#### Che Centre Demotrat. BELLEFUNTE, PENNA

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### NATIONAL EDITORIAL 194 ASSOCIATION Active Member

#### EDITORIAL

One reason to believe that better times are here again-contributions to the churches are rising.

It's about the time of the year to begin hearing that old, but sensible, slogan, "Swat the fly."

Judging from the ballyhoo one hears and reads, beauty is just a matter of using the right soap.

Old Dobbin has his faults but you never saw another horse hitched in front pulling him to the

barn for repairs. We agree with John F. O'Ryan, Major-General. U. S. Army, who says: "In my opinion, if Britain goes down, we are next on Hitler's list."

Sunday, May 18, has been designated by President Rosevelt as "I Am an American" Day. The public is urged to observe the day in recognition of citizens who have become of age or been naturalized during the past twelve months.

The art of prophecy is on the decline in Japan. On the 19th of March a Japanese official, just returned from Berlin, was quoted by a news agency as saying, "The anticipated German landing operation against England now is only a matter of hours."

The American Committee for Defense of British Homes is interested in receiving steel helmets which will be sent to Great Britain for the use of those exposed to danger during air raids. If any reader has a steel helmet lying around, it might be a good idea to send it to England where it might save a life. The helmet may be shipped without much trouble. All that you have to do is to paste an address tag on the crown and pay ten cents postage. The helmet should be addressed to The American Committee for Defense of British Homes, 10 Warren Street, New York City.

News of strikes, high-lighted throughout the nation and played up as impediments to national defense, has placed labor leaders on the defensive. We are not ready to condemn labor generally because of the delays that have occurred. Undoubtedly labor leaders have made mistakes and unions have given members bad advice. This is admittedly true but. in the main, we retain confidence in the good judgment of laborers who will not let the nation down. The trouble naturally arises when workmen know that industry is cashing in on the defense program. This, it seems, is inevitable as there is no clear way to "take the profit out of war." Consequently, workmen argue that they should share in the profits and while the argument has reason, any attempt to implement it puts upon labor the burden of taking the offensive which upsets the status quo and leads many people to believe that labor is alone to blame for all strikes.

The seizure of Italian, Danish and German ships in American harbors, followed by similar action in other Latin-American countries, reveals evidence of sabotage on the part of the Axis crews. Undoubtedly, the men on German and Italian ships had orders to wreck the vital parts of their vessels and this is sinister in that it implies a decision by the owners to destroy their ships rather than let them serve the needs of the democracies. The United States, in seizing the vessels, acted under ample legal authority. The fact that many of the ships were damaged is proof that delay in taking the drastic action would have permitted further destruction. That Germany and Italy will not like the seizure of their vessels and the internment or prosecution of their sailors, goes without saying. The action of the United States is based upon the simple necessity of the present situation and evidences a complete disregard of what the Axis powers think about the conduct of this country. It is positive proof that following the lease-lend policy, our action is to be based solely upon what will help defeat the totalitarian combination and that the reaction of Berlin and Rome are of no consequence.

### GERMAN "GENEROSITY"

In the early part of March, Vice-Premier Francois Darlan, of France, said that the Germans had released wheat to the Vichy government and he added. "The Germans in this instance have been more generous and humanitarian than the British."

This is the same admiral who threatens to use the warships of France to convoy foodstuffs into his country, expressing willingness, if necessary, to give battle to the British fleet that is enforcing the blockade.

It is now revealed that what the Germans did, in regards to wheat, was to offer to send into the unoccupied zone 800,000 tons of wheat 200,000 tons of sugar, 100,000 tons of bran and 300,000 tons of po-

No gift was made, In return, unoccupied France was to send to the Germans in the occupied zone 190,000 head of cattle, 600,000 head of small livestock, 600,000 calves and hogs, 36,000 tons of table oil, 100,000 tons of salt, 60,000 tons of fresh vegetables, 8,000 tons of cheese, and a large quantity of

It looks like the unoccupied region is paying a fair price for the stuff that the Germans are to send in from occupied France, especially when you consider that the German army, in occupied areas, requisitions what it wants from the people of that area. If there is any generosity and humanitarianism involved, we can't see it.

