

The Centre Democrat.

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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EDITORIAL

The most important matter before the American people today is the fight against inflation.

Congressional war strategy: If one cannot shoot at the enemy, take a pot-shot at the President.

Secretary Ickes says that the wealth of the United States on a per capita basis, amounts to \$89,000. Who would have thought it?

The aerial offensive against Germany may not win the war but it will reduce the number of Allied casualties when the soldiers invade Europe.

Officials point out that a bombing raid against some American city is not impossible. That leads us to suggest that a few raids would do the home-fronters some good.

We can hardly grasp the reasoning of those who insist that they maintain their standard of living, untouched by war, when so many Americans are working at a bloody business of \$50 a month.

There are any number of Americans who are worried lest this nation has "trouble with Russia" after the present war is over. Well, for the present, the war against the Axis is enough to engage our attention.

On July 1st the so-called pay-as-you-go tax law went into effect and, we regret to report, despite the hokum about simplifying tax procedure, the average American faces a "vast amount of calculation of complicated rules," if we may quote a metropolitan newspaper's headline.

"Very probably there will be heavy fighting in the Mediterranean and elsewhere before the leaves of autumn fall," says Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and he ought to know. The British leader also took occasion to repeat, probably for the ears of American listeners, that should Japan still stand when Germany and Italy are toppled, "every man, every ship and every airplane in the King's service that can be moved to the Pacific" will be sent there to fight "as many years as are needed to make the Japanese in their turn submit or bite the dust."

WHO REPRESENTS THEM?

In his message to Congress, vetoing the anti-subsidy legislation, President Roosevelt called attention to the fact that "more than 4,000,000 families have not had an increase of more than five per cent in their income during the last eighteen months."

Well, who represents these classes? Congress, acting under pressure of organized groups, shows no interest in their welfare. The classes themselves, for some strange reason, seem utterly unable to organize to protect themselves in the game of pressure politics.

CONVOYS BEAT U-BOATS

The German Admiralty admits that the U-boats sunk only 107,000 tons of shipping in June, which compares with a claim of 851,000 tons in March.

This may be taken as an official admission that the U-boat campaign in the Atlantic has been beaten, despite the alarm that almost swept some Americans into the abyss of despair in the early part of the year.

When Germany launched her attacks against the United States, in the early months of 1942, we lost nearly 450 valuable cargo carriers. The worst months were May, June and July, when American ships to the number of 207 were sunk by German raiders.

This loss was occasioned solely because we did not have sufficient escort vessels. The fact is abundantly proved by the experience of the Navy which, in the same three months, escorted 11,125 ships under convoy with a loss of only five vessels.

LITTLE NITTANY

Francis Dullen of Howard, visited on Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Annie Dullen and family. Callers at the same place were: Mrs. Elizabeth Laubach of Jersey Shore, Gloria Dullen and John Dolan.

Jersey Shore, and the former's brother visited Sunday at the Margaret Dullen home.

Edward Dullen, son of Mrs. Mabel Dullen of Beech Creek, has enlisted in the U. S. Navy.

PERMISSION REFUSED

The Public Utilities Commission has refused permission sought by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to close its station at Welkert, Union county. The commission condemned the practice of diverting freight to another station. Owners of summer homes in the section would be deprived of transportation if the application were granted.

Janet Blair married. Janet Blair, brunette film actress of Alhambra and Sgt. Louis Bush were married Monday, according to announcement by Miss Blair's studio in Hollywood. The couple met four years ago when she was a singer and he was a pianist with the late Hal Kemp's orchestra. Miss Blair's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Lafferty of Altoona attended the wedding.

A BOY DIED LAST NIGHT

"A boy died last night. It doesn't make much difference now about his name. The important thing is that he died, in poignant and awful loneliness out somewhere on a waste of sand, out in a starless silence, 10,000 miles from home.

"Missing in action" read an obscure line in this morning's communication. That was all. Now he lies there, crumpled beside the twisted wreckage that yesterday was his ship, riding high in the sunlit heavens. The fine head and the shining face and the broad shoulders remain only in a picture that looks out upon a quiet living-room on a shaded street an eternity away.

"Last night, in those agonizing hours of unspeakable isolation, he went through a thousand deaths without the one thing that might have helped a little—the sound of a familiar voice, the pat of a friendly hand. Many people died last night in their bed at home, surrounded by those who cared. Last night he died in utter desolation, in an unimaginable loneliness.

