

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.



WALKER BROTHERS... Proprietors
A. C. DERR... Editor
PAUL M. DUBBS... Associate Editor
JECIL A. WALKER... Business Manager

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EDITORIAL

CHRISTMAS SAD, BUT NOT HOPELESS

The citizens of Centre county celebrate their second Christmas of the present war this week. The Centre Democrat wishes that its readers and all the people of our great country will have a joyous holiday which they will long remember.

We are deeply conscious of the sorrow that the war brings to millions of American homes and, yet, we do not think it appropriate to express the sentiment. Nearly five million of our finest men are in the armed services and many homes will miss loved ones who, in camps and on fields of battle, stand guard over all that is dear to us.

Christmas has brought cheer to the hearts of countless children for many years. It is a season of deep reverence to those of the Christian faith. To countless others it expresses the deeper hopes of human beings, that peace will come to this good earth and that men everywhere will some day learn to live as brothers.

Certainly, our thoughts and our prayers, in this Christmas season, will go wherever our boys may be, and especially precious will be our faith that, in God's good time, they will come home. Nevertheless, despite our faith, we know that some will not return and this will be the sad Christmas that some brave Americans will observe.

It is not for man to discern the workings of Providence or to anticipate unduly the price that must be paid in suffering, in blasted lives and the torn hopes of human beings. All that we can do, in the face of such a threatened catastrophe, is to put our hope in God and trust in the Divine wisdom that uses all men to complete the great purpose of human existence.

So, this Christmas season that finds older persons conscious of sorrows that impend, should persuade us to be more charitable to those who are unfortunate and more willing to let the children of the earth, wherever possible, enjoy happiness that is unequalled throughout the year.

With supreme faith in God and the work of men who live in the service of the Divine power let us resolve to put aside our fears and live bravely in the hope that much of what we fear will not come to us. Let us reverently observe Christmas, 1942, in the blessed assurance that millions now alive will, in future years, face happier Christmas days.

Bellefonte Man In Big Naval Battle

(Continued from page one)

which smashed into a Japanese battleship.

Swopt by gunfire from the Japanese ships, Parker's destroyer finally was abandoned an hour after the struggle, and sank the following afternoon.

It was the same action in which Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan was killed on the bridge of the cruiser San Francisco during a slugfest with a Japanese battleship. And it was the first phase of a series of actions in which the Japanese lost 28 vessels.

Parker's war record began with the War in the Pacific and includes the Battles of Java Sea and Macassar Straits. He told of the Nov. 13 action, which took place within 15 miles of Henderson field, at a press conference at Pacific Fleet Headquarters.

"On the afternoon of Nov. 12 we made up a group of destroyers and cruisers and made a sweep through the Indispensable Straits," he said.

"About 1:15 a. m. we were near Lunga Point and headed for the passage between Savo Island and Cape Esperance. We received information that Jap units were in the area and heading southward.

"We were on the course a short time when I saw ships crossing the bow close on. I ordered the ship to come left and notified the flagship. We got ready to open fire, but the flagship ordered us to return to course.

"I saw a Jap cruiser off port and prepared to open fire on it, also firing at a Jap destroyer to starboard. Then I observed a battleship about 1000 yards to port. The port torpedo crew fired one torpedo, and then the crew was wiped out."

Parker said his ship was under fire from a Japanese destroyer's five-inch guns and machine guns aboard the Japanese battleship. He was firing his own five-inchers at the enemy fleet and his machine guns at the battleship, indicating the ex-

tremely close range of the engagement.

"We could see the battleship was hit very hard in the bridge structure from our cruisers and destroyers," Parker continued. "The battleship passed close astern a destroyer immediately astern us, which had to maneuver to avoid being rammed."

"We had been hit in the fire room and engine room, and were losing speed. We knew we would soon be dead in the water. I looked starboard and saw the battleship swinging back toward us. Apparently its

You and Me EVERY ONE OF US TODAY IS FIGHTING FOR OUR EXISTENCE!

Few realize what terrible odds we are up against. Our enemies are still in every country they have put their foot upon and it is going to take millions of our boys' lives and untold sacrifices for ourselves at home that we never dreamed of, before victory is ours.

