

EASTER THIS YEAR

BY RUTH TAYLOR.

It is in the spirit of humility and purpose that we will go out this Easter morning to celebrate the great festival of the Church—the day that commemorates not the sorrows of earthly life, not the Way or the Cross but the Resurrection—the Victory of the Spirit over Flesh.

Day by day we climb to our Golgothas. We cannot shift our burdens to one another's shoulders. We cannot shirk the steep hills and the heavy weight that seems as unbearable as it appears interminable.

We celebrate this Easter in a spirit of solemnity. To many of us the coming months will bring the end of all that made life seem worth living. Far too many of us will be forced, by the irreligious and inhuman glutony of the dictators for loot and for power over the lives of men, to tread the narrow ways of sorrow. No one of us will be unaffected by this war.

No weight is too heavy, however, no way too long when we know that at the end there will be an Easter morning. It is this translation of the lessons of religion into the terms of living that gave those who preceded us strength to endure, courage to go forward. It is this spirit, this realization of the permanence of evil, that will carry us through the darkest hours.

In hours of peace we learned faith and in the hours of strife we still remember the words of Him whose Resurrection we celebrate. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

COMMITTEE OF HOUSE MEMBERS NAMED TO DRAFT THE POST-WAR MILITARY POLICY

"Big stick" advocates drew top spots last week on a 23-man special House committee charged with the task of blueprinting a post-war military policy for the United States.

The make up of the committee made it almost certain that the group ultimately would recommend retention of a formidable peace time army, navy and air force, built up probably through compulsory military training.

Heading it is Rep. Clifton A. Woodrum, 57-year-old Virginia Democrat, whose first statement as chairman warned against repeating the "blunder" of dismantling the Army and junking part of the Navy after this war.

Ranking Democrat is Chairman Andrew J. May of Kentucky, head of the House Military committee, who long has urged that the United States "maintain always a big Army and a big Navy and let the world know we have them."

An ardent supporter of compulsory peacetime military training, May once said he believed Theodore Roosevelt was right "when he said the safest policy is to speak softly and carry a big stick."

Following May on the Democratic roster is Chairman Carl Vinson of Georgia, head of the House Naval Committee. While not publicly committing himself to compulsory military training, Vinson said he favored "a big Navy and a big Army so we never again will be caught unprepared."

The three top ranking Republicans—Andrews, of New York; Maas, of Minnesota, and Wadsworth, of New York, all said they favored compulsory peacetime training.

Other members of the committee include Reps. Snyder of Pennsylvania, Merritt, of New York, Democrats, and Allen of Illinois, Powers of New Jersey, Cole of New York, and Miller of Connecticut, Republicans.

DECLARATIONS OF INCOME AGAIN DUE MIDDLE OF APRIL

Put a ring on the calendar around April 15—if in 1944 you expect to earn \$2,700 or more and are single, or \$3,500 or more and are married.

Midnight that date marks a new deadline for a rendezvous with the shibboleths of the Nation's pocket-book, if the wage shoe fits.

Declaration of estimated income and victory tax forms and worksheets for 1944 have now been received by most potential taxpayers and by revenue branch offices.

Although the worksheet is similar in appearance and general content to Form 1040ES used for the 1943 declaration last September and December, the arithmetic is different.

In addition, estimators will have the option of two alternate worksheets. One, quite simple, for anyone \$10,000. The other, more mumbo-jumbo, for others earning more than \$10,000 and also for taxpayers with smaller incomes who prefer to make closer calculations of their 1944 tax.

Form 1040ES, which retains the same "call" letters this year, is a double the size of a dollar bill, or a cut-in sawback, for that matter.

Mathematical changes are the due in Victory tax from five per cent to three per cent and elimination of the Victory tax credit.

In addition to those over the \$2,700 or \$3,500 ceilings, others required to make declarations are individuals who receive wages not subject to withholding—for example compensation for agricultural labor or domestic service. Also "eligible" are individuals who receive incomes from rents, dividends, interest or gains from property transactions or from a business or profession.

Military pay carries an exemption of \$1,500. Mustering-out payment, with respect to service in the military or naval forces of the United States, also may be excluded from gross income.

An amended declaration, so marked, may be filed on or before the 15th of June, September or December in the event that the status of the taxpayer changes.

Declarations and quarterly payments of estimated tax are required of persons who are not substantially paid up on their taxes by withholding them from wages.

A first quarterly installment shown to be due on the declaration should be made at the time the declaration is filed and the remainder paid on or before the next quarterly dates.

For failure to file a declaration or pay an estimated tax, the government charges five per cent of the unpaid amount of each installment due but unpaid, plus one per cent per month up to a maximum of ten per cent of the unpaid amount of such installment.

