

The Centre Democrat

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.



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EDITORIAL

No matter how the battle turns out the Germans know they have had opposition in Russia.

We are not fighting to create a perfect world. We are at war to save what we have and it is actually in danger.

We are sorry for Mr. Gandhi, who thinks he could talk the Japanese out of their aggression. The Tokyo gents would steal his loin cloth.

Money is plentiful during the war effort but it might be scarce before we get through the post-war adjustment era. Better save some now.

Millions of Americans, serving the nation without compensation, in connection with the war emergency, deserve the appreciative thanks of their fellow citizens.

We like the idea of transporting supplies to Europe by air but the construction of flying freighters to beat the U-boats would mean bigger pickings for Nazi fighter-planes.

The government is depending largely upon the women of the nation to make the salvage campaign a success and every housewife of Centre county can assist her country by actively co-operating in the process. Of course, nobody expects the good ladies to get out and rummage over the country for old metal, but they will be asked to go over their homes thoroughly and at some inconvenience collect fats, and where collection facilities are available, save other desired scrap, such as tin cans. We understand that 500,000 copies of an official plan have been distributed throughout the nation by the Women's Division of the WPB's salvage section. Children, as well as adults, are asked to join in the "no waste" campaign.

Isn't there something wrong with our economic balance when many of our farmers have to beg for help to harvest their crops while a half-hundred or more able-bodied available men are being housed and fed at no expense to themselves, at the Conscientious Objectors' Camp right in our own county? It may be true, as we are told, that these men are engaged in Nursery work at the recently abandoned COC Camp at Mt. Eagle, but it is equally certain that it was the only place the Government could send them aside from a detention camp. Wouldn't it have been a matter of helping the war effort to have sent these men out each day in small groups from the camp to the various farms where help was sorely needed. Many farmers have had their source of help taken from them through military and industrial demands, and have been sorely pressed in harvesting their vitally-needed food products. The men at these camps show every evidence of being trustworthy, and some have had experience in farming. It would seem, then, a patriotic

gesture, as well as common sense, to have offered this inexpensive help at this critical time.

U. S. diplomats returning from Italy report that life there is getting tougher and tougher. Italians normally eat a loaf of bread apiece. They dunk it in soup, wine, eat it with spaghetti and cheese, eat it at all meals. Today the bread ration allows them only three tiny cornmeal biscuits a day. Meat is almost non-existent. U. S. diplomats stayed at the best hotel in Rome, and looked forward to the one day a week, Saturday, when meat (not fish or game) was served. A ham costs 4,000 lira, or about \$200, a chicken 150 lira, or \$7.50. Leather shoes cannot be bought at any price, and suits no longer contain wool. In spite of all this privation, Germany is berating the Italian government for not sending greater supplies of food, and the Germans are withholding coal shipments until the Italians come across.

A newspaperman recently hired out as a farm hand, to find out what really happened on a farm. He found out. Milking sounded easy, but without practice it wasn't. He plowed, and liked it. He sawed wood and lived to tell the tale. He pitched hay. He fed stock. He helped out grain. Helped the hired man repair the binder and found out that a farmer has to be a mechanic as well as everything else. He persisted for two or three weeks and liked it fine. But when asked what part he liked best, he said "eating." Everybody "eats on the farm," so to speak, but some people do their eating a long way off, and the flavor is different. It seems that the nearer one gets to the source of the milk, butter, bacon, eggs, cottage cheese, preserved peaches, apple pie and fried chicken, the better it tastes.

From all indications Bellefonte will have to get along with fewer doctors this winter, which, of course, is not a very reassuring reflection. The Army needs them and we would not selfishly deny their valuable services to our country's defenders. While our citizens may find it necessary, under the circumstances, to better safeguard their health, it shouldn't be a place like this time to remind our medical friends (God bless 'em) who are to remain with us that they should be willing to take up the additional demands that will be thrust upon them. Some of the ethics of the profession may have to be suspended, which may be better illustrated by the experience of a Bellefonte citizen who relates that he became ill and because of the absence of the family physician found it necessary to call another. The patient was reassured by the doctor that he would visit his home as soon as he had his supper. Fortunately the patient recovered, but the doctor, who are left to presume, still is awaiting supper through his unwillingness to accept another's case.

OUR RESPONSE TO JAP CRUELTY

We think it entirely possible that the Government of the United States will make some official statement regarding reports of Japanese atrocities against Americans in the Far East.

Despite conflicting testimony as to the attitude of Japanese as to American and British prisoners, there seems to be little doubt of intentional cruelty being perpetrated against American citizens. That these acts represented a policy authorized by Tokyo as part of a campaign to discredit Americans seems likewise established.

If these conclusions are true, the question arises as to the proper action to be taken by the United States. Obviously, with many Americans in the hands of the Japanese, retaliation would not be intelligent. Moreover, it would not be the proper answer to Japanese misdeeds.