SO LET'S START NOW AND CUT OUT THIS USELESS SPENDING

for the things that are not absolutely necessary. Before you drink this, or eat that STOP and THINK, can I live without it? Before you buy that article of clothing or nonessential thing, say to yourself, I won't buy it now, I can do without it. Before you buy presents for those you love, just stop and think how much more a Bond, as a present, will mean to them and your country.

That is what I am doing. Mahlon N. Haines HEAD OF HAINES, THE SHOE WIZARD

steering control was out of commission.

"She was off the starboard beam. We were losing speed rapidly and had been hit a number of times, but were able to maneuver into a better position to fire.

"Then we fired six torpedoes at a range of about 1000 yards. I personally saw one explode, and observers said two others also hit home.

"I believe the battleship passed astern of us out between Savo and Cape Esperance. Meanwhile Parker's ship had gone dead in the water. Three of her four guns were gone, the fire control gear was wrecked, the gunner officer was seriously wounded, and most of the ammunition for the fourth gun was so damaged that it could not be used.

"The fourth gun loaded its available ammunition at a Japanese destroyer and another ship, after which there was a brief respite.

"Nobody fired at us for about five minutes, and we were able to get three fires under control," Parker said. "I saw the San Francisco engaged, and also engagement between other destroyers.

"The whole area was lit up by flares, starshells and searchlights.

"The executive officer fired three more torpedoes at the enemy, but I don't know whether they hit. A light cruiser of the Kuma class appeared 1200 yards to starboard, put a searchlight on us and opened fire.

"At the same time another Jap ship to starboard opened fire. While we were under fire I left the bridge and ordered the crew to abandon ship. There were no more torpedoes and we were unable to fire our guns.

"Our two boats were destroyed, but the crew got away by using life rafts. We were burning badly when the Japs ceased fire. I stayed on deck after the crew left.

"The electrician's mate came back with a raft and took off five more wounded. He and I stayed another 45 minutes. Then the ammunition started exploding. We decided we were doing no good there, so we left the ship.

"The destroyer burned all day, with the intermittent explosions rocking her skeleton. Finally a big blast late in the afternoon sent her to the bottom.

Community Fund Aids Girl Scouts

(Continued from page one)

not the necessary finances to free themselves, but go as the others.

The only money that the Scouts receive is that given them by the Community Welfare Fund, and that raised by an annual sale of Girl Scout cookies. The sum given them by the Welfare Fund during the past fiscal year was \$495.19. Out of this money it has been necessary to pay the Association dues for administration expenses, and maintenance of the Little House which includes light, coal, and janitor services.

There are also certain expenses in the training of Scout Leaders which the Scout Council takes care of, feeling that if young women are willing to give so much of their time they shouldn't have to bear the expense of their training also.

Every effort, especially in war time, must be used to bring up our children to be good Americans. The Scouts have this constantly brought up, along with the principles of democracy. They are also participating in various phases of civilian defense work determined by the different ages and ability of the troops.

Girl Scouts are taught to become good Americans. They are instructed in the principles of democracy, and are led into taking an active interest in their home and community. They have been playing an important part in the civilian defense program.

The small proportion of your Welfare pledges which goes to the Girl Scouts is well spent, and will pay big dividends to the town in improvement in the standards of citizenship in future years, to say nothing of the fine associations the organization offers its members during the formative period of their lives.

B.H.S. Band Master

(Continued from page one)

Instruction at the school will be conducted during regular school hours, and schedules for individual band members are now in the course of preparation. Mr. Fera will devote all his time to the joint school-Legion position.

The director came to Bellefonte in August this year from Johnsburg where he was engaged in private music work. As part of his duties he was in charge of the Lewis Run Band near Bradford, and the Mt. Pleasant High School Band. From Pleasant High School Band, being in the latter post from 1930 to 1932. He is certified as a music teacher in this state.

While he was in charge of the Mt. Pleasant band that organization won the county championship in 1933 and 1937; won first prizes in three consecutive years in sectional contests, and won third prize in 1933 and 1936 in State contests.

