

The Centre Democrat, BELLEFONTE, PENNA.



WALKER BROTHERS, Proprietors
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Issued weekly every Thursday morning. Entered in the postoffice at Bellefonte, Pa., as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 per year... \$2.00 per year...



The date your subscription expires is plainly printed on the label bearing your name. All credits are given by a change on the date of label the first issue of each month.

Matters for publication, whether news or advertising, must reach The Centre Democrat office not later than Tuesday noon to insure publication that week.

All reading notices marked (*) are advertisements. Legal notices and all real estate advertisements, 10 cents per line each issue.

Subscribers changing postoffice address, and not notifying us, are liable for same. All subscriptions will be continued unless otherwise directed.

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EDITORIAL

Irresponsible utterances in the press and on the air help to make the war difficult to understand.

Quote Congressman Rivers of South Carolina: "It is a shame that we have to fight Hitler, Togo and Lewis at the same time."

The Italians will soon know how the British felt in the summer of 1940, when France dropped out of the war, and the world will soon see how Mussolini's brave nation will react to a dangerous situation.

Now that the Victory Loan has been concluded, with eminent success, it might be good for all of us to remember that the nation needs more money every month. Buy more war bonds as soon as you can.

Present indications are that the farm machinery industry will be given increased operating permits in the next few months.

About one-tenth of the available meat supply in the United States during the first three months of 1943, was shipped to our Allies, according to Lend-Lease figures.

While the House has adopted the pay-as-you-go tax bill, eliminating 1942 income tax liabilities completely for about ninety per cent of the taxpayers and proposing a twenty per cent withholding levy after July 1st, the Senate's action is not certain and, consequently, the tax problem continues to be somewhat speculative for taxpayers.

WHY POTATOES ARE SCARCE

Many housewives, most home makers in fact, would like to know why potatoes are not only high in price but scarce as well.

There are several answers to the theory. To begin with, consumption has been greater; the 1942 crop was below normal and the 1943 crop of early potatoes is late.

It must be evident to the Nazis that their only chance of victory must spring from the defeat of one of their enemies, either Russia or Great Britain. This involves either the all-out attack against the Red Army or a surprise invasion of the British islands.

Russia the Logical Target Consequently, the odds at this time are that the full fury of the Hitlerite will be directed toward a decision. The Russian front offers the most inviting prospect.

ARMY PLANES WITHOUT GAS

The Army was short of combat gasoline in March, according to Under Secretary of War Patterson who asserts that planes were actually grounded for lack of gas.

This, it seems to us, is the most serious charge that has come out of Washington in the course of the war. It is hard to believe that Mr. Patterson meant to say that our aircraft in fighting areas were without gas but the puzzle is where the planes were grounded.

The War Department official insists that unless "drastic measures" are taken in time to complete plants now started there will be a shortage of 100-octane gasoline and "there can be no question that our offensive will be materially weakened."

Whether the Army has sufficient gas for its planes is more important than any squabble between Mr. Patterson and Mr. Jeffers, head of the rubber drive. Secretary Ickes states that the gap between scheduled production and actual production of 100-octane gasoline is "beginning to show up markedly."

The Secretary of the Interior says the preference for the rubber program was a sock in the jaw for the 100-octane gasoline program. Apparently he joins those who believe that Mr. Jeffers, in his desire to make a record, has taken machinery needed both for escort ships and combat gasoline.

STALIN FOR "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER"

Because Joseph Stalin, Premier of Russia, issued an order to his soldiers in January, urging the expulsion of the German invaders "over the boundaries of our motherland," and in February promised the liberation of the Soviet Ukraine, White Russia, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Moravia, Karelia, some commentators insisted that Russia would quit the war when the Nazis have been expelled from Soviet soil.

The idea should be exploded, if anything can explode it, by the statement of the United States and Great Britain are making to the defeat of Germany and endorsed "unconditional surrender" in the following words: "Is it not clear that only the complete rout of the Hitlerite armies and the unconditional surrender of Hitlerite Germans can bring Europe to peace?"

