

The Centre Democrat.

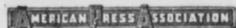
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EDITORIAL

The peace promised in the Bible, is not being peddled by Hitler or Hirohito.

The "home front" should not require a heavy casualty list to make it war-minded.

Installment buying has been regulated but there is no restrictions upon installment debt paying.

Every citizen of Centre county should fight inflation like a rattlesnake; in the end its bite is just as bad.

It is about time for some of our Axis-minded croakers to suggest that the Russians are laying down in the Ukraine without fighting.

Believe it or not, every activity in the United States is of minor importance when compared to the business of whipping the Axis powers.

Scores of men and women in Centre county are giving generously of their time and effort in the work of civilian defense. They deserve the applause of all citizens, including lazy loafers too sluggish to work in the present emergency.

The Nazi drive against the Red Army, apparently aimed at the Volga River, indicates that Hitler, in his quest for the oil of the Caucasus, has decided to take the long way rather than invade Turkey and make another enemy. The news from the battlefield is not so good for the United Nations, but Hitler in the past never seemed to mind another foe. He drove towards his goals, without regard to neutrals in his way. The Turks are neutral and the Nazis seem anxious to keep them so. Is it possible that Hitler forces that the Germans will have plenty to do in the future, without another enemy?

Hospital planes, capable of carrying as many as forty patients in comfort, will be used by the Army to move sick and wounded personnel from theatres of war. The Air Evacuation Group has been established under the Air Transport Command. It will undoubtedly save the lives of many Americans. We report this matter for the comfort of those who have relatives in the service. In time they will be in the battle zones, taking the risks involved. Some of them will be wounded. It is, therefore, a comfort to know that many of them will be carefully transported by plane to receive adequate hospitalization under the best possible conditions.

"WHERE IS THE NAVY?"

For the benefit of millions of American citizens who have constantly asked, "Where is the Navy?"

we call attention to the report of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Senators state that the Navy has been operating under "extraordinarily difficult conditions" in all waters and on many fronts and lacking in adequate naval and air bases and limited facilities. "When it is practicable and advisable" to reveal the truth about American naval operations, the Committee thinks that the people "will better understand the most trying conditions" considering the means available under which the Navy has operated.

The ignorance of people generally as to the naval status in the Pacific is little short of astonishing. There are millions of Americans who still have the impression that the United States went into the war with a Navy nearly twice the size of the Japanese Navy.

GERMAN GAINS WERE EXPECTED

The great battle going on in Russia must be viewed in the perspective of the past and the outlook for the future. Those who followed the campaigns of last Summer and last Winter in Russia expected Nazi advances when the Germans decided to press forward in 1942. The objective involved is the destruction of the fighting power of the Soviet Union and nothing less than this will give Hitler the triumph that he must have to avert impending defeat.

The present fighting is not on the grand scale of last year's offensive, which began when Germany's armies invaded Russia on a front which stretched from Murnansk to Odessa. Last year, the Nazis expected to destroy the Soviet Republic. Despite these territorial gains and great victories, the Germans failed. In the winter, the Red Army struck back to regain approximately one-fifth of the territory lost, and significantly failed to recapture German strong-points from which Nazi operations have been launched.

Egyptian Stalemate

In other sectors of the great World War, the United Nations found little comfort in the middle of July. In Egypt, where the fast moving Germans were halted at El Alamein, seventy-five miles from Alexandria, something of a stalemate followed, with both sides working feverishly to move reinforcements and supplies to the front. The British made several encouraging advances, but observers believe that the final decision hinges upon control of the air and the ability of the two armies to bring up equipment, supplies and troops for the next big test.

Chinese Position Deteriorates

In the Far East, the Japanese invaders of China are seeking to control the rail line between Shanghai and Singapore in the hope of obtaining an attack-proof supply line to the riches of conquered territory. The Japs are also anxious to clean up territory which might offer air bases for large-scale attacks upon Japan itself. Already, the Chinese have been virtually cut off from their allied supply lines and, stated frankly, China is in less favorable condition than before Pearl Harbor.

SAYS U. S. TANKS ARE BEST

We have been interested, along with other Americans, in reports from the battlefield in Africa where the American 28-ton M-3 tanks were tested in actual combat.

The "General Grants" delivered a surprise "punch" to the enemy in the early days of the Libyan fighting but, consequently, when the British suffered reverses, the reports as to the tanks were not so favorable.

As a layman, without actual information as to the manufacture of tanks and without the technical information necessary to pass judgment upon them, we must rely upon the testimony of those who know. Major-General Levin H. Campbell, Jr., Chief of Ordnance for the United States Army, declares that our tanks are "superior to anything the enemy has." He adds, "Type for type, our tanks have heavier guns, heavier armament and great speed."

