

England Takes The Ball At Last

The average reader, following the official war communiques from the belligerent powers, goes around in something of a daze. They simply don't make sense. The Germans, for instance, will claim the destruction of 50 British war planes with losses of but 15 of their own ships, while the British, on the same day, will reverse the figures.

The confused reader must look largely to other sources of information if he seeks an approximation of the truth. And such other sources exist in this country. The War Department has channels of information which have proven extremely accurate. These observers are convinced that the British reports of give-and-take in the great war now going on in the air are far more accurate than the German.

That comes as good news to most of the American people, who believe that the defeat of England would gravely endanger us. Apparently it is true that British pilots and planes are better than the German. Furthermore, it is believed in some official circles that the British claim that Empire plane production has at last caught up with German is pretty close to the fact.

The English have one very definite advantage in this air war. Only a handful of British planes are sent over the continent, while hundreds of German planes are sent over England. That means that when a German pilot bails out of a destroyed ship and lands safely he goes to a prison camp, while a British pilot who saves himself with his parachute lives to fight for the Crown another day.

Best estimates place the German first-line force at 12,000 ships, as against 6,000 for England. And Germany probably has more trained pilots. But Britain is catching up. Some recently captured German pilots had only half the training that is given English pilots before they are sent into combat. Whether that is the result of a shortage of planes or a policy of holding her best men in reserve for a future attack of unprecedented severity, is a matter of question.

American military experts give Britain a far better chance of surviving now than they gave her two or three months back. Some cataclysm of the near future may prove them 100 per cent wrong, but they feel that Hitler has little chance of making his time-table click this time—that is, of subduing England before October comes with its fogs and storms.

All through fall and winter and early spring the British Isles are blanketed in a dripping mist. It is significant that an Italian newspaper which often speaks for Mussolini recently said that the war may last two more years. That is a very different tune than the Axis leaders were singing after the collapse of France.

Britain, of course, is in grave danger. If fog prevents flying, it also provides a screen for an invasion over water. Hitler is known to have constructed armadas of shallow draft boats, equipped to carry tanks and field pieces as well as troops.

At any rate, the experts are becoming more hopeful over Britain's chances daily. And they are also becoming convinced that air attacks cannot produce nearly the damage and the terror the proponents of ruthless air warfare anticipated.

POSTSCRIPTS

AS A RULE we are just smart enough to stick in our own rural league, but when a \$40,000-a-year word slugger like Mister Westbrook Pegler begins fanning as badly as he has been lately we can't resist the temptation to toss a few curves his way.

We have always had a high respect for the ill-disposed Mister Pegler, if only for his inexhaustible supply of venom. He is the most unamiable of the columnists, and there is something weirdly fascinating about his consistent surliness.

On at least one occasion we have sympathized with the ferocious Mister Pegler. That was when one of his columns which was as ill-timed as it was savage brought him an embarrassing distinction at the funeral services of the late Heywood Brown.

BROWN'S ADMIRERS had arranged a memorial service at which 21 men and women—labor leaders, columnists, editors, politicians, a waiter, a taxicab driver and a catholic priest—were to deliver simple little talks about Brown.

Brown and Pegler had been staunch friends for 20 years but a week before Brown died Pegler did a column—a classic of unkindness—in which he implied that Brown was a liar and directly said that he could be coupled with Stalin and Hitler as an apostle of insincerity.

So when Quentin Reynolds stood up he said he guessed Brown had never hated anyone in his life. "As far as I know," said Reynolds, "only two men living ever hated Brown, and I think that this meeting would not be complete without mention of their names. I mean William Randolph Hearst and Westbrook Pegler."

At first we felt sorry for Pegler just because his name had been linked with that of Mr. Hearst, an association which does no newspaperman any good, in our opinion. But later our sympathy expanded because Reynolds' speech, with the others, was published in a little book, and now anyone can read about Pegler's hatchet work on Brown, as easily as you can pick up the Bible and read all about Judas.