The public acceptance of the unconditional surrender policy of the Anglo-Americans by the Russian dictator ought to end the fears of timid souls in this country who have suggested the possibility of a surprise peace between Germany and Russia which would leave the United States and Great Britain to finish the war alone.

If this is insufficient the fact is that Stalin referred to reports indicating that "the Germans would like to conclude peace with Great Britain and the United States of America under conditions of their separation from the Soviet Union, or vice versa, they would like to make peace with the Soviet Union under conditions of a separation from England and the United States of America," and added "The German Imperialists have their own yardstick, presuming that one of them would fall into the trap."

Nazis Face Plight of 1917

The month of May will probably reveal the nature of the Nazi campaign for 1943 and give some evidence of the decisions reached by the German high command as to the situation which confronts the Axis in Europe.

The situation resembles the plight of the Germans in the Winter of 1917, when Ludendorff was compelled to decide between an offensive, which would be the last bid for victory, and a defensive policy, which would seek to gain a stalemate on the field of battle in order to negotiate an acceptable peace.

Kaiser Faced the Same Problem Histor reveals that the Kaiser's generals made the heroic gamble on the western front, where the March 1918 offensive big plan to score a triumph over the Allied armies before American strength could become the vital factor in reaching a decision. The Kaiser's leaders rejected a defensive war, concluding that Germany could not hope to win a long drawn out contest.

Much the same problem confronts the Nazi board of strategy. Russia has concluded a very successful Winter offensive. The Anglo-American armies threaten an invasion of southern, western and northern Europe. The Germans face the prospect of bitter and heavy fighting on two vast fronts, which will grind the Axis and its reserves of manpower and materiel to a finish.

Germans Must Settle With Russia It should be apparent to all of us that the Germans, in the Summer of 1942, involved themselves in only a limited offensive against Russia. The grand scope of the 1941 attack was over. Even the restricted attack of last Summer resulted in no net gain for the Germans, when we consider the ground reclaimed by the Russians after the Stalingrad disaster.

Certainly, if the Axis could not encompass a decision against Russia, when no Anglo-American armies were in Europe, there would seem to be a dwindling prospect of victory. The Nazi command must have decided, before this time, whether to risk everything on another all-out drive against the Slavs or to bid for a drawn war by reserving all strength for a long drawn out defense of "fortress Europe."

Events Alone Will Reveal Plan It won't be long before the events on the Russian front will telegraph the Nazi decision. If German reserves are launched against the Red Army, on a tremendous scale, then it will be certain that the Axis is gambling on a knockout of the Soviet, in the hope that a victory in the East will enable it to transfer its fighting men to meet the threatened invasion of Anglo-American soldiers. If no big German offensive begins against Russia it will demonstrate an intention of trying the strategy which Ludendorff rejected. The Axis will seek to hold what it has and let the United Nations come in and take it, if they can. This has been the tenor of Hitler's recent utterances and it may be the course that the high command has accepted.

Nazis Cannot Win Decisive War The Axis in Europe, which means Germany, cannot hardly expect to win the present war upon the basis of a defensive stand. With Russia active in the East and the Anglo-American force attacking elsewhere, the long-dreaded two-front war will be on in full blast. It is not in the books for the Nazis to come out ahead in such a contest.

It must be evident to the Nazis that their only chance of victory must spring from the defeat of one of their enemies, either Russia or Great Britain. This involves either the all-out attack against the Red Army or a surprise invasion of the British islands. Success in either undertaking would present an opportunity to win the war but, even then the victory would not be certain.

Russia the Logical Target Consequently, the odds at this time are that the full fury of the Hitlerite will be directed toward a decision. The Russian front offers the most inviting prospect. To launch a great offensive against the British, while the Red army is on the loose in the East, would be for the Germans to open up the second front themselves.