Referring to the 88-mm. German gun, which was credited with scoring an outstanding success in the African engagement, the General says that it is out-matched by high velocity 75-mm. gun in the M-3 tanks "far and away outrange the best the Germans have." In addition, it can be fired while the tank is in motion, giving it another advantage over enemy tank guns.

The General took up machine-guns and asserted that American guns will out-function any enemy guns under the most adverse circumstances.

This is encouraging information. The assertions of General Campbell will be accepted by most Americans. Naturally, there will be a minority, ready to question the testimony of this ordnance expert and eager to accept wild-cat reports as to what occurs on any battlefield.

MR. MAY'S FOOLISH PREDICTION

The prediction of the Hon. Andrew J. May, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, that the war will end "probably in 1942 and certainly in 1943" represents Congressional intelligence at its worst.

Mr. May, who may possess information not available to ordinary citizens, bases his statement upon his knowledge of a "military secret." This makes his amazing prediction more reprehensible because its weight will be increased by his official position.

If some "military secret" is to give us victory, there would seem to be good reason to keep quiet about the matter in order that it may surprise an unsuspecting foe. If the forecast is based upon nothing but Mr. May's opinion, which may be accepted by the unsuspecting, the national will to win may be softened, which would be dangerous if not disastrous.

We have no idea that the Kentuckian has any secret dope about the strength of our enemies. There are few "talkers" in Germany and Japan at this time when it comes to matters dealing with the present war.

IDEAS ABOUT TANK WARFARE

The way not to attack tanks is with other tanks, says Major General Charles L. Scott, U. S. armored force veteran, who is now in Egypt with an excellent opportunity to learn something about tank warfare.

Gen. Scott says that the tank is meant to attack infantry, to break up land communications and, if possible, strike at the nerve center of the enemy, his high command. Like bombers, on a mission, which avoid enemy fighter planes, tanks, headed for proper objectives, should avoid tank battles.

The best way to knock out tanks is with high-velocity anti-tank guns, according to the general, or by infantry raiders operating at night with bombs.

Tanks, infantry and artillery, working together, make an unbeatable team according to this veteran, who quickly points out that if they are separated each is vulnerable. Tanks may be beaten by artillery, artillery may be an easy prey to infantry and infantry may be decimated by tanks. The cooperation, now so heavily stressed in battle tactics, of these various units represents the way to victory.

GANDHI'S SILLIER THAN EVER

Mohandas M. Gandhi, Indian Nationalist leader, changes his tune about British and American armed forces in India, saying that "foreign troops are necessary for the defense of India" and that they are welcome provided they leave as soon as the crisis is over.

The lion-clothed apostle of non-violence has not yet progressed to the abandonment of nonsense. He advocates Indian ambassadors to Rome, Berlin and Tokyo, "not to beg peace but to show them (Axis Powers) the futility of war." This idea is about as practical as his advocacy of the spinning wheel and abandonment of modern textile machinery.

Like many religious fanatics and spiritual ignoramus, Gandhi is not able to harmonize spiritual and material worlds. There is no greater mistake than to stubbornly apply the rules of spiritual growth to the development of mundane matters. A physicist, in the same stage of silliness, would attempt to harmonize the properties of ice and red-hot steel.

How Your Old Rubber Aids the Army

STATISTICS COMPILED BY UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY

Illustrations showing rubber products: 2 OLD TIRES EQUAL 1 JEEP TIRE, 3 RUBBERS EQUAL 1 ARMY OVERSHOE, 1 HOT WATER BOTTLE EQUALS 2 YARDS OF HOSPITAL SHEETING, 2 INNER TUBES EQUAL 1 HEAVY ARMY GAS MASK, 1 50FT. LENGTH OF GARDEN HOSE EQUALS 1 PNEUMATIC LIFE-SAVING RAFT.

LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa: I met a boy several weeks ago who is stationed in a camp nearby. We fell very much in love. He is very handsome and generous and we are planning to get married before he leaves.

I have never met or heard from any of his people as his home is a great distance from mine. I do not even know what job he had before he joined the army. Do you think I am making a mistake in marrying someone I have known such a short time? I don't think I could ever love anyone as much as I do him, but my parents want us to wait until he comes back.

Answer: I agree with your parents. To be in with all boys seem most romantic in uniform, and you will probably be very much surprised the first time you see this boy in civilian clothes. You may be pleasantly surprised, and on the other hand, you may possibly get a shock.

Then, too, just at present you are very much in love and, as you know, love can be very blind. You haven't known him long enough to find out his bad traits. You only know his good ones.