## THE PEOPLE AND THEIR HIGHWAYS

(Harrisburg Patriot) Under the pressure of a formidable lobby, as charged on the floor, the bill permitting 50,000 pounds of truck to rumble over Pennsylvania's highways has passed the House.

Two hopes remain that drivers of smaller vehicles will not be crowded off the highways their license fees have built. One is that the bill will be defeated in the Senate, and, if not, that Governor James will veto it.

Either one or both of these guarantees can be gained by the people themselves. All the public needs to do is let the legislators know that twentyfive tons of swaying, growling trucks, the size of railroad freight cars, do not belong on highways which must be shared by trucks of smaller size and of the infinitely greater number of passenger cars.

If questions of damage to road surface and unfair competition to railroads were not involved and even if the danger factor could be eliminated, the drivers of passenger cars would still have a genuine right to protest against giant vehicles which by sight and noise alone add hazards to the drivers of small-

That only a powerful lobby could force passage of such legislation is apparent. Legislators left to their own sense of justice to the vast majority of highway users, would not legalize "box cars" on motor highways unless heavy pressure were used. It is just that which makes credible the reports on Capitol Hill that a "deal" of some sort was hatched to get the support of dairy interests in return for pigeen-holing a bill which would have repealed the law which compels certain persons on relief to spend money for milk whether or not they want or need it

If such a "deal" was consumated then the whole transaction is "twice cursed." That mandatory milk law is another perfect example of the power of the lobbyists. It was engineered to benefit the dairy interests. It is so absurd that persons on relief must spend part of their limited income for milk when the money should be spent to serve a more important dietary purpose.

Nobody but the dairy interests want the law. Everybody else is against it. If instead of being repealed it is to be retained and all as part of a deal to get "box cars" on the highways, then the people have lost control of their Legislature to the lobbyists and had better arouse themselves.

If dairy interests can force their wares on relief folks, then clothing merchants could demand that part of a relief check must be spent for overcoats or fancy vests, or candy merchants could insist that 5 per cent of every relief check be spent with them. When lobbying attains such strength, government of, for and by the people becomes an empty phrase.

#### FIRST IN EIGHTEEN YEARS

The 35,000-ton battleship North Carolina was placed in active service on April 9th. It is the first battleship to be built in the United States in eighteen years and was commissioned nearly three months ahead of schedule.

The "newest and most formidable fighting ship in the world" will have a complement of 1,500 officers and men. She will carry nine 16-inch guns, each sixty feet long, and they will hurl some twenty tons of TNT every sixty seconds on a target eighteen

The battleship is a costly vessel. The North Carolina represents an expenditure of \$67,725,500. This is enough to build many schoolhouses but few Americans today regret the money that is in her hull and

The big ship will make twenty-seven knots. It is provided with blisters for protection against torpedoes and mines. Armored decks protect against shells and bombs and vital points are guarded by sixteen inches of steel plate. The secondary battery of twenty guns is available against planes as well as surface targets. There are other smaller guns for aircraft defense. She carries four airplanes.

The powerhouse of the dreadnought develops 115,000 horsepower from oil-fired boilers. She meas-704 feet in length at the water-line and has a maximum beam of 108 feet. It takes about twentyseven feet of water to float her.

The comforting thought, in connection with the commissioning of this battleship, is that others, like her and much larger, are on the ways. Another will be in service in a month or so. Four more will be ready in a year. Afterwards, battleships will steam from construction yards at the rate of six or more a year, and some of them will be almost twice the size of the North Carolina.

#### TWO-WAY TOLERANCE NECESSARY

A leaslet recently published by the National Conference of Christians and Jews says:

"We of the United States are: "One-third of a million Indian

"One-third of a million Oriental, Filipino and Mexican

"60,000,000 Anglo-Saxon; 10,000,000 Irish

"15,000,000 Teutonic; 9,000,000 Slavic "5 000.000 Italian; 4.000.000 Scandinavian

"2,000,000 French; 13,000,000 Negro

"1,000,000 each Pinns, Lithuanian, Greek." In addition, according to the same authority, we