Born in Valle Longa, Italy, Mr. Fera began his musical education in that country, being graduated from the Verdi Conservatory of Music at Turin. He came to the United States in 1921 and became a U. S. citizen in 1928. He was trombone soloist in Cervone's well known 176th Field Artillery Band in Pittsburgh. Among other bands in which he was a featured soloist included the Rochester, N. Y. Symphony Band. He is a graduate of the California State Teachers' College, California, Pa.

In addition to being a trombonist of more than usual ability, Mr. Fera also specializes in the baritone. He plays all the other band instruments. He is married and there are four children in the family. The Fera's recently purchased the former Arthur H. Sloop home on East Curtin street.

Cleaning Suede Suede shoes and purses can be very effectively cleaned with a dry rubber sponge. This brushes off the dust and raises the nap of the material, making it look like new.

Merry Christmas



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

Lick Roberto A reader is sure that the war will be over if and when we lick Roberto. Who is this guy Roberto, we ask, and he comes back like this: "He's the gyp from Rome; that jerk from BERLIN; that stooge from Tokio."

The Way He Felt Two black boys were discussing the war. "Is you ready to go?" one asked. "No," said the other, "I ain't ready, but Ise willin' to go, unready."

Seeing the Point One of our friends writes us from camp that an army rifle weighs 6.89 pounds but after carrying one all day the decimal points drops out.

Instructions A housewife who had attended a course for air raid wardens felt it her duty to instruct her household. With great detail she explained to her maid how to extinguish a fire bomb, but encountered only disinterest.

"Annie," she said, with some severity, "you aren't listening carefully and if a fire bomb falls near you, you won't have any idea what to do."

The girl looked at her blankly for a moment before replying: "There'll be instructions on the package, won't there, ma'am?"

No Cause For Alarm A loud clap of thunder startled a woman walking along a street in London.

"It's all right, lady," said a passing urchin. "It ain't Hitler, it's Gawd."

A Dangerous Spot During the first World War, Pat and Mike were assigned to scout patrol and were provided with a cow hide. Both of them crawled into it and were grazing along in cow fashion, moving closer and closer to the enemy lines.

They were gloating over the apparent success of their trick when Pat who had the front end stopped short. "Let's get out of here," he whispered. "What's wrong?" asked Mike. "What's wrong?" cried Pat in muffled anguish. "It's a Heinie with a milk pail."

Bound For Where? "Dear Mom," wrote a rookie to the folks back home, "your guess is as good as mine about where I'm going. They gave me shots for yellow fever and a pair of long underwear."

She Told Him A woman went into a bank and told the clerk she wanted to buy some war bonds.

"Very well," said the clerk, "what denomination?" "Presbyterian," she answered.

Advertisement On a large billboard overlooking a cemetery, where thousands of bodies are interred, the local billboard, with an inconspicuous sense of humor, has displayed a big recruiting placard:

WAKE UP! YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU! THE OLD AND THE NEW FIFTY YEARS AGO—Eggs were 3 dozen for 25c; butter 10c pound; milk was 5c a quart; the butcher gave away liver and treated the kids with bologna; the hired girl received two dollars a week and did the washing; women did not powder and paint (in public), smoke, vote, play bridge, or shake or shimmy; men wore whiskers and boots, chewed tobacco, spit on the sidewalk, and cussed; beer was 5c and the lunch was free; laborers worked ten hours a day and never went on a strike; no tips were given to waiters and the hat-check grafter was unknown; a kerosene hanging lamp and stereoscope in the parlor were luxuries; no one was ever operated on for appendicitis, or bought gland; microbes were unheard of; folks lived to a good old age and every year walked miles to wish their friends

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TODAY, YOU KNOW—Everybody rides in automobiles, or flies; plays golf; shoots crap; plays the piano with their feet; goes to the movies nightly; smokes cigarettes; drinks Four Roses (or what have you); blames the high cost of living on the Democrats; never go to bed the same day they get up, and think they are having a wonderful time; these days of suffragette, profiteering, excess taxes and rationing, and if you think life is worth living, we wish you

A HAPPY NEW YEAR That's all, folks. Here's to the parachutist. The only man who gets up in the world by falling down on the job. —"SCAT."