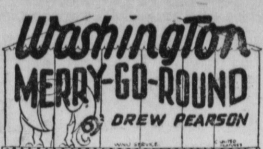
Although there is a penalty for underestimating the tax by more than 20 per cent, this penalty will not apply if the estimated tax is computed on last year's incomes at this year's rates and exemptions and is paid on time.

PENNA. RAILROAD CONDUCTOR IS GROUND TO DEATH

J. E. Faith, Freeport, a conductor on a Pennsylvania Railroad freight train, was ground to death under his own train last Thursday night along the main line tracks near Gallitzin.

A train crew of an east bound freight train discovered the conductor's badly mangled body along the railroad right-of-way. Coroner Patrick McDermott said the railroad's head was nearly severed at the shoulder. The man's legs almost were cut off and his chest and head were mangled.

The train crew had not discovered the absence of the conductor until they had reached Altoona.



Washington, D. C.

ALCOHOL AND WPB

A mysterious band has reached inside the War Production board to hold up a new method of alcohol production. The process, developed in Germany, is the distillation of alcohol from sawdust and wood waste.

All over the U. S. A. there is a great surplus of sawdust and wood scraps from saw mills. In some areas, its disposal is a problem. But in Germany, some 30 plants are in operation turning sawdust not only into alcohol, but yeast and cattle feed.

This same process has been tested at a U. S. forest service pilot plant at Marquette, Wis., and recently plans were all set to open a commercial plant at Willamette, Ore. The Vulcan Copper and Supply company was scheduled to do the job, and J. Alfred Hall, borrowed from the forest service by WPB's office of production research and development, actually had gone out to Oregon to inspect the proposed Willamette site.

But now something has happened. The alcohol division of WPB is reported to be quietly throwing monkey wrenches into the works.

For two long years, WPB's alcohol division had blocked the sawdust alcohol method for the obvious reason that the big alcohol companies are entrenched with the Cuban molasses method. Their plants are near the Atlantic seaboard, where molasses is readily accessible. They don't want competition from the lumber regions of the South and Northwest. But finally, because of the desperate alcohol shortage, they were overruled and the Willamette plant was authorized.

However, queer things happened. When the Willamette application was sent by registered mail to WPB, it was "lost." WPB refused to act without the "original" application, so valuable weeks were wasted arguing.

Then, an engineer named Levy, who had had experience with the sawdust method in Germany, was brought here from England. This time, the Willamette application papers were ready. But another hitch developed. WPB suddenly found some of Levy's credentials unsatisfactory, demanded an FBI investigation. The FBI cleared him, but still the WPB's alcohol division is holding things up.

AIR WAR OVER GERMANY

Strange as it may seem, the present problem of the U. S. and British air forces over Europe is not so much to locate the targets but to locate German fighter planes. Nazi fighters have been so reduced in numbers that they are being held back, apparently for the second front. Allied bombers occasionally make a complete mission to the Continent without meeting any opposition in the air.

This is good news, but it prevents heavy attrition of the Luftwaffe unless the German planes are sought out on the ground.

As American fliers put it: "We've done a birth-control job on the Luftwaffe." In other words, they have struck manufacturing plants so successfully that fighter production is way down. This applies both to twin-engine and single-engine fighters. Plants making both types have been struck systematic and devastating blows.

Air forces officials have figures on the exact amount of that "birth control," but the figures are highly confidential. British as well as American officials are delighted with the results, and the British are now admitting the superiority of American precision bombing in knocking off certain targets.

Germany Avoiding a Fight.

In the text book of air power, after you have attacked the enemy's aircraft industry, you aim at the enemy's planes in the air. And that is what the RAF and AAF are trying to do now. But the Germans are avoiding a fight. They are trying to check losses by keeping their planes on the ground.

Occasionally, returning pilots contradict this. "The man who says the Luftwaffe is licked is just plain crazy!" And they have battle wounds for evidence. Explanation is that the Nazis concentrate fighter strength over one important target.

Air experts say Germany is now in the desperate plight England was in at the climax of the blitz of 1940-41. The British now admit that, if the Germans had come over a few more times, they would have broken the back of England. But the Luftwaffe simply couldn't stand the terrific losses.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

The U. S. Quartermaster corps now operates a slow-down-the-war system which requires personal guides and 20 minutes extra time to conduct visitors from the entrance of the building to various offices.

"Man Mountain" Dean, the famous wrestler, has risen to the rank of sergeant at Camp Ritchie, Md., where he supervises the "pick-up squad," removing trash from the company streets. Dean is down to a mere 275 pounds, after losing 90 pounds at this job.

LOOKING 'EM OVER

The other day, the White House called WPB's production wizard, Charlie Wilson, to come to see the President. Wilson went, not knowing what it was about and not knowing he was to stay to lunch. When he got there, he found himself lunching with FDR, all alone.