"2,000,000 Anglican-Episcopalian "40,000,000 Evangelical Protestant

"1,000,000 Greek Catholic "22,000 000 Roman Catholic

"4.500.000 Jew "Two-thirds of a million Mormon "One-tenth of a million Quaker

"One and one-half million Christian Scientists." These figures give us some idea of the radical and religious mixture that makes up the people of the United States. It stresses the importance of racial and religious tolerance. This is an obligation which rests upon all Americans, regardless of the group to which they belong. It must be practiced by minorities as well as majorities, which is a fact often

### HERE'S A PLEASANT HOPE

We hope farm prices rise because there is nothing that we can think of that will do the country as much good as genuine prosperity for agriculture. Since 1921, the farmers of the United States have been taking it on the chin with the result that the economic balance of the United States has been destroyed. Once farm buying-power is adequately restored, there is a chance that the United States can enjoy something like permanent prosperity for many

Personally, we realize that prosperity is a dangerous state. The farmers of the nation enjoyed it for a few years, during and after the first World War, and it almost ruined many of them. It had its effect upon other citizens, as well, Maybe, we have been in the valley long enough to be able to stand on the summit and enjoy brighter days. We hope so!

#### SECRECY SHOULD BE HAD

Mr. Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, has requested newspapers, broadcasting companies and picture services to refrain from reporting the move-ments of damaged British ships that come to the United States for repairs.

He says, what every sensible person understands, that such information may be of great value to the enemies of Great Britain. The press, screen and radio should respect the

request that comes from the Secretary of the Navy. If it is not complied with, the Congress should pass legislation to compel the secrecy desired.

Of course, there will be a number of newspapers and other speakers, to assail such a law as censorship, and an infringement upon the freedom of the press and of speech, but they will be mistaken.

# OFFICE CAT

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

#### Not Many

Breathes there a man with soul so dead. Who never hath turned his head and said, "Hmmm, not bad."

### Not Interested

An attractive young widow from New York went to Florida on the After registering at a Palm Beach hotel, she sauntered out on the

ealed the desire to become acquainted, but the handsome young man ignored her. Finally a piece of dainty linen was wafted to the ground. "Oh, I've dropped my handkerchief," she murmured softly.

eranda and seated herself near a handsome young man. Her cough re-

The handsome youth turned a cold, unresponsive eye upon her. 'Madam," he said, "my weakness is liquor.'

#### . . . . We Would

What should one do when one has spilt red ink on a valuable carpet?" asked a reader.

In the case of a man, it is really very simple-he merely listens. . . . .

#### Between the Two

Two ministers were walking along a country road. One of them took cigar out of his pocket and began to smoke. Whereupon the other remarked, "Brother, I see you smoke, I am amazed at you. Do you know that it is a vile habit? Why, even a pig won't smoke.

They walked on in silence for a few minutes and then the smoker said, "Brother, I've been thinking about what you said just now about a pig not smoking, and I infer that you mean to suggest some subtle re- Dear Louisa; semblance between me and the pig. But, my dear brother, inasmuch as you do not smoke, it appears to me that there is a greater resemblance between you and the pig than between me and the pig.

#### . . . . Echo From an Army Camp

Colonel (instructing aviators)-'Now what's the first thing you do upon making a landing?"

Pupil-"Thank God!"

#### . . . . He Knew the Words

No clergyman being present at a recent luncheon, the host singled out a pious, solemn-locking man in a black coat and tie, with a religious appearance, and asked him to pronounce the blessing.

The gentleman after being addressed put his hand to his ear and craned forward intently. "I know you're talking to me, sir," he said loudly, "but I'm deaf as hell, and can't hear a damn word you're saying."

#### . . . . Obvious Reason

Betty, little daughter of a South Ward Bellefonte family, was crying bitterly the other morning. Her mother asked what was the matter.

"Boo, hoo. My new shoes hurt me!"

"Well, no wonder. You have them on the wrong feet," replied mother. Betty kept crying and would not be comforted. "I haven't any other get married, we promise to take in feet!" she protested.

#### . . . . Not So Slow

Three men named Jones, all in the same line of business, opened shops next door to one another. The one on the right had the name in your marriage a happy one, you Jones" painted in large letters over the door. The one on the left immediately did the same thing.

The sign painter then approached the center Mr. Jones, asking him he would like his name painted also. "No," said the wily one. "I want you to paint the word 'Entrance'

over my door." . . . .

#### Patriotic Gesture

car. You know, I'm not one to hold back on our defense program when yours. Perhaps, if you talk to him by keeping them awake and active.