"The pain was terrible enough. But then, there had to be that dreadful burden of thought in those endless last hours. Mom and Pop. The flowers blooming again in the back yard. The good old rooster in the driveway. That last sweetheart kiss at the station. Those dances last summer. That half-finished letter in his blouse. All those plans for the future. Buddies back at the field, 5000 miles across the water, wondering. Couldn't somebody find him, please? The wracking pain again.

"Too much for you, all this. But it really happened last night, just like that. If people could only understand it, if they would just grind deep into their thinking the stark, terrible reality of it, every petty, selfish interest would be swept away. They would sacrifice anything and everything just to make themselves worthy of that boy. They would hasten to forge an instrument of revenge, that would wipe from the earth the traffickers in war.

"If people who have basked and prospered and walked secure in a land that has felt no more than the shock of a Fourth of July fireworks since 1865 would understand about this boy, they would wait no longer for Government promulgations and the urging of rallies. There would be no one left to think any more about what the war might do to his mere personal interest tomorrow or the next day.

"People would rise up and demand that their Government take any thing, exactly everything needed, make them walk, feed them the commonest fare, blackout every city, take away every last penny of profit, render uncertain every commonplace comfort and easy security, just to avenge that boy.

"He died last night, you see. There's no way to get around that."

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

SUPERSENSITIVENESS

"My cousin Sue is coming to visit me this week. I dread having her around. She is so supersensitive that, exactly everything needed, make them walk, feed them the commonest fare, blackout every city, take away every last penny of profit, render uncertain every commonplace comfort and easy security, just to avenge that boy.

"If you remark that you do not like stinging people, they are apt to blink back at you in a volley of protests, assuring you that they are not stingy and expatiating to you on their generous deeds.

"If you relate an amusing story, you may shortly thereafter find the supersensitive in a corner weeping, because in her warped mind you are making fun of her.

"You feel that you must include her in every plan, no matter how poorly she may fit into the particular scheme of things. If she is invited and goes along, everybody who knows her feels cramped for fear of her peevish protests.

"In order to conciliate her, you are eternally explaining that you meant no harm. You use up a lot of nervous energy to keep the machinery oiled and running without creaks and groans when the supersensitive person is about.

"We realize that the supersensitive ones have never fully grown up. They seem to have no control over their emotions. They are jealous, envious and critical. Unhappy creatures that they are, they are to be pitied.

"The brave and unselfish do not nurse even their real sufferings nor afflictions. They try to rise above them. They do not make others miserable by dwelling on painful, unpleasant subjects.

"When a child, I knew a young woman whose back had been broken during a cyclone. She never walked again. Her room was the rendezvous for the youth of the community. They loved to gather about her bed and listen to the stories that she told them.

"To her they went with their sorrows or their problems. She could comfort them and find a way out of their dilemmas. When she died, her little daughter spoke to the members of the family who were weeping and told them, not to cry, that mamma could walk for now she had often told her that would be the case and she believed her.

"What a contrast between such a character and the supersensitive."

JANET BLAIR MARRIED

Janet Blair, brunette film actress of Alhambra and Sgt. Louis Bush were married Monday, according to announcement by Miss Blair's studio in Hollywood. The couple met four years ago when she was a singer and he was a pianist with the late Hal Kemp's orchestra. Miss Blair's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Lafferty of Altoona attended the wedding.

Ex Libris... By William Sharp



ISAK DINESEN, AUTHOR OF 'SEVEN GOTHIC TALES' 'OUT OF AFRICA' AND 'WINTER'S TALES' IS THE ONLY WRITER TO HAVE HAD ALL HER WORKS CHOSEN BY THE BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB. A BATTING AVERAGE OF 1000 PER CENT...!

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WINTER'S TALES BY ISAK DINESEN BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH-CLUB SELECTION

Query & Answer Column

H. W.—Can you tell me how old birds get to be? Ans.—Average length of life of the wren is three years; robin, 12 years; blackbird, 12; pigeon, 20; quail, 15; sparrow, 40; goose, 50; parrot, 60; crow, swan and eagle, 100.

S. P.—Is Kiska in the Aleutian Islands nearer to Russia and Japan than to the United States? Ans.—Kiska is nearer to Siberia and Tokyo than to the United States.

D. K. F.—Was General Andrews buried in Iceland? Ans.—The bodies of Lieut. Gen. Frank M. Andrews and the 13 others who died with him in the crash of their airplane on May 3 were buried in the American section of a cemetery at Reykjavik, the capital.

L. M.—How many people were with Noah on the Ark? Ans.—The Bible, in the seventh chapter of Genesis, relates that Noah went into the Ark with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. In the New Testament the number is stated as eight souls.

