Conservative—"What's the difference?" Socialist—"Why, I have chickens, but I ain't got no cows."

That's all, folks. Never kick a man when he's down. He may get up. "SCAT."

LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa: I am a girl of 16 years and a senior in high school. Do you think that a girl of my age should be allowed to go with other young people if there are more than one along? My parents never stop to think back to when they were young. They think it is a disgrace for a girl sixteen years old to go out with young people. They won't even let me go to parties when my older brother is along.

ANSWER: I get so many letters from girls like you, "Worried," who have parents who are trying to do what they think is best for them. But instead of teaching you to depend on yourself and your own judgment, they are trying to think for you. I wish they could be made to understand how short-sighted such a policy is.

LOUISA: I am 19 years old and have finished high school. I have the chance to go out two or three times every week with the same person, but my parents refuse to let me go out once a week. They don't even like it if he comes three times a month.

ANSWER: If the young man is all you say he is, I see no reason why you shouldn't see him two or three times a week. And if he has a good job, I see no reason why you should not get married—that is, if his job is permanent, and you are both in good health.

AS I SEE IT By HORACE SENTZ As I told you folks some time ago, I ain't no expert wise. Nor I ain't a profet in the know but I kin still surmise. I made some guesses back a spell, what hit the bull's eye snuffy, but when I guess I knowed darn well that the chance was fifty-fifty. So now I'm gonna guess again 'n' while this ain't no tip, I'll bet a russy safety pin, that's dynamite in that Wilkie trip.

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Query & Answer Column

PROBLEM—Four men, each of them with an airplane took off from the North Pole. One of them took off for the United States; one for Africa; one for Russia, and the other for Sweden. All started in the same direction. How come? (Answer elsewhere in this department.)

G. F.—Will you kindly tell me in your good paper what is the meaning of "OPM" I see currently mentioned in the daily newspapers? Thank you.

E. J.—What does it cost to send a parcel from the United States to China if it doesn't weigh over five pounds? Ans.—The parcel post rate for five pounds from the United States to China is 60 cents.

W. M.—To settle an argument will you please answer who was Secretary of War in President Wilson's cabinet? Ans.—Newton D. Baker.

V. H.—Has there ever been any fatalities in the prizefight ring? Ans.—Yes. On May 24, 1913, Arthur Pelkey, a heavyweight, knocked out Luther McCarty, another heavyweight, in the first round. He died in the ring from dislocation of the neck caused by the blow that sent him down.

H. C.—What was the total cost of the last World War on both sides? Ans.—Not counting damage to property or other losses on land or sea the combined cost of the war of 1914-17 was 104 billion dollars—64 billion for the Allies and 40 billion for Germany and her Allies.

L. P.—Is it true that the Battle of Bunker Hill was fought before the war had been declared by the Colonies? Ans.—Yes. The Battle of Bunker Hill was fought on June 17, 1775—just a little over a year before the Declaration of Independence was signed.

F. O.—Which was the first State in the Union to grant women the right to vote for President of the United States? Ans.—Wyoming, by act of their legislature on June 10, 1890.

H. S.—How much did Madison Square Garden in New York City cost? Ans.—The Garden cost approximately \$5,500,000, including building and land.

L. D. K.—Why is graham flour so called? Ans.—Graham flour is named for Sylvester Graham (1794-1851), an American reformer and advocate of vegetarianism who believed that flour should include the outer hull, or bran, because bread made from it was more healthful.

A. C.—Who was the first graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point? Ans.—Joseph G. Swift was West Point's first graduate. Swift entered the Army in 1800 as a cadet and received his diploma only a few months after the Military Academy opened in 1802.

J. J.—What are the most famous waltzes? Ans.—There are probably none that excel "The Blue Danube," by Johann Strauss; "Invitation to the Dance," by Von Weber; "Waltz in A Flat," by Brahms; and "E Minor Waltz" by Chopin.

D. E.—When was the Liberty Bell taken to Allentown, Pa.? Ans.—In 1777, when the American forces were about to leave Philadelphia, it was taken to Allentown to prevent its falling into the hands of the British who were then at the city's gates.

L. C.—When was Belgium invaded by the Germans? Ans.—Belgium was invaded by Germany on May 10, 1940. On May 27, King Leopold announced that the Belgian Army had surrendered.

W. T. S.—Is Father Coughlin an alien? Ans.—Father Coughlin is not an alien. He was born in Canada but his parents were citizens of the United States.

E. G. T.—How many musical compositions are controlled by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers? Ans.—The ASCAP catalogue numbers about 1,270,000 titles.

B. T.—Is President Roosevelt a Mason? Ans.—President Roosevelt is a 32nd degree Mason.

A. M.—When were the first automobile license plates issued? Ans.—The American Automobile Association says that the first registration of automobiles was required by the State of New York in 1900. No license plates were issued. Automobile owners were assigned numbers and required to make their own plates. The first license plates issued by any unit of Government appeared in Denver, Colorado, in 1906. The plates were made of leather.

J. J.—Who are the members of the National Defense Council? Ans.—The Commissioners of the National Defense Council are: William S. Knudsen, industrial production; Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., industrial materials; Sidney Hillman, employment; Chester C. Davis, farm products; Ralph Budd, transportation; Leon Henderson, price stabilization; and Harriet Elliott, consumer protection.

H. T.—What kind of liquid will boil quicker than water? Ans.—The National Bureau of Standards says that only volatile liquid, such as alcohol, will boil more quickly than water.

J. C.—How much runway is required for a passenger airplane to take off? Ans.—Depending upon the load in the aircraft and velocity and direction of the wind, the average take-off is completed in from 800-1000 feet of runway from the time the throttles are advanced to a take-off position.

Answer to Problem—Because there is only one direction from the North Pole, and that is South.

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