Recent utterances of Premier Stalin, in praising the Anglo-American effort in North Africa and landing the bombing of German industry by big bombers, has been followed by enthusiastic words in the Communist party organ. Russian propaganda moves to strengthen the solidarity of the Allies by developing a real appreciation of the alliance at home.

Aerial Attacks Damaging The results of the aerial attacks upon western Europe, plus expectation of greater damage to German industry when American bombers get into high gear, are enough to excite Russian appreciation. The slow pounding of German production centers means the slow reduction of armament and munitions, which inevitably means the slow defeat of the Reich armies in the field.

The importance of the aerial offensive should lead us to redouble our efforts to make it effective. The significance of opening a two-front war, in complete stride, is to be found in the doubtful ability of the Nazis to stand such a strain. The length of the struggle with Germany will depend, in large degree, upon the magnitude of the pressure exerted by the Anglo-American forces during the next six months.

Whenever a racketeering idea is worth more money than character in professional life there is something wrong with the profession. Let's not put too much faith in plans to keep the peace, when this war is over: what the job requires is power and the readiness to use it.



Query & Answer Column

W. L. S.—When and by whom was the parachute first suggested? Ans.—Leonardo da Vinci formulated the principle of the parachute as far back as 1495.

C. K.—What States in the Union are bounded by only one other State? Ans.—This is true only of Maine.

M. B.—How long will grapevines produce? Ans.—Some varieties continue fruitful for 300 to 400 years.

R. E.—What is the length of the barrel of a shotgun? Ans.—The National Rifle Association says that the barrel of a shotgun has to be 18 1/4 inches long.

D. K.—What southern state once had a Negro as acting Governor? Ans.—Pickney Benton Stewart Pinchbeck, of Negro stock, was acting Governor of Louisiana in December, 1872 and January, 1873, during the impeachment proceedings against Governor Warmouth.

E. E.—Where is the deepest man-made hole in the world? Ans.—What is believed to be the deepest is an oil well in California, completed in 1938 to a depth of 15,904 feet.

F. T. E.—What is the correct pronunciation of the surname of Jane Eyre? Ans.—Charlotte Bronte indicates in Chapter XI of her book that the proper pronunciation is "air."

O. B. L.—Is there a monument in England commemorating the sailing of the Mayflower? Ans.—There is such a monument at Southampton. It consists of a simple granite shaft and was unveiled on August 15, 1913, by Walter Hines Page, the American Ambassador.

B. J. C.—What was the number of cigars produced last year in the United States? Ans.—The number was 235,000,000,000.

F. R.—How soon after the engagement should the parents of the bride and bridegroom call on each other? Ans.—The parents of the bridegroom-elect should call upon the parents of the bride-to-be within 24 hours.

C. H. L.—What does the name Volga mean? Ans.—Volga means holy river. The name was given by the Finns who occupied the area around the northern end of the river in the 17th century.

N. W. B.—What bird makes a noise that sounds like the roar of a lion? Ans.—The male ostrich utters a hoarse, mournful cry which has been likened to the roar of a lion.

O. J. F.—In corresponding with a firm consisting of women, is it correct to use the salutation "Mesdames"? Ans.—Emily Post says that under the circumstances the salutation is "Dear Madams." The word "Mesdames" is out of date.

E. M. C.—What is a walkie-talkie? Ans.—Walkie-talkie is a portable radio telephone by means of which two-way communication is possible.

F. A.—Does the oil have to be heated before it can be removed from a tanker? Ans.—The Petroleum Conservation Division of the Department of the Interior says heavy crude petroleum and heavy heating oils are heated by steam coils or pipes to facilitate the easy flow through the pumps and hose lines when a vessel is discharging its cargo. However, the lighter petroleum and products do not require any heat.

A. G. M.—How many nurses served in the first World War? Ans.—At the beginning of the World War of 1914-18 there were 403 nurses in the Nursing Corps. During the war the total rose to 23,159.