A fathom, used as a unit of measurement in sea depth, is six feet. AT FIRST SIGN OF A COLD USE 666 666 TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS

We're here again... to wish you the best of everything throughout the Christmas holiday and the New Year!

ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO. BELLEFONTE, PA. Make Up a Party SEE THE OLD YEAR OUT... 'BEHIND THE 8-BALL' with the Ritz Bros. BIG GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE MIDNITE FUN SHOW! DECEMBER 31 PLAZA THEATRE Bellefonte's Showplace

CHURCHES

St. John's Evangelical & Reformed Rev. C. Nevin Stamm, Christmas Eve worship service and sermon on Thursday evening, 11 to 12 o'clock. Church school, 9:30 a. m., Ralph Owens, Supt. Morning worship and sermon, 10:45; Vesper service, 7:30 p. m.

St. John's Lutheran, Bellefonte The Rev. Clarence E. Arnold, pastor. First Sunday after Christmas, December 27, 9:30 a. m., Sunday school; 10:45 a. m., the service and sermon, "And Ye Would Not," 7:30 p. m., Vespers and sermon, "Keep Yourselves in the Love of God."

Milesburg-Unionville Methodist Rev. William A. Snyder, minister. Milesburg: church school at 9:30; morning worship 10:45; youth fellowship 6:30. Wednesday, December 30, prayer service at 7:30. Unionville: church school 9:15; junior fellowship 2:30; youth fellowship at 6:30; evening worship 7:30. Thursday, Dec. 31, prayer service 7:30.

United Brethren, Bellefonte G. E. Householder, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m., Wilson W. Shope, Supt. in charge. Preaching at 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., by the pastor. Christian Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. Official Board meeting Monday evening, Dec. 28, at 7:30. Prayer and Bible study Wednesday evening at 7:30. Senior Choir rehearsal following prayer meeting.

Presbyterian Charge Milesburg—Services Sunday, Dec. 27. Bible school, 9:30 a. m.; morning worship, 10:45; Christian Endeavor, 6:30 p. m. Snow Shoe—Bible school, 10 a. m.; evening worship, 7:30 p. m. Unionville—Bible-Study class, Monday, Dec. 28, at the home announced. Missionary meeting at the home of Mrs. Julia Parsons, Wednesday, Dec. 29. Howard E. Oakwood, minister.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Rev. Dr. Herbert Koeppe-Baker, Rector. Rev. Francis P. Davis, Assistant Christmas Eve, December 24 at 11:45. Festival Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Prelude—"Intermezzo," by Bizet. Processional Hymn—"O Come, All Ye Faithful."

Kyrie—Merbecke. Gloria Tibi—Bywater. Gratias Tibi—Bywater. Sermon Hymn—"O Little Town of Bethlehem."

Offertory Anthem—"Arise, Shine, For Thy Light is Come," Maker Soprano Solo—"Jesu Bambino." Pietro A. Yon. Sanctus—Bywater. Benedictus—Bywater. Communion Music: Violin Solos, "Ave Maria," Schubert; "Ave Maria," Gounod.

Agnus Dei—Bywater. Gloria in Excelsis—Bywater. Amen—Stainer. Recessional Hymn—"Hark! The Angels Sing."

Postlude—"Messiah" (Hallelujah Chorus), Handel. Soloists during the service: soprano, Mrs. Carl Seashore; tenor, Jack Yeager; violin, Mrs. Louis Schrad.

Organist and Choir Directrix, Mrs. Paul S. Beaver. Christmas Day, December 25 at 9 a. m.: Celebration of the Holy Eucharist (in the chapel).

First Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 27: 9:45 a. m., Church schools; 11 a. m., morning prayer and sermon; 7:30 p. m., Church school Christmas service and party (in the parish hall).

Nittany Valley Lutheran Pastorate

Rev. David E. Straesser, pastor. Zion: church school at 9:30; morning worship 10:30. St. Mark's: 9:30 church school; evening worship at 7:30. St. Paul's: church school at 9:30.

