

The Centre Democrat

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.



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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.....if paid in advance
\$2.00 per year.....if not paid in advance

AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

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 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

GOVERNMENT A PARTNER

There is an unending propaganda for "individual initiative, free enterprise and private business" in the United States, with the key theme devoted to the fear, real or fancied, that somebody is attacking the American system.

Consequently, it is not infrequent to read fulsome praise of American enterprise, with all the enterprise being attributed to our large industries which, it is pointed out, have outproduced the world.

We have a faint idea of what most of these orators mean by their words, but we are utterly unable to comprehend the idea that present war production represents private capitalism at its patriotic best.

The facts of the matter are that, without immense governmental contributions, the vast production would not be underway. The government has been a partner in practically every industrial accomplishment of the present war.

PRICE CONTROL PROTECTS US

The American people are spending about ninety billion dollars a year for living expenses, according to Jean J. Carroll, of the OPA, who says that twenty-seven billion dollars goes for food.

Along with these figures, Chester Bowles, Price Administrator, predicts an increase of ten per cent in living costs if Congress abolishes food subsidies. This would add nine billion dollars to the cost of items customarily bought by American families during a year.

Mr. Bowles believes that the OPA has done a "fair job," asserting that on the basis of a comparison with what occurred during the first World War, its program of price controls has saved the Government about seventy billion dollars in the expense of fighting the war.

The OPA chief estimates that food subsidies can be held to a maximum of \$1,250,000,000 a year. This, it seems is a cheap enough price to pay for saving nine billion dollars for American consumers and much more than that amount for the Government in connection with its war purchases.

Whatever is saved for the Government is, of course, saved for the taxpayers of the nation, who will have to pay for the war long after it is over.

CHARGE IT TO THE WAR

In pre-war years, the United States consumed about 800,000 tons of natural rubber annually. When the Japanese captured most of the rubber-producing areas of the world, it became necessary to construct plants to provide synthetic rubber and the production of the artificial product is expected to equal our normal demand in 1944.

Already there is considerable speculation as to the fate of the synthetic rubber industry when the war is over and natural rubber becomes again available.

So far, the synthetic rubber has not demonstrated competitive qualities in the tire and tube market, which normally utilizes three-fourths of the rubber imported into the United States. Apparently, a return to the use of natural rubber for tires and tubes is inevitable, regardless of price.

There is something of a demand in the country for a subsidy to enable the synthetic product to compete with natural rubber after the war. Even if the nation adopts this doubtful plan, the failure of synthetic rubber to provide satisfactory material for tires and tubes will limit the use of synthetic rubber.

Consequently, it may be better for the nation to write-off its plants as a war expense and resume the use of the natural product.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SETS JANUARY 1 AS NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

President Roosevelt has proclaimed January 1 as a national day of prayer for "strength and guidance for the problems of widening warfare and for the responsibilities of increasing victory."

The text of the proclamation, made public by the White House, follows:

"At the end of the year 1943, which has not only made manifest the devotion and courage of our nation's sons but has also crowned their efforts with brilliant success on every battlefield, it is fitting that we set aside a day of prayer to give thanks to Almighty God for his constant providence over us in every hour of national peace and national peril.

"At the beginning of the new year 1944, which now lies before us, it is fitting that we pray to be preserved from false pride of accomplishment and from wilful neglect of the last measure of public and private sacrifice necessary to attain final victory and peace.

"May we humbly seek strength and guidance for the problems of widening warfare and for the responsibilities of increasing victory. May we find in the infinite mercy of the God of our Father some measure of comfort for the personal anxieties of separation and anguish of bereavement.

"Now, therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, president of the United States of America, do hereby appoint Saturday, the first day of January, 1944, as a day of prayer for all of us, in our churches, in our homes, and in our hearts, those of us who walk in the familiar paths of home, those who fight on the wide battle fields of the world, those who go down to the sea in ships, and those who rise in the air on wings."

LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa: I am to be married next month and had planned to have my wedding in the church and a reception afterwards at my home. The reason I was not having the ceremony at home was that the house is too small to accommodate all the people I'd like to ask but at a reception they would be coming and going and not get all crowded up.

Now, I find that having the wedding in the church will be more expensive than I can afford and I don't know what to do. What would you suggest? BRIDE-TO-BE-N. J.

Answer: If you are energetic and have lots of helpful friends why not decorate the church yourself? Very often the florist will rent you palms, candelabra and flowers much cheaper than she will furnish and decorate.

I am sixteen years old and got married a year ago to a soldier and he is now in the Pacific. We have a little boy two months old and have it awfully hard. No fun and nothing to do but to take care of the baby and work. I don't even think I love my husband any more and I don't know why I married him.

Answer: Sixteen and thinking of a divorce! I print this letter as a warning to all the little young girls who are tempted to marry some young soldier, just because they are meeting over leaving for the front.

Women and girls are usually very attentive to the condition of their skin and rightly so. From time to time, they study their faces in the mirrors and view with alarm sometimes the accumulation of tiny or large wrinkles on the forehead, at the corners of the mouth and around the eyes.

The American people are spending about ninety billion dollars a year for living expenses, according to Jean J. Carroll, of the OPA, who says that twenty-seven billion dollars goes for food.

When your face has been thoroughly cleaned with a mild soap and steamed by applying cloths wrung out of hot water or by holding one's face over a lavatory full of hot water, press out all the blackheads which will come out very easily.