G. Q.—Does the San Jacinto Monument in Texas sway? Ans.—Because of the nature of its stone composition, the heat of the sun sways the monument toward the west a few inches in the morning and toward the east in the afternoon. It is swayed several inches by a hard wind, but it is claimed that the structure is so well built that it would not be endangered by a hurricane.

W. S. H.—What is the total mass of the atmosphere that surrounds the earth? Ans.—The estimated total mass in tons is 56,228 followed by eleven ciphers. Dr. William J. Humphreys says that this is roughly equivalent to the mass of a block of granite a thousand miles long, a thousand miles broad, and half a mile thick.

M. A.—Is there any inscription on the graves of unknown soldiers of the first World War buried in American cemeteries in France? Ans.—The markers on the graves of unknown soldiers contain these words: "Here Rests in Honored Glory An American Soldier Unknown, But to God."

B. L. D.—What was the British "Dora"? Ans.—"Dora" was the name given by the British to the Defense of the Realm Act, enacted in 1914, for the last war.

F. F. D.—How thick is the wooden deck of a battleship? Ans.—The Navy Department says that it is approximately 2 1/2 inches thick. The frequency of renewals depends upon the wear to which it is subjected. Decks made of teakwood last about 15 years. Decks made of yellow pine or Douglas fir last from eight to 10 years.

G. R. S.—Are there any tigers in Africa? Ans.—The tiger is not native to any part of Africa.

P. F. G.—Please identify the lines from Goethe's Faust used in the motion picture Hitler's Children. Ans.—If the whole world I once could see, On free soil stand with a people free—Then to the moment might I say: Linger awhile, so fair thou art! This was freely translated from lines 538 to 541 in Act 5.

E. B. E.—What is the per capita consumption of milk? Ans.—In 1942 the per capita consumption of fluid milk was 176 7-10 quarts.

Y. R.—Is the name of David's mother mentioned anywhere in the Bible? Ans.—It is not mentioned. David was the son of Jesse the name of whose wife is nowhere recorded in the Scriptures.

I. L. W.—What is meant in the Bible by the expression "Thy youth is renewed like the eagle's"? Ans.—This refers to the ancient superstition that every ten years the eagle soars into the "fiery region" and plunges thence into the sea, where moulting its feathers, it acquires new life.

M. S. A.—Where is the geographic center of the United States? Ans.—The position of the geographic center of the United States has been determined by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey as Smith County, in Northern Kansas, in latitude 39° 50', longitude 98° 25'.

EXPECTS GREATER USE OF HORSES AND MULES A 50 per cent increase in the number of horses and mules may be necessary to win the war.

C. A. B.—Livestock extension specialist at the Pennsylvania State College, says that some authorities believe a continuation of the war for two years will require at least 18,000,000 horses and mules to work on farms in producing the food needed. At present the farm power resources in this country include about 12,000,000 horses and mules and 1,800,000 tractors.

PENN STATE SELECTED AS SPEECH-TRAINING CENTER As part of the government's rehabilitation program to make useful citizens of wounded veterans, the Pennsylvania State College has been selected as a speech-training center for service men with facial or head injuries.

According to Dr. Herbert Koepf-Baker, the College will train instructors for speech work in hospitals, and may also conduct classes especially for the service men after their injuries have been surgically repaired.

LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa: I have three children, the youngest being five and the oldest fourteen. I can get work in a defense plant but it will mean that I have to work the first part of the night and at the end of the afternoon. My husband gets off at six and goes to work at nine in the morning. Of course, if I take this job it will mean that I can buy lots of things we have always wanted but it will also mean seeing very little of my family. My husband makes enough for us to live comfortably but we don't have many luxuries. What would you advise me to do? MOTHER—N. Y.