You say he is generous—well, it may be a good point and it may be a bad one. He may be one of those generous people who spend all their money on a good time and never have any left for the necessities of life. You say he is handsome. Well, that doesn't mean a thing either, if he happens to be selfish, lazy or irresponsible.

You are planning to get married and neither of you nor your family have made any effort to find out about him. If you were going into any kind of business partnership, would you go into it blind, and without knowing anything about your partner's finances or capabilities? Certainly you would not. You would require all sorts of references and want to know something of his reputation in the business world.



There's plenty of guys who can criticize, and plenty who'll shirk all the dirty work. But the fellows, few that is will to do, the job that they're able to handle. There's lots of goofs to shout from the roofs, a million wet snacks to make dirty cracks. What we need is more men, who'll do in their ken; The job that they're able to handle. There's no shortage of fools to spoil good tools, nor of ignorant dolts who mix screws and bolts. For it's this stupid kind, who never can find, The job that they're able to handle. Now my friend should you feel, that if you took the wheel; you'd cheer the State Ship on a happier trip, don't climb in the saddle, till you're sure you can paddle, your canoe that you think you can handle.

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

Horses, Horses, Horses! After winning a few good-sized bets on a horse that was enjoying a winning streak, Isaac tried to buy the nag for \$12,000 but the owner refused to sell. Going into the stable the next morning the owner discovered that his horse had died. Rushing back to his hotel he immediately called up his prospective buyer.

"I've reconsidered your offer, Mr. Fittlebaum," he said. "You can have the horse for \$12,900."

"Sold!" shouted Isaac, and without further ado rushed to the owner's room and paid the amount agreed upon. With the certified check in his pocket, the owner of the defunct horse packed his grips and immediately left for parts unknown.

A few years later the owner's conscience bothered him and he decided to go back and make restitution. When he entered Isaac's office he was amazed to be greeted effusively.

"I played a dirty trick on you and here you treat me like a long lost brother," said the horseman. "I can't understand it."

"Dirty trick?" repeated Isaac. "Don't be foolish. Why de munit did I saw de horse was dead I raffled him off and sold thirty tickets to mine frands at \$1,000 a ticket."

"But you must have had a lot of complaints when they discovered the horse was dead?"

"Oh, no," laughed Isaac. "De winner complained dot hed von a dead horse, so I gave him back his thousand dollars."

Picked Wrong Guy No clergymen being present at a recent luncheon, the host signaled out a pious, solemn-looking man in 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 can tell you're talking to me, sir," he said loudly, "but I'm so damn deaf I can't tell what in hell you're saying."

A Queer Jar A fellow who had gotten three or more sheets in the wind went into a shop to buy his wife a jar for a birthday gift.

Seeing one that was upside down he exclaimed: "Gee wish. 'Twas funny, this jar has no mouth."

Turning it over he was once more astonished. "Why, dog-gone, the bottom's gone, too."

Pretty Near the Limit Tourist—"Say, neighbor, does it get much hotter and drier out here?" Western Rancher—"Well, hotter times I've seen, lad, but not drier. Why, do you know that this morning I looked out my window and seen them two trees yonder chasin' our ranch dog all over the prairie."

Officer, Call the Ambulance Bendova Dubble's pal, Stew Bad had been making use of the phrase "it might have been worse" so often that Bendova was ready for the nut-house.

One day not long ago Bendova visited his friend in great distress. "Stew," he said, "I've got terrible news. When I got home last night I found Smith the baker kissing my wife. I beat him up and they carried him off to the hospital."

"That's pretty tough," sympathized Stew. "It's awful, Bendy, old man. But it might have been worse."

Query & Answer Column

N. O.—When and where was Alan Seeger, author of "I Have a Rendezvous With Death," killed? Ans.—The poet was killed at Bellefleur-Santerre, in the Battle of the Somme in 1918.

F. T.—How far can a lion jump from a crouching position? Ans.—Big game hunters report that a lion usually takes a short run and his leap with the run is from twenty to twenty-five feet. In the big cat acts, the lion has been known to leap twelve feet from a crouch without much effort.

D. T. L.—What is a dossier? Ans.—It is a bundle of papers giving a report on some incident or detailed information concerning a person. The word dossier is French.

J. N.—Is the money paid for a war bond exempt from income tax? Ans.—The money paid for war bonds is not exempt from the Federal income tax.

D. D. L.—What inland city of The Netherlands was relieved from siege by cutting the dykes? Ans.—The siege of Leyden by the Spaniards in 1574 was lifted in this manner. The land was flooded and ships were able to carry provisions to the inhabitants.