It is thoroughly established that these outrages constitute a deliberate policy, instigated and approved by the responsible authorities of Japan. The United States should not hesitate, when the war is over, to punish the guilty officials of our aggressive enemy.

It might be a good idea to serve public warning upon the rulers of Japan that they will be held personally responsible for the treatment accorded our soldiers, sailors and civilians in the Far East. This warning may not have any effect in improving the treatment of Americans, but it will state a policy which should be implemented upon the "day of reckoning."

NAZI ADMIRAL ON U-BOAT WAR

Admiral Priek, Chief-of-Staff for German naval operations, says that German U-boats in the six months after the entry of the United States into the war, sank 467 merchantmen, with a total of two million gross tons.

If this report is a correct account of German claims, the United Nations must be outfitting their losses. In May and June, American shipyards in the past six months have constructed 2,544,000 tons of ships.

The German Admiral is sure that the more ships we build, the more ships the U-boats will sink. He seems to think that the U-boat warfare involves only two factors, the construction of merchant ships and the operation of U-boats.

What the German Admiral overlooked is the fact that, along with new ship construction, the United States is fast acquiring an adequate surface patrol, with new destroyers and sub-chasers added every week. When sufficient warships are available to protect the cargo ships, the day of easy pickings will vanish for the U-boats.

FARM PRICES INCREASE

Farm prices, for the period ending July 15th, reached the highest level since 1923, with some products above the parity price mark.

While this is encouraging, it is somewhat misleading. These prices have been attained under a restricted acreage program. When they can be maintained on the basis of full production by the agricultural plant of the nation the farmer will be getting his share of the national income.

We have consistently advocated government assistance to agriculture because of the undoubted disadvantage that farmers suffered in selling their crops on a world market while buying what they needed in a protected market. Two wrongs do not make a right, perhaps, but they tend to balance the economic scales.

It is to be hoped that intelligent farmers will study and understand the economy of world prices. If they do, they will readily support a policy, after the present war, that will increase the flow of goods between nations and thus augment the wealth of all peoples. Our farmers must learn not to judge their income entirely by the prices received when there are other important factors to be considered.

SAYS STALIN UNDERSTANDS

Constantine Brown, who writes a column on foreign affairs for various newspapers, says that the Soviet Government seems to be reconciled to the idea that the United States and Great Britain will not open a Second Front in Western Europe until they feel strong enough to exploit whatever initial victories they may win.

He adds that Premier Stalin is said to agree with the viewpoint of American and British strategists, that, considering the amount of aviation and shipping now at the Allies' disposal, an adventure in France which would require the use of the bulk of our reduced shipping, might accomplish little of practical value and would also render us helpless to aid Marshal Gregory Stern's Siberian forces if they are attacked.

We do not know where Mr. Brown gets his information, but it is probably right, if for no other reason than the fact that Stalin is no idiot. Whether such views have been conveyed to London and Washington by the Soviet Government remains a matter of speculation. Some of the news that comes from the nation's capital is based upon table conversation and the active imagination of various writers.

Advertisement for 'SUPERMEN OF THE U.S. ARMY' featuring a pilot in a 'WAGNER SKY FIGHTER!' and 'U.S. ACE!' with various accolades and a photo of a pilot.

Advertisement for 'THE OFFICE CAT' with the slogan 'A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men' and a silhouette of a cat.

Going Up
There was a young lady in the choir,
Whose voice went up hour and hour,
'Till one Sunday night
It went out of sight
And they found it next day in the spire.

Family Troubles at Corny Corners
Corny Corners, Georgia.
Dear Cuzzin:
Your unkel has a job at last. The first time he has worked in forty-eight years.

As Per Orders
A traveling man stayed one night at a small town, one of those places where trains don't really stop, but merely hesitate. Its lonely hotel, opposite the railway station, had but one employe, an aged darkey, who was clerk, cook, waiter, porter and everything.

Easy to Smash
The teacher asked her children the meaning of the word "brittle," and the answers she received were mostly "things easily broken." When examples were requested the pupils named such articles as cups, plates, chalk and clay pipes.

It Could Be
"Now, Mr. Squitch," said the director of the radio quiz program, "I am happy to congratulate you on winning the \$25 prize, less gift tax, income tax, sales tax, separation tax, county franchise tax, and city tax; all of which makes you owe the sponsors of this program exactly \$1.14."

Here's an Idea
One of our western readers writes to tell us: "My uncle Jake is so darn-blasted lazy he won't even bother to make regular coffee. He just sprinkles coffee into his moustache and drinks hot water."

A Reminder
Chalked up on the daily suggestion board at the Riley Cafe, Indianapolis, is this:
"Mary had a little lamb. What'll you have?"