When shortening is being made place half the dough in a pan, spread melted butter over it, and then place on the remaining half. The cake can be opened easily when baked.

LAZY LIVER
May cause uneasiness which results in Biliousness, Sick Headache and Acid Intoxication.
Luebert's Laxative Tablets
Are a purely vegetable combination, which when administered to the liver, stimulates the liver and generally produces a good laxative effect.

Query & Answer Column

H. S.—How is Trieste pronounced?
Ans.—Trieste is pronounced as though it were spelled Tree-esh-ty with the accent on the second syllable.

N. M.—Where was the tomahawk invented?
Ans.—Scott Williamson writes: "The axe that first came to America found an immediate exchange value with the Indians and hence quickly became known as the 'trade axe'.

N. E. G.—How much did it cost to build the Maginot Line?
Ans.—The French reportedly poured 100,000,000,000 francs into its construction. Taking the franc to equal 32 cents as in 1938, this sum would be equivalent to \$3,200,000,000.

E. M. E.—Where did Noah Webster get the definitions of the words in his dictionary?
Ans.—Most of the 70,000 or more definitions were created anew by Webster, who has been called "a born definer of words."

V. B.—Does the new one-cent piece weigh more or less than the old?
Ans.—The new (zinc-coated steel) one-cent piece weighs 4 1/2 grains while the old copper one-cent piece weighs 48 grains.

R. I. F.—Is there such a thing as a perfect circle?
Ans.—Walter Shepherd in Science Marches On says that a mathematical circle is perfect though one will never find a perfect circle on the earth.

S. E. L.—When did Doctor Dajoe, who cared for the Dionne quintuplets, die?
Ans.—Doctor Dajoe died of pneumonia, June 2, 1943.

C. W.—What was the creature known as La Bete that terrorized France at one time?
Ans.—La Bete was a wolf that lived in Central France from 1760-65 during which time he devoured 99 persons and mangled 30 more.

A. M. T.—What is the present strength of the Merchant Marine?
Ans.—The United States Maritime Commission says that the present strength of the Merchant Marine is about 125,000, including officers and seamen at sea and ashore.

L. P. M.—Which is the older, the Japanese Empire or Rome?
Ans.—Jimmu Tenno ascended the throne as Emperor in 660 B. C. The Empire was then founded. This was about 100 years after the traditional founding of Rome.

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Centre County Hospital Notes

Monday of Last Week
Admitted: Joseph R. Winn, Milesburg; William H. Miller, State College; R. D.

Tuesday of Last Week
Admitted: Harvey E. Eminhizer, Howard, R. D. 1; Frederick C. Stewart, State College; Lois L. Poorman, Milesburg.

Wednesday of Last Week
Admitted: Lawrence Voris, State College; Mrs. Edward Heaton, Bellefonte, R. D.

Thursday of Last Week
Admitted: Mrs. Robert Cain, of Bellefonte; C. William Bosser, Centre Hall; Mrs. Sophie Wilson, State College; Wendell Musser, Coburn.

Friday
Discharged: Mrs. B. K. Johnstone, State College.

Saturday
Admitted: George Kase, Bellefonte; Dallas Wetzel, Milesburg.

Sunday
Admitted: Martha Morrison, Bellefonte, R. D. 1; Mrs. Phillip H. Grembold, State College, R. D. 1; Mrs. Homer Granley, Millheim; Israel M. Kraus, State College; Henry Klimefer, Bellefonte.

MEAT CANNING AT HOME
MEANS VARIETY IN MEALS
Butchering time on the farm means canning for many Centre county homemakers.

For canning, precooked meat usually is most satisfactory though it may be packed raw. Meat packed raw tends to shrink more than precooked meat but it may have a better flavor.

Recruiting Officer—"And now, just one more question: 'Who is your next of kin?'"

When it is necessary to put screws into plaster walls and there is no woodwork available at the right place, enlarge the hole about twice the size of the screw, and insert a little plaster of Paris mixed with water. Then put the screw into this and it will set immediately and hold very firmly.

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

The Home-Life of a Poor Sailor
I had twelve bottles of whiskey in my cellar and my wife told me to empty the contents of each and every one down the sink—or else. So I said I would and proceeded with the unpleasant task.

We Wouldn't Know
Bee Fuddle wants to know what the skirts will be up to next.

Hard Luck Story
Our idea of a fellow out of luck is an unlicensed driver who has a quart of gas and one arm around a girl, and who drives a stolen car with no lights on a one-way street, and after running past a red signal and two cops, crashes into a patrol wagon.

Disappointed Trio
The most disappointed Hebrews were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, when they went through fire and didn't get insurance.

Voice From the Grave
Out for a drive in her car, an elderly lady managed to get in some army maneuvers. As she approached a bridge a sentry stopped her.

Strange Occurrence
A bride and groom were going abroad on their honeymoon. While leaning over the rail of the ship, the bride dropped one of her rings overboard.

One Thing to Do
Two elderly friends, one nearly deaf, met after a long separation. "I was sorry to hear about the death of your wife," said one.

Less Trouble
Recruiting Officer—"And now, just one more question: 'Who is your next of kin?'"

Understandable Error
Judge—"The man says that after he fired a shot he saw you running from his chicken coop."

He Might Borrow One
It seems the gate broke down between heaven and hell. St. Peter appeared at the broken part and called out to the devil, "Hi, Satan, it's your turn to fix it this time."