ANSWER: Please stay at home and take care of your children. No amount of money can pay for taking such risks with your family's welfare unless it is a question of making a living for them, and you admit that your husband does that. I have just finished reading an article which tells how much juvenile delinquency has increased since so many parents are away from home engaged in the war effort. Girls in their teens roam about at night picking up strange soldiers, because their mothers are working or sleeping, exhausted from war work. They do not know where their children are or what they are doing. Your fourteen-year-old needs care and guidance now to keep her from making false steps or doing foolish things which may ruin her life if she is neglected at this time. Your five-year-old certainly needs a mother's care and you will be running a great risk as to his future if you turn him loose to fend for himself at such an early age. Your other child is probably at the critical stage where he is entering adolescence, and most assuredly needs care and attention. And what about your husband? How long do you think he will stay satisfied coming home to find you gone and the children out of hand? In these days of rationing it takes all a mother's ingenuity to get good nourishing meals for her family and how much thought could you give to that if you had a full-time job? Why not try to get a part-time job that will only take you away from home a few hours in the daytime, if you feel that you must make some extra money? LOUISA.

YOUR HEALTH

Comes now hot weather. Hot weather is a trial to the baby. It affects his food, his clothing and his disposition. In summer, baby's food can be altered—he does not need so much solid food. Clothing is important to the baby in hot months. He should be clothed lightly so that his skin will not be irritated. He may wear only a loose diaper. In hot weather, infants often break out with a pimply rash on the neck, face and other parts. Such a rash is commonly known as prickly heat. It is usually the result of dressing the baby too warmly. Babies should not be exposed to summer sun for too long a period. Sunbaths, however, are an invaluable help in preventing rickets. They are also valuable in making the skin less susceptible to irritations and rashes which occur in infancy. Sunbaths help to prevent colds, improve the appetite and aid in maintenance of good health. Sunbaths may be intelligently given to healthy babies when they are only one month old. Do not expose the baby's skin or eyes to the summer sun for too long a period. A very few minutes exposure to direct sun, gradually increased, is the way it should be done. Baby should be protected from all insects by a netting. Summer is a healthful time for babies—some are benefited—others are over-exposed. DO YOU KNOW

Smallpox, which 150 years ago, was the greatest scourge of mankind, is entirely eradicated in many extensive areas. Arthritis, or inflammation of the joints, cripples more than 6,500,000 persons in the United States and causes more days lost from work than industrial accidents.

By action of Congress the agricultural extension service of the Pennsylvania State College has been assigned the responsibility for the recruitment, training, and placement of labor for farm work in the State. J. E. McCord has been named State supervisor of emergency farm labor to head the program. Emergency farm labor committees are being organized in every county, and county placement centers are being established where farmers may register for needed labor and where persons who desire to work on farms may enroll.

One of the ways to begin beating the Japs in the Southwest Pacific would involve the recapture of all of New Guinea. Why not?

The quickest way to lose our wars is to put civilian desire above military needs.

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

Forethought A Scotchman sent his sweetheart a package of flower seeds with these directions: "Plant these now and you will have a nice bouquet for your birthday."

In a Bad Way The worried countenance of the "best man" disturbed the bridegroom. Tiptoeing up the aisle he whispered: "What's the matter with you all, Erasmus, Has you lost de ring?" "No, I ain't lost no ring," blurted out the unhappy Erasmus, "dat's safe enough. But Joe, I see certainly lost mah enthusiasm."

Last Installment A proud mother walked into one of the leading "All-the-Credit-You-Want" establishments, clutching a small monthly payment. She placed it on the credit counter contentedly. "Here," she said, "The final payment on our baby carriage." "And how is the baby?" asked the friendly clerk. "Fine," said she, "just fine. He's getting married next week."

Golden Gloves This young middleweight was about to enter his first major contest in the Golden Gloves tournament. He listened anxiously to the torrent of wisdom his second whispered in his ear. "Now, bub," said the expert, "you got to keep away from this guy at first. Jab him and get away, bub, or he'll use his right. You got to keep that left out there, see, and don't give him no chance to use his right. He's gonna try to slug it out witha, but you ain't gonna let him get close with that right. You got that, bub?" "I got you," the kid said. "I'll do just like you say. But suppose he does get his right over. What do I do then?" "Nothing," the second instructed. "Just relax, and me and the referee will carry you to your corner."