## the government needs scrap iron.

Let's See Now Mister (grumbling)-"I never can find a thing around this house I certainly would like to know where my hat is?" Missus-"So would I. You weren't wearing it when you came home

## . . . .

She Knew of Something A prominent hostess, when serving her guests wine, remarked to one "I should not be offering you wine. You are head of the

Temperance League." "Oh. no," he replied, "I am head of the Vice League."

#### "Well," said she, "I knew there was something I should not offer you." . . . .

Lovelorn Column "Dear Miss Dixon," writes a young man, "I and my wife are now living apart. Partly because of the unemployment situation, and partly because she refuses to live with me.

#### . . . .

A Family Affair A little girl went into a downtown drug store and asked the clerk three rolls of toilet paper. The clerk, however, did not recognize the little purchaser and stopped her, "Who is it for?" he asked.

. . . .

#### An Old One Revived

Back in the seventies, before life had gone completely "modern" to sink his boa's. His empire's all tore us, an elderly city couple, looking for a nice place to spend the summer, answered an advertisement which a farmer had inserted in the city paper. Several letters passed between the parties and finally the arrangements were completed. However, the city wife, almost at the last minute, became concerned as to the farmhouse having modern conveniences, particularly has took the play. Now Mussy's just one of the new-fangled water closets. Accordingly her husband, in his fine old Victorian manner, wrote a note to the farmer which read like ler's way, er else-he gits his walk-

"Dear Sir: In concluding arrangements to spend the summer in your hospitable home. I would like to inquire if you have a w. c. I would like a frazzle, as a glamor boy he's lost to be assured on this point. I remain,

Yr obdt synt, CYRUS LEFFINGWELL HUMPHREYS."

The good farmer and his wife, receiving the letter, pondered over it at length. It seemed that the letters "w. c." puzzled them. Finally the wife him no one'll shed a tear, when he had a thought.

stand for "Wesleyan Chapel." Write and tell them we do have one." Accordingly the following letter in due course of time reached the

"Dear Mr. Humphreys: Your communication of recent date received and the letters "w. c." wondered us for quite a spell, However we write in haste to assure you that we do have a "w. c." It is thoroughly modern been promoted from lieutenant juin every respect, having been erected just four years ago to take the place nior grade to lieutenant in the navy, of one that was too small for the use of the community. And we have it was announced Monday. almost outgrown this one too, for if you don't go early you can't get a seat and you know how bad that is.

"It has two entrances and it is a pretty sight to see those doors wide open and the place inside completely filled with people. Lots of windows to let in the light so people can see each other.

"The seats are very comfortable, those for the old people being upholstered. After all, one gets tired just sitting.

"We generally go every week, but sometimes we don't get there for weeks and I tell you we miss it a lot. If the weathr is pleasant we walk, for it is only a mile, but in bad weather we hitch up and drive. "Trusting this answers your question, I beg to remain, Yr obdt snvt.

JOHN JONES."

That's all, folks. You may think you'll never be a sucker again, but you will.

## Physical Fitness

be conducted by members of the col-An eight-week "physical fitness" lege's physical education staff, while course to harden prospective stu- Lieut, Charles Prosser of the R. O. dent and faculty draftees was an- T. C., faculty will lecture on first nounced this week by the school of aid and care of military equipment physical education and athletics of Persons enrolling in the course must the Pennsylvania State College, first pass a physical examination Group calisthenics and games will given by the college health staff.

## LOUISA'S

Dear Louisa:

I am almost fifteen and rather large for my age. Here is my trouble:

I want to go out with boys, but my "Old Timer" father doesn't want me to. He thinks I am too young. He lets me go out about once or twice a month and I want to go out more often. Do you think I should go out, if so, how often? ANNA-N. Carolina.

ANSWER

This doesn't mean that they are about twenty minutes. turned loose to go with any chance acquaintance they meet or to stay out all hours of the night. But they let their parents know where they are going, with whom, and agree to carrier. get home at a sensible hour. This seems to be a pretty good arrangement to me, as they have no school work on the days after, and they know exactly when they can plan

I think a girl who does her school work and doesn't neglect her studied, should be allowed more

privilege than one who is careless LOUISA.

DISAPPOINTED.