"Why Peg hates Brown, I don't know," Reynolds admitted. "We were great friends, Brown and Peg and Deems Taylor, all of us up in the country. We played poker at Brown's house one night and Peg's the next week, and Peg was a genial and charming host. Then in a few weeks, a week before Brown died, Peg showed his hatred..."

WELL, IT MUST have been tough for a mugg who had been dishing it out so long to have to take it at last.

It must have hurt, too, because Pegler still tries to explain occasionally. "I didn't know Brown was ill." Gosh, it sounds funny when a lion whines.

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BEAUMONT CAPTURES PENNANT IN BI-COUNTY BASEBALL RACE

The Bi-County Baseball League's roughest season in years ended last Sunday afternoon when Beaumont defeated Vernon, 11 to 7, in the second of a long-delayed series of three games to decide the championship. Beaumont had also taken the first game, which was protested by both teams, but the protests were withdrawn this week. Making the third game in the series unnecessary. True to league tradition, the

final tilt was sprinkled with arguments. The Beaumont nine, managed by Alden Deitz, who deserves considerable credit for holding the team together while the league was collapsing elsewhere, will receive a loving cup. "Mac" Taylor, ace hurler, Arch Austin, catcher, and Poed Jackson, Herb Goodwin, John Moyer and "Daddy" Shalatta, star hitters, performed ably last Sunday afternoon to top off their good season.

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First Draft Call Will Affect 200 Men In Dallas

But Only About 5 Will Be Needed For First Contingent Of 400,000

Although Dallas Borough has an estimated 200 men who are between the ages of 21 and 35 and therefore are eligible to be conscripted for military service it is likely that not more than five will go in answer to the first call.

This is based on the War Department's estimate that men of draft age make up about 14 per cent of the population and only 1 in 40 in that age group will be conscripted to make up the first national contingent of 400,000 soldiers.

On the same ratio, Dallas Township would supply about eight men and Kingston Township would send 14.

The quotas for this area may be cut further because of the large number of volunteers who have enlisted here recently.

Luzerne County, which has about 62,000 men in the eligible age-group, would send about 1,550 men on the basis of the national ratio, minus any allowances made for volunteers who have already enlisted.

President Roosevelt has fixed October 16 as the day upon which eligible men will register. The draft boards will probably sit at the local polling places. After the eligible men have registered their names will be filed and numbers will be drawn by lottery to decide which will be called in the first 400,000.

Stevenson Prosecutes Two, Wins Convictions

Chief of Police Ira C. Stevenson of Harvey's Lake secured convictions this week against two motorists he had arrested, charged with driving under the influence of liquor.

Walter Shonis, Patterson, N. J., was sentenced to six months in the county jail as a result of an accident he had at Outlet, Harvey's Lake, on June 28, while driving the automobile of Earl Fittin of the Lake.

Bernard Milbrodt, Dallas R. D. 4, pleaded guilty and was given a suspended sentence and ordered to pay costs. He was driving a car which struck the truck of John Sabo of Forty Fort at Alderson on June 30. His license will be revoked.

Williams Breaks Ground For Fine New Apartment

R. A. Williams, contractor who has developed Druid Hills, Shavertown, into one of the most attractive residential subdivisions in this section, this week broke ground for a four-family apartment house of unique modern design.

The architecture of the building, which embodies straight, clean lines, typical of the latest development in building design, will be the first of its kind in this section. The apartments will be ready for occupancy before spring.

Board Is Silent On Bus Squabble

None Of Complainants Attend Board Meeting

The new schedule of school buses in Dallas Township, which provoked a two-day strike among children from the Alderson-Kunkle section last week, remained unchanged this week. The school board met last Friday night but none of the parents who had complained turned up, so the board took no action on the protest.