M. D. P.—What is the literal meaning of the word guerrilla? Ans.—Literally it means "little war."

M. E. S.—Was "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" originally published as a short story? Ans.—James Hilton was commissioned by the editor of the British Weekly to write a long short story for a special supplement. The result was "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" which he completed in four days.

T. E. S.—How often do dogs shed their hair? Ans.—It is natural for dogs to shed their hair twice a year. Excessive shedding in dogs is generally due to some skin trouble.

M. G.—What portion of Texas has been suggested as a separate state? Ans.—The delta of the Rio Grande which has a land area larger than the state of Delaware.

D. L. D.—Who invented the electric fan? Ans.—It was conceived by Dr. Schuyler S. Wheeler, who in 1882 placed a fan or propeller on the shaft of an electric motor. In 1904 the Franklin Institute awarded him the John Scott Medal for this invention.

T. R. D.—What state has the highest percentage of smokers? Ans.—According to a recent survey of the 17 states which pay taxes on cigars, conducted by the Federation of Tax Examiners, Connecticut dwellers smoke about 99 packs per capita per year.

O. D. L.—When did President Roosevelt sign the Selective Service Act, and when was the first registration day? Ans.—The act was signed Sept. 16, 1940, and the first registrants were required to appear at their local draft boards on Oct. 16.

F. N.—What was the first U. S. warship sunk by the enemy during this war? Ans.—The Reuben James, a destroyer torpedoed and sunk west of Iceland while on convoy duty, Oct. 30, 1941.

M. T.—How can the flag of the President of the United States be identified? Ans.—It consists of a bronze reproduction of the President's seal, placed upon a blue background, flanked by white stars in each corner.

A. G.—What is the longest solar day of the year? Ans.—December 23.

C. L. B.—What age and educational qualifications are required for eligibility to the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps? Ans.—Any woman who is an American citizen, 21 to 44 years of age (inclusive), having had two years of high school education is eligible. Marriage is no bar. If there are no dependents and no children under 14.

W. M.—What is the meaning of leit motif? Ans.—In music, the term applied in some forms of composition to distinctive passages or phrases associated with certain prominent ideas, situations or characteristics in the work. Wagner, in his musical dramas, carried the idea of the motif to its highest development.

F. M.—If you are writing, sewing, drawing, etc., over which shoulder should lamplight come? Ans.—Left, if you are right-handed; the opposite if you are left-handed. In that way, you avoid the shadow of your hand on your work.

S. K.—Which side of a rug cushion should be placed next to the rug? Ans.—If the cushion is smooth on one side, with a design on the other, place the smooth side next to the rug, the patterned side next to the floor. Keep the rug cushion clean as you keep your rug; vacuuming is a good method.

C. O. R.—What color is real chinchilla fur? Ans.—The color varies greatly. Some skins are mixed shades of light and dark ash color; others are yellow and silver. Some are light brown, and occasionally one is seen that is almost white. The color apparently varies with season and habitat.

B. H.—What is leaf lard? Ans.—It is the lard taken from the fat surrounding the kidneys of swine.

RURAL LIFE SERVICE HELD AT STORMSTOWN

A Rural Life Service was held in the Stormstown M. E. church June 27, with Rev. Messina, of the Wesley Foundation as pastor. The Agricultural and Home Economics 4-H Club were present in a body and staged the following program for the evening service:

Organ prelude; march, "Star-Spangled Banner"; pledge to flag; call to worship; scripture reading Responsively; "Faith of Our Fathers"; prayer; duet, "Drifting"; brief talk on 4-H Club work; song "H-H Will Shine"; 4-H Creed; solo, "Pleading"; 4-H Pledge; duet, "Follow the Gleam"; offering; song, "In the Garden"; sermon by Rev. Messina; talk, "What is 4-H," by Miss Helen Butler; instrumental music, "America,

the Beautiful"; Doxology; Benediction.

If you are dissatisfied with your coffee ration you can do one of two things: Join the Navy or visit Brazil.

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LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa: I am engaged to a boy in the army and we are planning to get married when he comes home. He is saving up his money for that time and I am to begin work this month. I have the choice of two jobs—one is in a business which will improve as I learn more about it and will be a permanent one if I want it. The pay is good, but not anything like as much as I can draw on the other job. The drawbacks of job No. 2 are that I have to travel long and it is a seven day a week job. It will automatically stop as soon as the war is over. However, as I am planning to stop work when I get married, the last should hardly be classed as a drawback.

What would you do? Make a whole lot of money to have for a home by working very hard, or take things easier and do with less?

Connecticut "ENGAGED."