My husband and I cannot get along. He is rough and curses a months great deal. He will not go to my mother's house but he wants me to go to his mother's all of the time. If you were in my place, would you go with him or not? Please put your answer in the Roxboro Courier

North Carolina

about them.

#### ANSWER:

If your husband is rough, have you just found it out, or did you know it before you were married? Why does he curse? Is it because of something you do or something you don't do, or for no reason at

The reason I ask these questions is because there is usually two sides to every disagreement and I wonder if you are doing your part in trying to make your marriage a success You know, of course, that when we each other for better or for worse. Now, I don't think this means that any woman should stick by a man who abuses her, but I do think that as long as there is a chance of makshould try everything that you can think of to make it so.

Do you keep your house tidy and yourself as attractive as possible? you are anxious for him to be com-

fortable and happy, too It seems very inconsiderate for about it and ask him to take time about visiting them, he may change his mind. Good luck

LOUISA

## AS I SEE IT

By HORACE SENTZ

So Mussy has a case of nerves, Things has went from bad to badder. That dish of Fashist slop he serves, Makes mad Eyetallians mad-Noow fer morn't twenty years, He's dished out this style of trips, n' with bombs a bustin 'round their ears, them folks has got a case of gripe. He's always held out war to them, as a juicy temptin teaser, Now they see the flaws in that war gem, Mussyleeny aint no Ceesar. He blowed about the Fashist might Eight millyun bayonets strong, But the Revolutionary War? when them boys went out to fight, The little girl tilted her nose in the air as she answered; "For all they knowed he'd did them wrong. He would not take no wise advice. from generals what knowed their oats, so them Greeks jist polished him off nice, while them British up to shreds, the peoples doubts begin to grow, as Adolf's Nasti pressure spreads, with Hinerick Himmler's Gestappo. Fer now Adolf a figgerhead, he's gotta do it Hitin papers read. No wonder Doochy's feeling low, with his nerves wore to his glow, he's all out of razzle-daz-This story would not be so sad, if Mussy got "the works" alone, but he's got Italy in bad, with the goofy messin 'round he done. Fer eggsits off the world's stage. Fer "John," she exclaimed, "I know what those letters "w. c." mean. They all he did was make a smear, when he wrote on Italy's history page.

Receives Promotion Charles J. Hacherl, of St. Mary's, now stationed at Philadelphia, has

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## Query & Answer Column

PROBLEM: What is the name of the Constellation of Stars that reads the same both forward and backward? (Answer elsewhere in this

J. Z.-What is the smallest salt-water lake in the world? Also how many lakes are there which are below sea level?

Ans,-The smallest salt-water lake is Lake Ngami in Africa, Its area 297 square miles. There are two lakes in the world (salt water) which are below sea level-the Caspian Sea and the Dead Sea, both in Asia. While the two are classed as seas, strictly speaking, they are lakes. The Caspian is 90 feet below sea level, while the Dead Sea is 1,290 feet below. G. S.-What is a simoon?

Ans.-A simoon is a terrific whirlwind on a desert, the force of

which raises great girating clouds of sand and sweeps forward with suf-Most of the girls I know, who are focating effect upon both man and beast. It frequently darkens the rky about your age, are allowed to go at midday and sometimes accompanied by lightning caused by friction of out on Friday and Saturday nights. sand with the air, but there is no rain. It is appalling, and usually lasts. B. L.-I wish to know what f. o. b. means?

Ans.—The initials f. o. b. means "free on board." In other words.

there are no transportation charges on a shipment until it is delivered into the hands of the freight agent or to the agent of any other common D. O .- Is the Pied Piper of Hamelin a fact or is it fiction?

Ans,-Fiction, It's an old German legend that the Pied Piper contracted to rid the town of Hamelin of all its rats for a given sum. He acmplished the feat with his musical pipe by luring the rats into the sea where they drowned. The reward was withheld, and he, in revenge, again blew his pipe and lured all the children of the town to a cavern on the hillside, and upon their entrance, closed and shut them in forever.

