

The Centre Democrat

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

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EDITORIAL

When you think of the defense program just think of Hitler.

Europe, it seems, has a few nations that still believe what Herr Hitler says. They won't be nations long.

The way some folks drive their automobiles in Bellefonte you'd think we have no traffic regulations.

Under the laws of this country a man is innocent until he is proved guilty. Then, if he isn't insane, he is pardoned.

The same Congress that took two months from January 10 to March 11, to pass the Lease-Lend Bill, committing this country to aid to Great Britain and establishing a new foreign policy, required only twelve days to pass the \$7,000,000,000 appropriation bill to manufacture and procure goods of many kinds for anti-Axis nations.

The action of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, an American Federation of Labor organization, has signed an agreement to prohibit stoppage of work on defense contracts.

What does Soviet Russia mean when she pledges "comprehensive and complete" neutrality to Turkey in the event that the Turks are called upon to defend their country against aggression?

Farmers will be interested in tentative plans for large-scale food purchases for the British. It is expected that the buying will be directed by Milo R. Perkins, Administrator of the Surplus Marketing Administration and head of the Food and Cotton Stamp operations of the Department of Agriculture.

Health Letter

From the Educational Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, of which the Centre County Medical Society is a component.

All forms of life are subject to infectious diseases. Viruses, or the tiny microorganisms that carry infectious diseases, attack life from its highest form man—down to the lowest—bacteria.

Millions of dollars are lost each year due to virus diseases in plants and lower animals. Virus diseases of tobacco, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, beans, lettuce, and sugar-cane cause great loss of income.

At the bottom of the list is bacteriophage, which is a virus disease attacking bacteria, and without bacteria life in all forms of the earth would quickly cease.

The only reason why the United States is not in the present war is the reluctance of Japan and Germany to make the attack, just now.

We grumble about taxes now but we would grumble just as much if they were half what they are, and we couldn't grumble more if they were twice as much, which is what they probably be.

Shiploads of flour will be sent to unoccupied France under the supervision of the American Red Cross. The cargoes will total 13,500 tons of white flour and will be purchased out of the \$40,000,000 fund voted by Congress last year for the Red Cross to use in relief work abroad.

The public will have the opportunity of investing amounts from ten cents up to ten thousand dollars in direct obligations of the United States Government under the contemplated program to raise more than \$3,000,000,000 to finance the defense program.

APRIL, OUR MONTH OF WAR

It is now April, our nation's month of war! Three times, in the same month, the United States has begun to fight. The twelfth is the anniversary of the shot at Fort Sumpter that began four years of bloody strife.

Once more, in 1941, the United States faces more than the possibility of warfare. As Spring comes to the nation, to give it gladness, the threat of hostilities adds a touch of sadness.

There is some comfort in the thought that the people of the United States have seen the way they should walk. They have reaffirmed their stand for the freedom of men, regardless of the danger that the course entails.

The world, be it recalled, was not meant to be the mausoleum of human hope, the grave of human faith and the cemetery of human personality. It simply is not ordained. Those who seek to plunge humanity into the darker barbarisms of earlier eras wage a battle as fruitless as the effort of Winter to obliterate the rebirth of nature.

MATSUOKA IN BERLIN

The visit of Yosuke Matsuoka, Japanese Foreign Minister, to Berlin arouses interest in the world where people speculate upon the meaning of the long journey undertaken by the Japanese statesman.

Two facts should be remembered, in efforts to interpret the conference between German and Japanese diplomats: (1) the Nazis still expect to win the war, and (2) Tokyo still expects to dominate the Far East.

Naturally, the parley will be concerned about methods to be adopted by the two nations to achieve their ambitious attempts to become greater world powers. Consequently, it is logical to assume that the chief ways and means to prevent the United States from interfering with their ambitions.

Let us not forget that the Axis pact, between Germany, Italy and Japan, had for its creation one purpose of preventing any nation, not then engaged in the wars in Europe and Asia, from becoming a party to the conflicts. Plainly, this related to only two nations, Russia and the United States, and inasmuch as the United States is the only nation now becoming involved in the struggles, and on the side against the Axis powers, the purpose of the visit is clear.

NAVY HAS PLANS PREPARED

It will probably be no surprise to learn that complete, detailed and technical plans for the use of the United States Navy to convoy merchant ships to Great Britain are in the hands of President Roosevelt. The plans include both part-way and full-distance convoys. This does not mean, however, that the President has determined to use the American Navy to convoy ships to Europe. It may mean nothing more than the usual precautionary studies that are carried out by military and naval officials throughout the world.

Under the part-way convoy system, it is proposed that American naval vessels provide protection for British ships two-thirds the way across the Atlantic, or to the edge of American Western Hemisphere waters as defined by this government. The full-distance convoy system, of course, would escort the products of our industrial plants into the northern ports of the British Isles.