That's How It Was
Judge—"Do you want this court to understand that you refuse to renew your dog license?"
Defendant—"Yassah, but Ah--"
Judge—"We want no buts or any other excuse. You either renew that license or pay a fine. You knew it expired on the first day of January."

Tough Eating
"Docah," asked a lady of color, "Ah's come to see if yo' am going to order Rastus one o' dem mustard plasters as in today?"
"I think perhaps he had better have one more," answered the medico.

It Might Be
One of our friends who got an A card complains that three gallons of gas in his car won't get the rear end out of the garage.

First Buddy (on way across)—"Hey, you're not seasick, are you?"
Second Buddy—"No, but I'd hate to yawn."

That's all, folks. Elmer, the auto mechanic at the corner garage, says the way to tell a girl who comes from Indiana is by her Southend!

LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa:
My boy left last month for the Air Corps. He is delighted with it, but here of late I have been worrying about his safety even before he goes away.

The reason for my fear is that we have an air field near our town, and I have been appalled at the way the instructors and officers in charge drink. How can people know what they are doing in the air with boys who are just learning to fly, when they have been out the night before until all hours, drinking and carousing?

I have always advocated letting other people's business alone but this thing seems to be the business of the mothers and fathers of the boys in the service, as well as that of the individual himself. It seems to me that our boys' safety is more important than the freedom of those in authority, to do as they please.

What do you think about it?
DISTRESSED MOTHER,
Massachusetts.

Answer:
I agree with you, and would like to add, that when the "higher-ups" act in such a loose manner that their example is a very bad one, indeed, for the cadets. I understand that Hitler's army is not allowed to drink and they seem to be a very efficient fighting force. It seems to me that the behavior of our service men to keep as fit as possible, in view of the fact that they will eventually be pitted against that well-trained army. Brains and bodies made flabby by alcohol are surely not material with which to win the war.

However, the fact that the instructors and officers in one camp or field indulge to excess is not proof that all of them do. The commanding officer has a great deal to do with the behavior of those under his authority, and it is not wise to condemn all officers for the fault of a few. Your son may be in very safe hands.

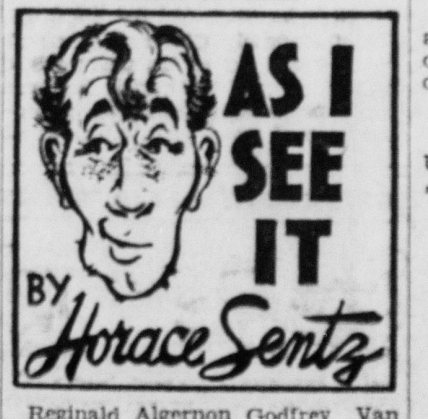
LOUISA.
Dear Louisa:
Since school stopped, I am a wreck. The children, for want of something better to do, are continually getting into mischief. I wish that school ran for twelve months during the year, instead of nine. Don't you think that would be a good idea?
MOTHER.

Maryland.
I haven't given the longer school term much thought, but I do know that if children have their time occupied, they are much less prone to get into mischief. Every child should have a certain amount of work to do around the house or yard and be responsible for it.

I do not believe in working children so hard that they have no play time, but I do think all of them are happier if they have a few hours of work each day. They take pride in doing a good job, and if they are paid for it, instead of handed out an allowance for no returns, they feel very important.

"Take the time to figure out something for your children to do and your household will run much smoother."

AS I SEE IT
BY Horace Senty
Reginald Algernon Godfrey Van Snoot, was reared in a fashion folks call hi-fa-loot. To be a fine snob he was brought up with care; so life for young Reggy was one swell affair. His table tastes was the fastidious type, he wouldn't touch beans or boloney or tripe. To him Irish Stew was a most "vulgah" fare, and at corned beef and cabbage his nose took the air. With the choicest of victuals his inards was fed, and each morning young Reggie had breakfast in bed. His tea was brewed by the most expert hands, and his insoles was turned to the richest viands. But there came a new era in Reginald's life, when the whole blooming world got mixed up in strife; and the local draft board classified him A 1, and in less than a month he was totin a gun. Now Reggie aint in the four hundred no more; He's in the four million that's gone to war, and he's doin' right well with that old Army chow, where filed mignon is just everyday cow. For quite a spell now he aint had caviar, tho his delicate tastes has absorbed the cruel jar, and the Van Snoot waistline has perked up quite a bit, and for once in his life, Reggie's physically fit. Yep! The Army has did things for Mr. Van Snoot, He's steady of hand, bright of eye, firm of foot; And best of all he is no longer a snob, but a regular guy who is doin his job, of being American sound to the roots, he's forgot that he comes from the famous Van Snoots. He's found out that freedom's a worthwhile prize, and America's made up of regular guys.



