

"THE DAILY GRIND"



The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

SHOE FIGHT

A hot fight is raging backstage between the WPB and the OPA over shoe leather. Inside fact is that the shoes you are wearing are inferior not entirely because the best leather is rightfully being allocated to the armed forces. That is only part of the story.

Another reason why your shoes are inferior and your shoe bill higher is that certain industry moguls in WPB's leather and shoe branch have been blocking a program to prolong the wear of civilian shoes by the application of wax and oil treatments to soles. The process costs only two or three cents a shoe, but many manufacturers don't like it because it isn't fussy enough. They say that consumers prefer shoes with a high, light polish on the sole, though they admit that this polish robs the sole of some of its wearing quality.

Bureau of Standards experts have testified at hearings of the senate war-mobilization committee, headed by West Virginia's Sen. Harley Kilgore, that the use of oil (by actual test) prolongs the life of shoes 14 per cent, while soles treated with wax preparations last from 30 to 41 per cent longer.

This has been corroborated by leading industry spokesmen, including Paul C. Wolfer, a vice president of the Douglas Shoe company, who is a consultant in the standards division of the OPA. Wolfer not only urged general adoption of oil-wax treatments but intimated that the government should crack down on the shoe industry and require it.

In addition to cutting down the nation's shoe bill, another factor Wolfer emphasized was wartime conservation of leather. So far, however, the OPA has made little progress in selling the oil-treatment idea to the WPB. Some manufacturers have adopted the sole treatments voluntarily, but only on a very limited scale.

The big shoe companies, OPA claims, are antagonistic. In this, they have the potent backing of the WPB's leather and shoe branch, headed by Lawrence B. Sheppard, a vice president of the Hanover Shoe company.

Before the Kilgore committee, Sheppard expounded at length on "manufacturing difficulties... lack of conclusive tests," and other objections to a government order requiring the oil treatment of soles. His statement was effectively contradicted by other witnesses, who brought out that tests had been adequate and that facilities for sole treatments could be installed throughout the country with little difficulty and at small cost.

NOTE: The Kilgore committee has finally sent a hot note to Donald Nelson demanding that he issue an order to compel the general adoption of sole treatments by shoe companies.

DESK ADMIRALS

The navy is doing a magnificent job whenever it goes into action in the Pacific, but members of the Truman committee are not convinced that this is true of all the desk admirals or their flunkies in Washington. Among other things, they are casting a curious eye at the manner in which Adm. Ernie King and his staff preserve the myth of being "at sea" when actually they sit at desks in Washington.

To make the myth more realistic, Admiral King lives most of the week on a yacht in the Potomac. It is a small yacht and his multitudinous staff has no room to live there with him. However, they draw extra pay for the hazards of life "at sea."

So when payday arrives, the paymaster carries a satchel down to Admiral King's yacht to pay off the staff. The paymaster knows full well that the men are not on the yacht. However, he goes through this ritual, then comes back from the yacht to the navy department, where he finds the men and gives them their pay.

STEEL-WAGE DISPUTE

Hard-working Will Davis, chairman of the War Labor board, is having a tough time selecting a panel to settle the vital question of wages in the steel industry. He proposes a panel of three, one representing labor, one the steel industry, one the public, with three alternates. But though he has called up all sorts of people and literally begged them to serve, their patriotism seems deficient when it comes to labor disputes.

Meanwhile, the steel companies, faced with retroactive pay for whatever wage decision is finally handed down, are getting restless.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

New Mexico is more aroused over the Bataan atrocities than any other state, because the entire New Mexican National Guard, being able to speak Spanish, was sent to the Philippines and those who survived were captured there. FDR may have a hard time carrying the state. "The Shortest Route to Japan" is the slogan of the Korean Affairs institute, which has just opened offices in Washington. It is urging use of Korean bases only 600 miles from Tokyo.

In The WEEK'S NEWS



YANKS IN BRITAIN—Walking the plank to recover their physical fitness, these Yanks, wounded in North Africa, are taking remedial exercises in a special American hospital in Britain.