H. N. V.—What is the I. Q. of the average adult? Ans.—The I. Q. of a normal person is 100. About five persons in 100 will be 20 per cent below normal and five persons will be 20 per cent above normal.

H. T. L.—What plants are attacked by Japanese beetles? Ans.—The adult beetles are known to feed on about 200 species of plants. They prefer apple, peach, sweet cherry, plum, quinine, grape, blackberry, clover and corn. The foliage of shade trees and shrubs are also attacked.

R. F.—What is meant by Congressmen "pairing"? Ans.—It means that two members of opposite party or opinion agree not to vote on a certain question during a specified time. The practice first appeared in the House of Representatives in 1824.

F. F.—How long has Finland been an independent country? Ans.—Finland has been independent only since 1917. It was conquered by the Swedes in 1157 and became a part of Russia by cession in 1809.

F. R.—Does the Army make an award equivalent to the Navy E? Ans.—Army "A" flags are awarded to plants doing excellent work on Army orders. They are like the Navy "E" flag.

T. A.—How large was the largest stone ever quarried in the United States? Ans.—Probably the largest stone ever quarried in North America was loosened from a shelf of the Rock of Ages quarries, Vermont, and measured 200 feet in length, eighty feet in width, and twenty-four feet in thickness. The weight exceeded 69,000,000 tons. After being quarried into blocks, 1700 freight cars were required for its distribution.

A. C. M.—Please explain what is meant by "110 per cent of parity." Ans.—The term "110 per cent of parity" in connection with prices of farm crops means that the money obtained from the sale of a certain amount of farm produce must be able to buy 10 per cent more machinery and other goods than the money obtained from a like amount of produce could buy during 1909-14 (the farmers' most prosperous period).

N. A.—What is meant by the expression, "Round as Giotto's O?" Ans.—Giotto (1266-1336), the shepherd boy painter was summoned to Rome by Boniface VIII while a student of Cimabue. When the Pope's messenger asked to be shown proof of the artist's skill, Giotto, with a single sweep of his brush, drew a perfect circle. This gave sufficient testimony.

L. McC.—When was a submarine used in war for the first time? Ans.—In 1776 a submarine was used for war purposes for the first time. The Turtle, an American submarine designed by David Bushnell, attempted to sink the English warship Eagle by fixing a gun powder charge with a time fuse to the bottom of the ship, but the attempt failed.

B. F.—What fiber is most widely used? Ans.—Cotton is used more than any other fiber in the world.

N. W.—Is it possible for rain to fall and yet not reach the ground? Ans.—The Weather Bureau says that this phenomenon is a common one especially over arid regions. The rain actually falls from the clouds, but the air between the clouds and the earth has such a low relative humidity that the rain is completely evaporated before it reaches the ground.

M. N.—Is there any difference in taste between cane sugar and beet sugar? Ans.—No difference in taste can be detected between pure crystallized sugar from the cane and from the beet, because there is no chemical difference between the two.

J. N.—What country had the first dog licenses? Ans.—Dog licenses are first recorded during the reign of Henry III of England when all persons owning mastiffs were required to take out licenses.

R. C.—Is there any steel in an automobile tire? Ans.—The beads of a tire which fasten it to the rim of the automobile are composed of several strands, totaling more than 130 feet of strong steel wire. They are covered with fabric and rubber.

T. L. W.—What percentage of automobile owners in the Eastern States received A-cards in the first gasoline rationing registration? Ans.—Of the 1,486,806 car owners who registered, 30.8 per cent received A-cards.

K. D.—I have been accustomed to serving iced tea daily on hot days. How can I sweeten it without sugar and how is orange rind and orange juice used in iced tea? Ans.—Take a small can of crystal clear syrup, add 1 cup of water and the rind of one orange. Bring to a boil and boil for two minutes. Dilute the iced tea with orange juice and sweeten it with the corn syrup preparation. Fresh mint leaves may be added for variety.

F. B.—Is tobacco on of the largest manufacturing industries in the United States? Ans.—In the last Census of Manufacturers (1939), it ranked fifteenth in value of products, eighteenth in number of establishments, and nineteenth in number of employes.

Centre Co. Soldiers And Nurses In Service At Home or Abroad (Write Plainly—Mail or Bring to The Centre Democrat) Name... Age... Home Address... State... City... Name of Parents... Their Address... City... State... Phone No... Date of Enlistment... Date of Induction... Branch of Service: Army... Navy... (Check One) Marines... Coast Guard... Name of Unit or Ship... Present Location (If outside territorial U. S., write Foreign Service) Any Previous Military Service... Present Rank... Promotions... since entering service, dates, if possible...