The conversation ranged over everything under the sun, from the problems of business management to Far Eastern trade to Latin American relations to war plant reconversion. When the President asked for Wilson's views on world trade, the former General Electric executive replied:

"Mr. President, I'm a manufacturer, not a merchandiser."

The luncheon lasted more than two hours and, after it was over, Wilson didn't know quite what to make of it, because no very important problems regarding war production had been discussed. When he expressed bewilderment to close friends later, they replied:

"Why, Charlie, you're just a political neophyte! Don't you know what he was doing? Looking you over to see how you would do as second man on the ticket."

Embarrassed, Wilson replied: "People don't seem to know that I'm a Republican."

NOTE—Some politicians figure that the President is now looking for a conservative running mate with a Republican background who would swing votes from business. Undersecretary of State Ed Stettinius is an active bidder for the job. Some conservative groups also figure that, if they can pick the vice president, FDR will resign shortly after the war and they will be in the saddle.

ANZIO ORDNANCE

Although the problem of supply on the Anzio beachhead has been emphasized, another factor which the public doesn't realize is the problem of ordnance.

Inside that slender foothold in Italy, there must be not only kitchens and temporary hospitals but, even more important, ammunition dumps and repair shops. This is the job of ordnance. A tank is no good unless it is kept in repair and it is the job of ordnance not only to build tanks, but to train men to go along with them into the field of battle to see that they are kept running.

The same is true of artillery and every other type of weapon. That is why the Anzio beachhead has to maintain machine shops and repair garages, plus a large number of trained ordnance men to keep the weapons at the front operating. All of this has to be done under the terrific hazard of enemy artillery fire, because Nazi big guns are never out of range.

Paradoxical fact is that the man responsible for the good job being done by ordnance is a former navy man. He is hard-hitting Maj. Gen. Levin Campbell, chief of ordnance, who graduated from Annapolis but later joined the coast artillery and has been in the army ever since.

It was Campbell who decentralized the somewhat moribund ordnance department shortly after Pearl Harbor, moving ammunition to St. Louis, automotive vehicles to Detroit, safety and security to Chicago, artillery carriages to Rock Island, Ill., and getting things away from Washington where, as he says, "People are always breathing down your neck."

It was Campbell who cleared the decks for the famous bazooka anti-tank gun. Though he has been criticized for not developing an airplane rocket gun similar to the Germans' weapon, it was really General "Hap" Arnold, chief of the air forces, who failed to take action on the airplane rocket gun when its feasibility was proposed several years ago by Arnold's arch-rival, Major Seversky.

Actually, the ordnance department has to be guided by what the fighting services want. "They never get credit for the new inventions they develop," according to Assistant Secretary of War McCloy, "but if they ever miss one, they catch hell."

MERRY-GO-ROUND

Mystery recently surrounded the apartment of the Argentine assistant air attaché, Lieut. Ronald J. Rossiter. His rooms at the Marlyn apartments were charred and burned. In the diplomatic corps, the gossip was that dirty work had taken place because of Argentina's anti-U. S. policy. . . . Solution of the mystery: Lieutenant Rossiter went to sleep smoking, had to be rushed to a hospital, and was kept under an oxygen tent to recover from carbon monoxide poisoning.

The warning that more farmers must be drafted comes on the heels of another warning that Italian prisoners no longer can be counted on for farm labor. The status of Italy as a co-belligerent will soon take Italians out of the prisoner category.

Harold Hopper, recently resigned chief of WPB's motion picture section, is urging the American cinema industry to get busy now to prevent motion picture embargoes after the war. Free distribution of movies—one of the best means of American propaganda—should be a plank at the peace table, Hopper urges.

Lawrence Dibert of Dysart was found guilty of a violation of the Solid Fuels Act at a hearing held before Justice of the Peace Elizabeth Rowland in Ebensburg on Thursday afternoon. He was charged with issuing weighmaster's certificates after the expiration date of his weighmaster's license. He was fined \$25 and costs. Information was filed by Jerome J. Sheehan, state deputy sealer of weights and measures.

For Congress:

Democratic Ballot

Robert S. Clark

WESTMONT

Respectfully Solicits Your Vote and Support at the Primary, April 25.

BENDER SEEKS G. O. P. ASSEMBLY NOMINATION



George R. Bender of Carrolltown, has announced himself as a candidate for the office of General Assembly for the second district of Cambria County on the Republican ticket.

Mr. Bender was the nominee for Assembly in 1940 and received the largest vote for that office on the Republican ticket, leading his two running mates by a large majority.

Mr. Bender has always been an active worker in the Republican party, and is widely known among the sportsmen of Cambria County.

FARM LABOR

Uncertainty of the farm labor situation is the most perplexing problem facing Pennsylvania farmers at present, according to the latest general crop report of the Federal and State Crop Reporting Service in the State Department of Agriculture.

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