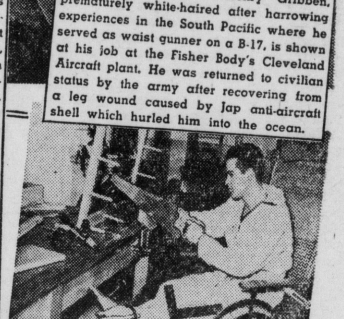
LEATHERNECK—In U. S. Naval Hospital in New Zealand, a wounded leatherneck proudly shows carving of crocodile which he made in occupational therapy treatment to fit him for civilian life.



BACK ON JOB—Walter Paris, aboard two ships sunk within four hours of each other, is shown at the job he found waiting for him at the Fisher Body Division's plant in Flint, Mich. This General Motors unit is one of the leaders in industry in the veteran rehabilitation program.



RETURNED VETERAN—Henry Gribben, prematurely white-haired after harrowing experiences in the South Pacific where he served as waist gunner on a B-17, is shown at his job at the Fisher Body's Cleveland Aircraft plant. He was returned to civilian status by the army after recovering from a leg wound caused by Jap anti-aircraft shell which hurled him into the ocean.



NAVAL CASUALTY—Seaman 2/c Earl Evans, wounded in the South Pacific, is getting occupational therapy training in Naval Medical Center in Richmond, Va., by building a warping frame.



AIR FORCES—These men at Hamilton Field Air Forces Hospital are working with their hands to soothe their minds and train their muscles.

PA. TOMATO SEED IN GREAT DEMAND

Before the war, large amounts of Pennsylvania certified tomato seed were shipped to all parts of the world with considerable quantities going to the Union of South Africa. All such seed has been in great demand in this country also, since it must pass rigid inspection and laboratory tests by the Bureau of Plant Industry in the State Department of Agriculture.

the growing need for canned tomatoes and tomato juice which has stepped up the acreage planted to tomatoes to such an extent that the Pennsylvania seedsmen have been unable to meet all demands for seed, he reports.

The 16,188 pounds of tomato seed certified in Pennsylvania in 1943 is sufficient to plant 150,000 acres, Mr. Lauer estimates. This is the largest amount to be approved by the state since 1939 when approximately 17,000 pounds passed the rigid tests. Tomato seed was inspected last season for 48 growers who produced 277 acres for certification. Forty acres were rejected through field inspections.

Most of the 1943 certified tomato seed is being shipped to southern pant growers who raise large acreages of tomato plants for the northern states, where the bulk of the canner crop tomatoes are grown. The plants will be shipped north during the tomato planting season in the spring.

The variety known as Rutgers led in Pennsylvania certification with a total of 12,260 pounds of seed. Others included Marglobe, 1,768 pounds; Pan American 1,173 pounds; Grothens Red Globe, 655 pounds; Pritchard, 171 pounds; and Greater Baltimore, 164 pounds. Certified tomato seed production in 1942 totaled over 13,000 pounds.

LEGISLATORS SEE NEED FOR STRIP MINING OF COAL

A state legislative committee which will formulate a long range program for the regulation and control of the strip mining in Pennsylvania, believes coal production, irrespective of the method, should be increased to meet war time needs.

"The production of coal to its fullest extent," declared Sen. J. Fred Thomas (R-Mercer), chairman of the committee, after the group met in executive session at Harrisburg last week, "must be encouraged at this time in order that the war effort may not be interrupted and the civilian needs provided."

The committee was assigned by the joint state government commission, legislative research agency, to gather data on surface mining, prepare a report and recommend legislation to the next session of the General Assembly.

"We must continue to encourage industry to prosper and to provide employment in the post-war period," Thomas added, "with due regard for the general welfare, safety and health of the public."

Senator John J. Haluska of Patton is a member of the committee. Fewer stallions were registered in Pennsylvania during 1943 than in the preceding year, the Bureau of Animal Industry in the State Department of Agriculture reports. The drop is attributed in part to the steadily declining demand for horses on Pennsylvania farms.

Spring Fancy



Two-tone coat.

By VERA WINSTON

THE TWO-TONE trend has extended to coats and a most attractive fashion it is, nice for those who want new and interesting details for that all-important Spring model. This useful coat, built on trench coat lines, has a beige top and a honey-tan skirt, and has other clever ideas such as stitched pocket flaps built up over the leather belt. It is single breasted below long revers, and is slit in back from a center seam that extends from neck to hem.