We have no information in regards to the final decision to be made by the Government but it is easy to imagine that the question will require an answer before many weeks elapse. In view of the present shortage of merchant ships under British control and the admitted scarcity of adequate naval vessels to protect them, it is reasonable to anticipate the use of units of the American Fleet to convoy merchant ships under one or the other of the schemes outlined above.

When this step is taken, if it is taken, there will undoubtedly occur a number of fights between American warships and German U-boats and airplanes. This risk is involved in any effort to promote the safe delivery of war materials to the fighting democracies.

Americans should understand, however, that if such clashes occur, they do not necessarily mean full-fledged warfare between the United States and Germany. The United States, as a nation, can limit the use of its warships to the force that is necessary to make effective the policy of the nation.

There is no occasion for anyone to broaden the purpose of our national policy, because of clashes at sea, into a commitment to dispatch American soldiers to Europe in order to bring down the House of Hitler. There is danger, of course, that Germany, Italy and Japan will act under the Axis Treaty against the United States.

FARM CALENDAR

Timely Reminders from The Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture

Quality Vegetables Preferred—Vegetable growers planning to put vegetables in quick-freezing storage are urged by specialists of the Pennsylvania State College to use only varieties of high quality and those adapted to local soil and climatic conditions.

Chicks Need Water—Growing chicks consume large quantities of water. Poultry extension specialists of the Pennsylvania State College explain that minimum requirements of the equipment used at the day-old age call for one quart of water capacity for every 15 chicks.

Prepare for Hard Work—Horses that have been wintered largely on roughage need grain for two or three weeks before field work begins, remind livestock specialists of the Pennsylvania State College. The condition of the horse and the work to be done will determine how to feed it. Hard field work demands liberal feeding.

Use our Classified Ad columns,...

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

BRAIN TEASER
A friend submits the following thought-provoker as an antidote for war-weariness:

Ten weary, footsore travelers
All in a woful plight
Sought refuge in a wayside inn
On a drear and stormy night.
"Nine beds, no more," the landlord said,
"Have I to offer you—
Eight men can have each one a room
But the ninth must serve for two."
At this an angry clamor rose
And arguments began,
Whereon the cunning host devised
This most ingenious plan:
A - B - C - D - E - F - G - H - I
In a room marked A two men were placed,
The third was lodged in B,
The fourth to C was then assigned,
The fifth retired to D.
In E the sixth was tucked away,
In F the seventh man,
The eighth and ninth in G and H
And then to A he ran.
Wherein the host, as I have said,
Had laid two travelers by,
And taking one, the tenth and last,
He lodged him safe in I.

Double Trouble
A pair of slightly muddled men found the temperature one evening much too frigid despite their warm interiors. Veering up to a hotel desk, one of them said to the clerk:

"Shay, we wish a bed with two rooms in it."
Said the harassed clerk: "I'm a busy man. I can't be annoyed. What you want is a room with two beds in it."
This apparently met with the approval of the guests, for ten minutes later they were still fully dressed and horizontally reclined in one of the two single beds.
"Past, Bill, there's somebody in my bed."
"Is there? There's somebody in mine, too."
Silence.
"Past, Bill, let's kick 'em out of our room."
"Okay."
Loud noises.
"Hey, Bill, I kicked mine out."
"Did you? That blighter kicked me out."
"Okay, pal, you come and sleep with me."

Hardships of An Interview
Dr. Shine's office was so busy that he enforced the very strictest discipline. He had a great staff of nurses and attendants, but each had his or her orders, and no one was allowed to break them.

One morning a rather worldly-looking young fellow came in and demanded to see the doctor. He was asked whether he had an appointment, and he confessed that he didn't.

"First visit, eh?" asked the attendant. The young man nodded. "Well then," pursued the attendant, go through that door, take your clothes off, and when you're quite naked, press the white button you will find there and Dr. Shine will see you."

Inconveniently Deaf
The young lady who sat at dinner next to the minister's deaf ear, asked him whether he was fond of bananas.

The good man cupped his ear and nodded to her.
"Is it not at all important," said the young woman, blushing, "I merely wondered if you liked bananas?"
By this time the rest of the table was at attention.

How the Fight Started
An Irishman returned to his home after a day's hard labor, and removing his shoes, made himself comfortable. His wife came into the room from her washing, fanning her body with her apron.

"Phew, Mike," she said, "but yer feet stink."
"Well, you ought to know them's no geraniums you're fanning," was the reply.

Funny, Wasn't It?
"I've got a good joke on you, Mike," said one Irishman to another. "I was going by Jer house 'tother night and you fergot to pull down the blinds. I could see yer shadow from the street, kissin' yer wife. I had a good laugh."