Methodist, Bellefonte Rev. H. C. Stenger, Jr., minister. Church school, 9:30 a. m., Harold A. Wion, Supt. Morning worship, 10:45 a. m. Sermon, "Follow Me." The evening worship will be the annual White Cross service at 7:30. The Youth Fellowship will present a short play entitled, "They Came Bringing Gifts," and the Young People's Choir will sing a number of special Christmas anthems. The public is urged to attend these services.

Advent Church C. C. Shuey, pastor. Sunday school at 10 o'clock, followed with preaching at 11 o'clock. Christian Endeavor, 7:30. Mrs. Olive Rhoads, president. We will have the Old Time Watch Night service New Year's Eve beginning at 10:30 and closing at 12 o'clock. Everybody invited to all these services.

Last Sabbath we gave to the entire Sabbath School the usual Christmas treat in candy and oranges. Mrs. Olive Rhoads' class presented her Teachers' Book of Instruction for the Sunday school lessons for the year, and the church presented their pastor with a substantial financial gift. He has served the church over eighteen years. The gift was much appreciated, not for its value alone, but the spirit in which it was given.

First Evangelical, Bellefonte H. Halbert Jacobs, pastor. 9:30 a. m., Sunday Church school, Edward J. Teaman, Supt. 10:30 a. m., preaching service. Installation of newly elected officers. Special message by the pastor. 6:30 p. m., The Crusaders, 7:30 p. m., preaching service. Sermon theme, "The New Year in a World at War." You are welcome to worship with us at any time. The Prayer Band will meet at 7 o'clock. The regular prayer meeting at 7:30. Choir rehearsal on Friday evening at 7 o'clock. The annual Candle-lighting service will be held on Christmas Eve from 11 until 12 o'clock. The Y. P. M. C. and the Crusaders will assist in the service. The Junior Choir will sing. Come and worship with us during this holy hour.

TYRONE PARATROOPER HAS LEG FRACTURED BY CAR Graydon B. Huff, well known Tyrone young man, with the Paratroop battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia, is in the hospital at Fort Benning recovering from a compound fracture of a leg.

Huff started his jump training last February and went through a most grueling, tough training period, and made a total of 15 jumps from an altitude of 1500 feet without a scratch.

On Thanksgiving day, while walking across the main street in Columbus, Georgia, he was struck by an automobile and had his leg broken in two places.

ALTOONA MARINE SOUGHT IN FATAL SHOOTING The Navy has reported that Joseph H. Miller, 18, marine private from Ducktown, Tenn., was killed in a shooting at the navy radio station, Point Loma, California, and that John E. Schellenberger, 21, marine private from Altoona, Pa., was being sought.

The shooting occurred at the changing of the marine guard at 11:30 o'clock Wednesday night. Miller died from a wound in the temple.

The navy account said Schellen-

Season's Greetings Our greetings are warm with joy and cheer for Christmas and all through the New Year! A. C. TURNER CO. BELLEFONTE, PA.

FARMER LOSE FAMILY HELP TO WARY SERVICE Before the war came along Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Taylor had a lot of help on their small dairy farm at nearby Nisbet, Centre county.

Now six of their sons are in the armed forces—Sgt. Dem. with the marines in the South Pacific; Staff Sgt. Ernest, a glider pilot; Pvt. Max, in the air force; Pvt. Romaine, in the mechanics of cavalry; Pvt. Joseph, who recently enlisted in the marines, and Apprentice Seaman John, at the Great Lakes naval training station.

Two daughters, and a son are married, leaving only one son who has been granted three deferments, and a daughter to help at home.

To Close Hershey Zoo The Hershey zoo, which has attracted 300,000 persons annually, is being closed because of lack of meat to feed the animal, and reptiles and shortage of experienced help, the Estates reported. It is the plan to sell the carnivora animals to zoos in larger cities, the announcement continued.

CHEERIG May all your dreams come true, and this be the last wartime Christmas we need ever face! A. A. Kohlbecker MILESBURG, PA.

Holiday Greetings Our entire staff wishes you and all America a Happy, Joyous Holiday and Victory in '43! Merry Christmas To All! PLAZA STATE THEATRE BELLEFONTE