N. D.-I am curious to know what "R," "Q. S." and other signs mean on a physician's prescription. Ans .- "R" means recipe; "Q. S." means as much as sufficient; other markings are the symbols for pounds, ounces, drams; scruples, and grains. "M" for minim or drop, and "o" for pint. The signs are meant

for the pharmacist only, and not for you to interpret. W. G .- How did April and May get their names? I have the other

Ans.—April was so named after the Latin Aperre, "to open," because during this month the buds begin to open. May is from Maia, the mother of Mercury

T. L.-Was land in Pennsylvania once measured by how far a man Ans,-In 1737 the Proprietors of Pennsylvania obtained from the Delaware Indians a grant of land extending into the back country as far

as a man could walk in a day and a half. Three fast walkers were hired who covered about 65 miles. B. T.—Is it harmful to clean a rifle with soap and water? Ans,-The National Rifle Association says that one of the best solvents for cleaning a rifle is hot water and soap. This should be pumped through the bore with a cleaning rod. The bore should then be dried and

a preservative grease applied. H. E.-When was the Edison Memorial Tower dedicated? Ans.—The Edison Memorial Tower at Menlo, N. J., was dedicated and lighted on February 11, 1938. W. T. E.-When was the rule first used in boxing which compels a

fighter who knocks down an opponent to go to a neutral corner?

Ans.-This rule was in effect for the first time at the Tunney-Dempsey fight in 1927 in Chicago by mutual agreement. Thereafter it was generally accepted by all boxing commissions and is now universally F. R .- How many Negroes are there in the United States Army? Ans .- The War Department says there are five regular Negro com-

ssloned officers and 9583 enlisted Negro men in the Army. C. C .- What percentage of people in the United States go to church? Ans.-It is estimated that about 50 per cent of the population of the United States are actively affiliated with churches, and of this number

M. F .- What is the average temperature in Kentucky? Ans,-The mean winter temperature in Kentucky is thirty-five do-Do you let your husband know that grees Fahrenheit, while the annual average is fifty-five. C. L.-Please give some information about the school but disaster in

Ans.—On March 27, 1931, five school children and their bus driver. your hasband to want you to visit staffed in show drifts near Towner, Colo., were frozen to death. The hero "Yep." a friend confided to us the other day. "I traded in my old his mother and he not go to see of the bus tragedy was Bryan Untiedt, who saved fifteen of the children

A. F.-What author has written the largest number of best-sellers? Ans.—The late Edgar Wallace established an all-time record as the author of best selling fiction. M. W .- Where is the original painting of "The Last Supper?"

Ans .- "The Last Supper," by Leonardo da Vinci, is on the wall of the

Refrectory of the Convent of Santa Maria Della Grazie in Milan, Italy S. W .- How far is it from New York to New Orleans by airplane? Ans.—The airline distance from New York to New Orleans is 1173

Old Town Tonight?"

about 50 per cent attend services regularly.

C. T .- How tall is Lord Halifax? Ans.-The British Ambassador is 6 feet 5 inches tall. B. S. H .- Is there any estimate of how long our oil reserve will last? Ans .- The Committee on Petroleum Reserves of the American Petrolm Institute estimated proved oil reserves of the United States on Jan.

of crude oil that may be extracted by present known methods from fields completely developed or drilled or explored thoroughly enough to permit resonably accurate calculations.

P. B .- Are there any spiders that change color? Ans.—The crab spider assumes the color of the flower on which it es and hides in the heart of the blossom awaiting its prey. M. T. A .- Did the United States repay Lafayette for his services in

1. 1940, at 18.483,000,000 barrels. This estimate refers only to the quantity

Ans .- In 1803 Congress authorized the Secretary of War to issue to Major General Lafayette land warrants for 11,250 acres of land, General Lafayette was authorized and empowered to locate warrants in what was then known as the territory of Orleans, now the state of Louisiana. W. W .- What is the origin of the song "There'll Be a Hot Time in the

Ans.-In 1886 Theodore Metz composed a march called "A Hot Time

in the Old Town Tonight" for McIntyre and Heath's minstrel show. In 1896 Joseph Hayden wrote words for the music and the song was pub-It became the favorite rallying song of Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders in Cuba, and later was the campaign song for Colonel

E. C.—What is another name for a young beaver?

Ans.-Young beavers are called kits. Answer to Problem: "Ara," the Constellation south of the Zodiac,

## A Way To PROTECT

If you leave a large sum of money, or a piece of property outright, how long will it last?

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