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R.J. SCOTT

Advertisement for Scott's Scrap Book featuring a portrait of George II and a seal pelt. Text includes: 'GEORGE II WAS THE LAST ENGLISH KING TO COMMAND TROOPS IN BATTLE', 'HE PERSONALLY LED HIS SOLDIERS AT THE BATTLE OF BERINGEN (IN 1743) IN THE WAR OF THE AUSTRIAN SUCCESSION', 'AN OYSTER IS FIRST MALE THEN FEMALE 2/3', 'A SEAL PELT WHEN TANNED IS SO SOFT AND PLIABLE IT CAN BE PASSED THROUGH A NAPKIN RING', 'WHAT IS THE GREAT PLAGUE AMONG ALASKAN INDIANS? TUBERCULOSIS - THE DEATH TOLL IS 655 PER 100,000 A YEAR'.

CORN KING OF ALL PFNNA. FARM CROPS

Corn reigned as king of all Pennsylvania farm crops in 1943 according to a listing of the ten leading crop values by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, issued by the Department of Agriculture.

Just as "King Cotton" for many years has led the South and the Nation in highest value for any single farm crop, corn has led all others in Pennsylvania. The 1943 value of this state's corn crop is estimated at \$65,890,000, enough to provide it with a lead over tame hay, its nearest competitor, by a margin of nearly \$7,800,000.

Although corn was Pennsylvania's best money crop last year, comparatively little has been sold by farmers who raise livestock and poultry, observers say, due to the current shortage of grains for feed.

Second place hay had a total estimated value of \$58,123,000. Both corn and hay showed substantial increase over total values reported for the previous year. Others of the ten principal Pennsylvania crops, ranked in order of 1943 value, are: Potatoes, \$33,394,000; all wheat, \$20,556,000; commercial truck crops, \$18,715,000; commercial apples, \$12,675,000; oats, \$12,646,000; tobacco, \$6,765,000; peaches, \$4,822,000; and barley, \$2,832,000.

In attaining top ranking value among Pennsylvania crops, the worth of corn was such as to rank this state 17th among the 48 states in total value. The harvesting of slightly more than 49 million bushels gave Pennsylvania 16th place in production. In spite of drought conditions that prevailed for the greater part of the growing season in 1943, the yield per acre of 38 bushels ranged the state 13th in that respect. The total acreage devoted to the growing of corn ranked the state as 24th with a total of almost 1,300,000 acres.

More than \$9,700,000,000 of U. S. Government securities have been purchased by the life insurance companies of the country since the start of the war, and they now have \$12,600,000,000 or more than one-third of their total assets invested in them. This is, on the average, \$382 per family.

Administrators' Notice. In the Estate of Anna Yencho, late of the Borough of Patton, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, deceased. Letters testamentary in the estate of Anna Yencho, late of Patton Borough, Cambria Co., Pa., having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Cambria County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned duly authenticated for settlement.

Administrators' Notice. In the Estate of Anna Yencho, late of the Borough of Patton, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, deceased. Letters testamentary in the estate of Anna Yencho, late of Patton Borough, Cambria Co., Pa., having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Cambria County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned duly authenticated for settlement.

Administrators' Notice. Estate of Mary G. Smithbower, late of Chest Township, deceased. Letters testamentary in the estate of Mary G. Smithbower, late of Chest Twp., Cambria County, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Cambria County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned duly authenticated for settlement.

Loans to Suit Every Purse and Purpose

Advertisement for Barnesboro Budget Plan, Inc. featuring a man on a telephone. Text includes: 'PHONE FOR A LOAN', 'Perhaps your Problem Can Be Solved Quicker Than You Think!', 'Loans up to \$300. Prompt service. Convenient monthly payment plan. Phone NOW, or come to our office.', 'Hours: 9 to 5:00 Daily, Except Wednesday Afternoon', 'BARNESBORO BUDGET PLAN, INC.', 'Telephone 467 BARNESBORO', 'Buy War Bonds and Stamps!'.

Wash Day in Italy



LIVING under conditions similar to those of the regular soldiers, U. S. Army nurses still manage to see the brighter side of life at an evacuation hospital somewhere in Italy. Lt. Beatrice James demonstrates the helmet-laundry technique. Signal Corps photo. (International)