Read the Classified ads
LAZY LIVER
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Are a purely vegetable combination, which if taken according to directions, stimulates the Liver and generally produces a good Laxative effect. Takes according to simple precautionary directions. Splendid for use in occasional constipation.
Price 25c a box at Drugstore or by mail, A. G. Luebert, P.D., Coatesville, Pa.

Query & Answer Column

R. O'N.—How long must an individual be in the Federal Civil Service to be eligible for a pension?
Ans.—The Civil Service Commission says that at least five years' service is required before an employee in the Government service is eligible to receive a pension. A refund is made to persons reaching the retirement age before serving the five-year period.
L. N.—What does the abbreviation PQ stand for?
Ans.—Personally quotient. Psychologists use the term in measuring personal relationships of individuals with other people.
P. F. R.—Has the Japanese government worked out a diet for the people?
Ans.—The Institute of Nutrition of Japan has worked out a standard diet that costs very little. Bills of fare are broadcast regularly over the radio and, it is said, even the Emperor lives on this "national diet."
G. W. F.—Who is the author of the popular saying, "All I know is just what I read in the papers?"
Ans.—The late Will Rogers.
M. C.—When was the word "Americanism" first used?
Ans.—The term was first used by John Witherspoon, president of Princeton University in 1781.
D. D.—Where is the largest marble building in the United States?
Ans.—The recently completed National Gallery of Art in Washington, is the largest.
P. R.—Has a Vice-President presided at a Cabinet meeting?
Ans.—The only occasion on record is when Vice-President Marshall presided at a Cabinet meeting in 1918. President Wilson, aboard the George Washington, directed the meeting to a certain extent by wireless from mid-ocean.
H. B.—Why do baseball players wear long-sleeved undershirts even in hottest weather?
Ans.—Baseball players wear undershirts simply to absorb perspiration and keep the body as dry as possible.
F. W.—How old is the Grand Canyon?
Ans.—Nature has been making it for over a million years. The Colorado River has been the principal agent in forming it, but the walls have been exposed to destruction by rain, frost, landside, wind and chemical action. Scientists claim that the earth's history is more completely revealed here than anywhere else in the world.
S. A.—What is the correct name for the hollow at the base of the throat?
Ans.—The term is sternal notch.
M. M.—Do birds often break their wings?
Ans.—Broken wings are fairly common among birds. Often they are able to set their own bones and by remaining quietly in position, allow them to knit.
L. F. P.—What famous generals of the past were never defeated?
Ans.—Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar and the Duke of Wellington never suffered defeat.
D. C. L.—How many States failed to ratify the Eighteenth Amendment? They were Connecticut, New Jersey and Rhode Island.
N. Y.—Are the Slav or German countries gaining more rapidly in population?
Ans.—The Slav people are forging ahead of the Germans in their birth rate. In an average German locality of 1000 inhabitants the annual increase in population is less than six, while in a similar community in Russia the gain is twenty-three.
D. D.—How many metals were known at the time of Christ?
Ans.—Copper, iron and about five other metals were known and used in the time of Christ.
C. T.—How many tank cars are required to haul the amount of gasoline that one tanker ship can transport?
Ans.—Two hundred and eighty.
L. W.—What is a "brown-out"?
Ans.—It is the Australian term for a dimout.
R. B.—Was Napoleon III taken prisoner by the Germans?
Ans.—Napoleon III surrendered to Emperor William I at the Battle of Sedan, in the Ardennes Province of France, Sept. 1, 1870, and was taken prisoner.
W. M.—Is there a law that prohibits a person from quitting one job for a better one?
Ans.—There is no Federal law yet. A person contemplating a change in jobs should first consult his nearest United States Employment Service, or his employer, to determine where his service would be more valuable.
T. M.—What does the English abbreviation O. H. M. S. stand for?
Ans.—It stands for "On His Majesty's Service."
Y. N. D.—Is there any difference in the weight of objects at the earth's surface, and their weight above or below?
Ans.—The weight of a body either above or below the surface of the earth is less than at the surface. The force of gravity is greater at the surface than above or below.
T. R. D.—When and where was the first shot of the present war fired?
Ans.—The first shot was fired at the Polish fortress of Westerplatte in Danzig harbor September 1, 1939.
D. J. N.—Why is the abbreviation lb. used for pound?
Ans.—The abbreviation lb. is derived from the Latin word Libra, which means pound.
F. J.—What is the purpose of the air space in a cement block?
Ans.—The National Bureau of Standards says that the air spaces in a concrete block are primarily for the purpose of lightening the weight of the block and to facilitate handling. They also serve the useful purpose of making the blocks slightly better heat insulators.
L. W.—What is the limit to the amount of the national debt?
Ans.—The Public Debt Act of March 30, 1942, raised the limit of the United States Government debt to \$125,000,000,000.