Answer: Unless it is absolutely necessary for people to work seven days a week, I should never advise them to do so. A person can stand such a job just so long and the toll it takes of health and nerves is certainly not compensated for by the extra dollars he earns.

Another thing you seem to forget is this: That our plans do not always work out as we expect them to, and things might be very different after the war from what you think. The boy you love may not come back or if he does, he may not be able to make a living. Jobs may be scarce and hard to find, so it seems to me that your best bet by far is to that of a sane and sensible job which has some future to it in case you need it.

Dear Louisa: LOUISA.

My husband has to be consulted about everything I buy, or I don't get a penny to spend. Isn't it ridiculous for a grown woman to be treated like she is ten years old? All my friends laugh at me behind my back about my husband being afraid to trust me with a dime.

I am a good manager and run my house well, so there is not the excuse that I would throw money away foolishly. If I was allowed any to spend, although I love my husband, I am seriously thinking of leaving him and getting my old job back. At least I could buy a chocolate soda or a pair of shoes without having to sit up and beg for it like a pet poodle.

Alabama. WIFE.

Answer: Your husband must think that he is living in the long ago, when a woman had to stay married once the knot was tied, no matter how big a lemon her partner turned out to be. Most men are fairer today in their dealings with their wives and realize that her job is just as necessary to the welfare and happiness of the family as his. If she is happy and contented, her job should be done just that much better, but let a wife get the idea that she is getting a raw deal from her man and everybody suffers.

I can't say that I should blame you for leaving a man who is so naggingly. Perhaps he will make a change for the better if he realizes that you intend to go.

Good luck, LOUISA.

FARM CALENDAR

Timely Reminders From The Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture

Bees Are War Workers—The lowly bee is helping the war effort. Bees pollinate fruit and field crops and thus help to increase much needed food and feed. Their service here may be more valuable than the honey and wax they produce, point out apiculturists of the Pennsylvania State College.

Keep Good Layers—Hens that have reached the end of their usefulness as egg producers should be marketed promptly if they are in good flesh. Poultry specialists of the Pennsylvania State College say that only profitable birds should be kept in the flock. Feed is too scarce and valuable to waste it on loafers.

Finish Bark Peeling—Hurry up the peeling of pulpwood bark. Extension foresters of the Pennsylvania State College remind that from now on the bark will be tighter and harder to remove. Finish the job of bark peeling now while it is possible to accomplish more work for the time expended.

Help With Farm Work—Women and girls can help on farms and thus relieve the critical shortage of farm labor, say Penn State emergency farm labor supervisors. Everybody needs food and the farms will have to produce it. Here is a chance for real service.

Plant Cover Crops—More and more each year Pennsylvania farmers are planting cover crops to reduce soil erosion, conserve plant food, and add organic matter to the soil. The best time is at the last cultivation of corn or truck crops, remind agronomists of the Pennsylvania State College.

Take Care of Garden—A leaflet on summer care of the garden may be obtained on request from the Agricultural Publications Office of the Pennsylvania State College.

Caretaker and Matron Named—Mr. and Mrs. John O. Seife have been named caretaker and matron of the County Home at Loganton, succeeding Mr. and Mrs. Clair Kemmerer, who have resigned effective July 6. Mr. Seife is a guard at the Sylvania plant. Mr. and Mrs. Kemmerer are moving to Carroll.

Going to church is a good habit for every individual to cultivate and it is a good idea for the churches to cultivate every individual.

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

Ode to Our Spare Tire Here lies the carcass of one we admire, Affectionately known in the past as a tire. We've bust 'im and cussed 'im, and when he was flat, We'd feed 'im with air from an oxygen vat. We'd ride 'im and chide 'im, and tread on 'im too. Then plaster his bruises with patches and glue. When weary and worn we would give 'im a boot. But he just kept on rolling, and still remained mute. He never complained as he carried his load. Although you would think he would someday explode. His chase and hardships have just gone to prove That, though he's grown older, he's still in the groove. We suffer and cry for the treatment we've given, For now he's worth more than the rest of us livin'. Yet though he is stringy, he's wielding more power. And we love the old fellow—because he is ours.

The Supreme Sacrifice Voice of Ship's Captain (through tube)—"There's a submarine out. Mac. Can you speed her up a bit?" Chief Engineer—"Aye, I'll get another two knots out of her if I have to burn whiskey."

A Reminder The Reverend George Washington Hepzibah told his deacons that he wanted every member of his colored flock to be present Sunday.

"Sumbody don stole mah ovacoat. Ah's gonna burn dey ears down. Ennybody ain't present is guilty."