Super Sudsy "Is my bath ready?" asked a lady of her new maid. She was being very polite, because of the girl's obvious lack of skill machinery she happened to be the only living soul available in the last three months. "Bath?" said the maid in honest surprise. "Bath," said the lady. "Have you drawn my bath?" "But, Missus," said the maid, "it ain't Saturday night." The lady was incensed. "My dear girl," she said haughtily, "I want you to know that I bathe twice a day." The girl was into her coat and had the door half open before the lady could finish her sentence. "You, Missus, can look for a new girl," she said. "I won't work for no dame who is that dirty."

Conversation Two soldiers were overheard talking at a street corner the other evening. As usual they were discussing money. "I certainly need ten bucks," said one anxiously. "I need ten bucks something awful. And I haven't got the slightest idea where I can get it." "Well, that's a relief," said the second. "I was afraid you were going to get it from me."

Back to the Bug House Another of those lunatics was fishing. He had a large handsome rod and reel, but the hook was dangling in a small and quite empty fishbowl. A visitor walked up to him good-humoredly and asked, "How many have you caught?" "You," said the lunatic, "are the fourth."

Oh, Brother A kind old lady was taking her afternoon stroll one day and came upon a little boy kicking a little girl up and down the sidewalk. She approached the struggling pair and shook her finger sternly. "Young man," she advised, "I wouldn't kick my little sister like that if I were you." "Oh, that's all right, lady," answered the little man, "she's only my half sister."

Scotch and Coffin Angus MacDuffie went to Scotland for a visit. He was New York's biggest undertaker, and the little Scotch town was very proud to have him back in its midst, and the townfolk arranged a banquet in his honor. In appreciation, MacDuffie made a little after dinner offer to the gathering. "Friends," he said, "I would like to do something for you, my good neighbors. There is only one thing that I myself do well, that is to bury people. The MacDuffie service is known all over America for its thoroughness and dignity. Friends, to the first person in this town who dies, I personally, will donate, free of charge, a complete MacDuffie burial."

Nothing in Stock Man (rushing into hardware store)—"Quick, give me a mousetrap." Clerk—"One minute, sir." Man—"Don't stand there wasting time. I have to catch a bus." Clerk—"Oh, sorry, sir. We haven't a trap that big."

Big Orders "Well," reported the new salesman, swinging nautically into the home office. "Got two orders from Hardt & Co. today." "Fine, fine," said the sales manager enthusiastically. "Yep," said the salesman, "one to get out, and the other to stay out."

Out Our Way Visitor (watching the milkman performing his duties)—"Milking the cow?" Milkman—"Naw, just feeling her pulse."

Help, Please The calendar says today is Thursday. But yesterday, today was tomorrow. Tomorrow is Friday. If today is tomorrow, and tomorrow is Friday, today is Friday. Aw, heck!

"Give me 48 points and you can have my store," moaned our exasperated delicatessen man today. "That's all, folks. Most people nowadays have more respect for old age if it's bottled." —SCAT.

RED CROSS NURSE SUBMITS REPORT FOR TWO MONTHS At a meeting of the Red Cross Nursing Activities Committee, held in the nursing room in Petrikin Hall last Thursday afternoon, at which Mrs. B. J. Booser presided in the absence of Mrs. George B. Thompson, who is a patient in the Phillipsburg State Hospital, Miss Bertha Rimmey, chapter nurse, gave a report for the months of March and April.

A total of 251 visits were made, and the loan closet was reconditioned by the members of the Bible class of the Presbyterian Sunday school, supervised by Mrs. Otto Corman; the Associated Charities, furnished glasses for two children of school age, and the State Council of the Blind refitted one child with glasses. During the two months' period the

Chapter was visited by Miss Jeanette Vrome, nursing consultant from the National Headquarters, and Donald Clark, field representative also from the National Chapter.

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