Must Have Been Fragile
A lady and her little daughter were walking through a fashionable street when they came to a portion of the street strewn with straw, put there to deaden the noise of vehicles passing a certain house.

"What's the straw for, Mother?" asked the child.
"The lady that lives in that house," replied the mother, "has had a little baby girl sent her."

Terribly Out of Date
This fellow was displaying his new sedan to a friend.
"But I thought your other car was less than a year old," said the friend. "You only drove it about 8,000 miles, didn't you?"

"Oh, yes, it was still as good as new," replied the owner, "but of course it was hopelessly out of date as soon as the new and improved model came out."

Flash News
Walter Winchell is credited with telling about an editor who wanted to insult a contributor, and yet not daring to do so openly, said to him as he was leaving the office: "Good bye, sir, and when you get home throw your mother a bone."

Speaking of Unions
"Hey, what are you doing?" yelled the foreman.
"I'm just sharpening a pencil," called back the bricklayer.
"Well, don't let anybody see you. That's a carpenter's job, you know."

Just Wanted to Know
Mandy was large and colored, and took in washings. One of her boy friends one day asked her: "How come you got such big hands, Mandy?"

"Why, man," Mandy replied, "when I was a child I used to make mud pies, and the mud squashed out my hands, like that."

That's all, folks. Some folks are so crooked that the wool they pull over their eyes is half cotton. —SCAT.

HOUSEHOLD SCRAPBOOK

Metal Polish
An effective polish for metals can be made by using 1 cup of cigar ashes mixed with 2 tablespoonsful of bicarbonate of soda, brought to a smooth paste with water. Use on a clean cloth, rubbing vigorously.

Grease Spots
Grease spots can be removed from rugs or over-stuffed furniture by rubbing baking soda liberally into the spot. Allow to dry. Then remove the baking soda with the vacuum cleaner or carpet sweeper.

Preserves Color
A teaspoonful of strong vinegar in the last rinse water will prevent black sores from losing their color.

Care of Paint Brushes
Always clean paint brushes thoroughly before putting away. Hardened brushes may be soaked in four to six hours in turpentine. Work the bristles until they are separated, when the paint will soften so that it will wash out.

Cutting Fresh Cake
To avoid breaking a tender cake, cut it with a strong silk thread. Hold the thread taut with both hands and pull back and forth, saw fashion, as you cut through the cake.

The Umbrella
Oil the hinges of the umbrella once in a while, and it will prevent their rusting or breaking.

Cockroaches
Powdered borax sprinkled over pantry shelves, under paper in dresser and cupboard drawers, in any place infested with cockroaches, never fails to drive these pests away. Renew these applications every few months.

Kerosene Lantern
A kerosene lantern will give a brighter light if a pinch of salt is added to the oil in the container.

Feather Pillows
When filling a pillow with feathers, crush a small block of camphor and mix in with the feathers. It will preserve them and the pillow will not have a musty odor for a long time.

Journalism Students to Take Annual Field Trip
Journalism students majoring in advertising courses at the Pennsylvania State College will go to Philadelphia on their annual field trip next week to observe how "things are done" in newspaper plants and advertising agencies.

Making their tour under supervision of Donald W. Davis, associate professor of journalism, the students will be guests of the Poor Richard Club, Philadelphia advertising group, at a luncheon on Tuesday, April 8. The tour will end on the following day.

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Query & Answer Column

PROBLEM—What period of time is spelled the same forward as backward? No, it's not "era" nor "ere." Answer elsewhere in this department.

J. M.—What do the initials "OPM" mean which I see in the papers, but which I never see spelled out?

Ans.—"OPM" are the initials of the recently created war defense board which is "Ordnance Production Management." The board is composed of Knudsen, Hillman and Bimson.

G. V.—What is the size of the desert cactus plant? And do they bear any kind of fruit?

Ans.—There are several varieties of the cacti, and their growth in size varies considerably. The Giant cactus often grows to a height of 100 feet, and produce the most beautiful flowers or blossoms without rival in the whole world. It does not bear fruit. The most common specie of cactus grows in the southwestern States, and averages about two feet in height, but has no flowers or foliage.

E. E.—Is it true that wild animals fear man—and man only?

Ans.—All wild animals fear fire. Most wild animals fear man at all times, except at night or when hungry or in protecting their young. The mandrill (a specie of the monkey tribe) is the only animal that will attack a man at all times, and does not fear the sound of gun-shots—in fact, they will seek the source of such an alarm and give fight to the death.

P. R.—When was the Mass established by the early Christian church?

Ans.—The Canon of the Mass was established in A. D. 562 during the reign of Pope Gregory I. The Mass was abolished by the Protestants during the Reformation.

W. S.—I would like to know if Rumania is a Mohammedan country? Thank you.

Ans.—No. Almost the entire population belong to the Greek Catholic church, but religious equality prevails.