Everyone was there—even down to Moses. The reverend started off with a bang—preached on "Thou Shalt Not Steal." "Thou Shalt Not Kill"—really burning them to a crisp. Suddenly, a hail, and then he changed to one of the sweetest sermons he had ever preached. His flock left puzzled. Deacon Brown went back and asked the reverend why he changed so suddenly about someone stealing his overcoat.

"Member about dat 'Thou Shalt Not Steal'? Member about dat 'Thou Shalt Not Kill'? replied the reverend. "Well, when Ah got down to dat Commandment 'bout coveting thy neighbor's wife, Ah 'membered where mah overcoat wuz."

Attention of All Eyes Sensational society item from Raleigh, N. C. News and Observer: "Mrs. B... mother of the bridegroom, was attired in a soft blue lace dress which fell to the floor."

All Quiet at the Front He—"Darling, I could sit here and do nothing but look at you forever." She—"Yeah, that's what I'm beginning to think, too."

On First Motion In one of the towns of the Pacific coast a distinct earthquake shock was felt recently and when the municipal building rocked perceptibly the city fathers, then in session, left without bothering about the usual formalities.

The clerk, a man of rules and regulations, was hard put to give his minutes the proper tone. Finally he evolved this masterpiece: "On motion of the city hall, the council adjourned."

The Shouting Kind Mary walked up to the bank clerk's window and said: "I would like to buy some traveler's checks."

The clerk asked: "What denomination, please?" Mary replied: "Methodist."

Ole Was Disgusted Ole, the night porter, was testifying before the jury after the big bank robbery.

"You say," thundered the attorney, "that at midnight you were cleaning the office, and eight masked men brushed past you and went into the vault room with revolvers drawn?" "Yah," said Ole.

"Well, what did you do then?" "Aye put down my mop." "Yes, but then what did you do?" "Vell, Aye say to myself, dis bane haluwa way to run a bank."

A Fisherman's Lament I just heard of a good fishing hole. And my thoughts have begun to riot. And they are doddering like a soul 'Cause he won't give me his gas to just go and try it.

We'll Try This Sometime An old friend dropped in this week to tell us that he swallowed a button the other night by mistake for a sleeping tablet and he passed a restless night.

Ain't It So? Rip Van Winkle couldn't have slept twenty years in these times. Somebody would be waking him up every thirty minutes or so to pay taxes.

Daffynitions A male puppy is a son of a female dog. A female dog is the dog catcher's main objective. A main objective is the dream of a dictator. Therefore, dictators are male puppies. And what did we say male puppies were?

That's Different Rastus was telling his minister that he had "got religion." "Dat's fine, brothah; but is you sure that yo' is goin' in' to lay aside sin?" asked the minister.

"Yessuh, Ah's done it already." "An' is you gwine to pay up all yo' debts?" "Wait a minute, pahson. You ain't talking religion now, you is talking business."

Contentment "Hey!" said Satan to the new arrival. "You act as though you owned this place." "I do," said the newcomer, "my wife just gave it to me."

That's all, folks. Believe it or not, the chief cause of all our divorces is matrimony. —SCAT.

PORT MATILDA

(R. D. L.) The Bible school which Rev. Gordon held in the Hannah Methodist church for 15 days, has come to a close. There was a nice turnout as there were about 75 young people on the roll.

Rev. Gordon has organized a Young People's meeting at Hannah, and so far it has been quite a success. We wish to invite anyone who cares to come every Sunday night at 7:30 to 8:30.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Cowher and family has moved up to the Whiting farm.

Gerald Hosband was taken to the Phillipsburg Hospital last Friday and was operated on for appendicitis on Saturday.

Miss Irene Walk has returned home from visiting down at Julian at her sister's.

Pfc. Howard Walk, Jr. has returned to camp after having a 14-day furlough and has been moved to Louisiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Fink and family and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fink and family from Franklin, spent the Fourth at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Walk.

Pvt. Clarence Gaul has returned to camp after having visited his friends around Hannah.

Misses Gladys and Pauline Matts came home from Philadelphia to attend the funeral of Dave Robinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Richards and family spent Sunday visiting Mrs. Richards' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Walk.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hosband and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lane and family were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hosband, last Sunday.

The Hannah Methodist church held its annual Sunday school picnic and festival last Saturday at Elk Haven park. A large crowd attended and it was quite a success.

Used Truck Sales. The Williamsport District OPA Office announced this week that all sales of used commercial vehicles, commonly called Used Truck Sales, whether by a private owner or dealer, are covered by OPA Regulation No. 341. The District Office emphasized that no sale can be made at a price higher than the price provided for under the Regulation.