H. F.—Can you tell me if the story of Robinson Crusoe is fiction or fact?

Ans.—Robinson Crusoe was the hero in a novel by Daniel Defoe, and the story is based on a fact—the adventures of Alexander Selkirk, who, in 1719, was shipwrecked and left by Captain Straddling on the island of Juan Fernandez. He remained there for four years and four months, when he was rescued by Woodes Rogers and brought to England. Based on this incident Daniel Defoe wrote his novel entitled "Robinson Crusoe."

T. C.—Can you tell me whether there is anything grammatically wrong with this statement: "I am going to go and get it?"

Ans.—Yes. "Go and" is superfluous. "I am going to get it" is proper. Subscriber—What is the normal body temperature of a dog?

Ans.—The normal temperature of a mature dog is said to be 101°. That of a puppy, 106°.

H. J. P.—How many people were able to vote in the last election? How many voted?

Ans.—It was estimated that 86,528,000 persons were potential voters last November; of this number 49,818,965 voted.

A. Y.—Please give the origin of the expression "a baker's dozen."

Ans.—When a heavy penalty was inflicted for short weight, bakers gave an extra measure to avoid all risk of incurring a fine; hence thirteen became a baker's dozen.

E. K.—Please give the date of the Tulip Festival in North Carolina.

Ans.—The festival will be celebrated at Washington, North Carolina, April 17-18, when the blooming season is at its height.

C. S.—What was the Homestead law?

Ans.—The Homestead Law, signed by Abraham Lincoln on May 20, 1862, gave to "any person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of 21 years, and is a citizen of the United States, or who shall have filed his declaration of intention to become such" the privilege of obtaining a quarter-section of land free of charge, except a small filing fee, by living on the land for five years and meeting certain conditions with respect to cultivation. With numerous modifications, the basic features of the law are in force today.

A. K.—Is it necessary at a formal dinner for there to be a plate at each place for every course?

Ans.—Mrs. Post in her book "Etiquette" says that from the setting of the table until it is cleared for dessert, a plate must remain at every place.

C. T. H.—Who was the inventor who disappeared from a ship on his way to London?

Ans.—Dr. Rudolph Diesel, inventor of the engine of that name, disappeared from a ship crossing the English Channel on the night of September 23, 1912, and was never seen again.

M. K. K.—When was the Order of the Purple Heart revived?

Ans.—The Order of the Purple Heart which was instituted by George Washington in 1782 during the War of the Revolution, was revived in 1927 by order of the President of the United States, Herbert Hoover.

M. L.—In what year did Buffalo Bill kill the most buffaloes while furnishing meat to a railroad?

Ans.—The record-kill of buffaloes by Buffalo Bill was made during the 1867-1868 season, when he killed 4260.

J. J. D.—How many trees are used in making matches?

Ans.—Approximately 300,000 mature trees are required annually to manufacture 287,000,000 matches in the United States.

W. A. C.—On what occasion were hymn books used as wadding in a battle?

Ans.—On June 23, 1780, the Battle of Springfield was fought. The Rev. Mr. Caldwell, according to tradition, urged his men to use the hymn books in the neighboring church as extemporized wadding; exhorting them: "Now put Wattle into them, boys."

G. K.—What is the longest drop ever made by an aviator before opening his parachute?

Ans.—The record parachute jump was made by an aviator in the Russian Army in July, 1934, from an altitude of 26,575 feet. This aviator also made the delayed drop record in this jump. He did not open his parachute until within 600 feet of the ground.

S. K.—What is the speed of the Navy's new battleships?

Ans.—The Navy Department says that the new battleships of the United States Fleet will have a designed speed of twenty-seven knots (about thirty miles) per hour.

E. T. C.—How many people are necessary to make an election precinct?

Ans.—There is no definite number of persons in an election precinct. The districts are made out more or less for the convenience of election officials and vary in size of population.

W. B. S.—Please give the recipe for a solution, which when applied to spectacles prevents them from steaming.

Ans.—It is suggested that the glasses be cleaned with a solution of equal parts of glycerine and ethyl alcohol or glycerine alone and then rubbed perfectly dry with a clean soft cloth.

C. L.—How long does a patent last?

Ans.—The life of a patent is eighteen years.

G. H.—Please tell me which carries the more mail, the railroad or the airplane?

Ans.—The Post Office Department says that railroads carry more mail than airplanes.

Answer to Problem—Noon.

A Way To PROTECT Your Family's Inheritance

If you leave a large sum of money, or a piece of property outright, how long will it last? There's always a possibility that it may be unwisely invested or mismanaged.

In your Will or by a Trust Agreement, you can set aside your entire estate or parts of it to provide an income for one or all members of the family.

As Trustee of your estate, this institution will conserve and preserve it in the manner you plan in your Will.

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