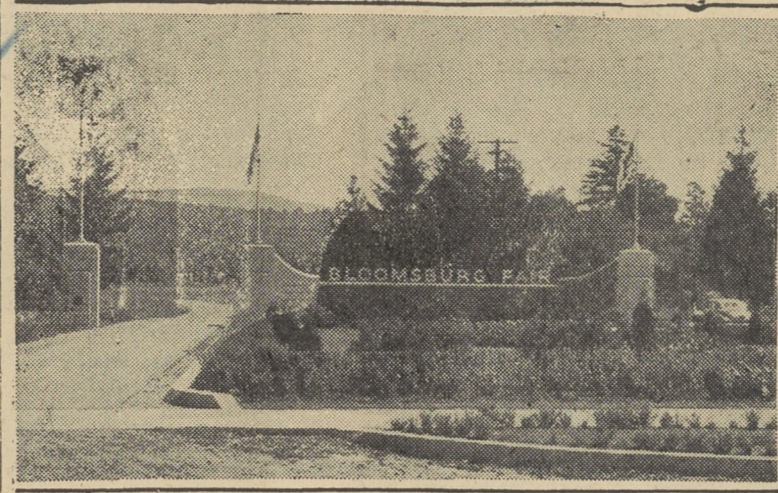
Pending further developments, directors were silent on what steps they make take to adjust the complaint, but it was intimated that a return to last year's schedule, as requested by the parents, will be extremely difficult until construction is completed on Route 92, permitting the bus to follow its old route.

At the board meeting Miss Mary Joanne Bashore of Mechanicsville, a highly-recommended graduate of Hood College, Md., and an M. A. at Columbia University, was appointed as instructor of languages. Miss Bashore fills the position to which Miss Jean Bogart of Dallas was previously appointed, Miss Bogart having accepted a position at Lehman.

YELLOW CREEK

Yellow Creek, flowing through Loysburg Gap, in Bedford County, is always of a yellow color due to certain minerals which find their way into the stream.

NEW GATEWAY TO BLOOMSBURG FAIR GROUNDS



Through this new ornamental gateway at the main entrance to the Bloomsburg Fair thousands of fair fans will pass next week to attend the 86th annual exposition. The fair, biggest in Northeastern Pennsylvania, will open Monday and continue through Saturday night.

Mrs. Yaple Was At Every Dallas Fair; Her Father Helped Build Race Track

Mrs. Amanda Yaple, whose father left his crops in the spring of 1886, so he could help his neighbors level the race track for the new Dallas fair, likes to sit on the porch of her home on Church Street, Dallas, these crisp fall days and remember when the road past her home was cloudy with the dust thrown up by buggies rolling into town for the fair.

FATHER TRY TO PREVENT FAITH FROM MAKING HOME AT TRYON, N. C., COLONY

A writ of habeas corpus was granted by Luzerne County court yesterday to Harry Harding of Trucksville, who is seeking to restrain his wife from taking their daughter, Faith Hope Charity Harding, aged 5, to a permanent residence near Tryon, N. C.

Mrs. Harding returned this week from Tryon, where a temple altar was dedicated to the child, known as "The Little Prophet" last week. A history of the unique story of the curly-haired Trucksville youngster, whose followers say she can predict future events, appeared in last week's Post.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Harding could be reached for comment yesterday.

Ronald Doll Asks For Year's Leave

Lewis To Be Principal At Dallas Township

The board of school directors of Dallas Township has granted a leave of absence for the 1940-41 school term to Ronald C. Doll, the district's principal.

Thorwald E. Lewis, a member of the Dallas Township high school faculty, has been chosen to serve in Mr. Doll's office during his absence.

Mr. Doll, who has been employed in the schools of Dallas borough and Dallas Township for the past five years, and who has received the major portion of his undergraduate and graduate education at Columbia University, has accepted an offer from the University to teach and study in the schools of North-eastern New Jersey. The appointment was made on the recommendations of several Columbia professors.

Mr. Lewis, who takes Mr. Doll's place, is the son of Victor E. Lewis, widely known supervisor of schools in Edwardsville.



WENDELL WILLKIE Says:

"I believe that the Federal government has a responsibility to equalize the lot of the farmer with



that of the manufacturer. If this cannot be done by parity prices, other means must be found—with the least possible regimentation of the farmer's affairs."

GOP Gains Support Clark's Prophecy Of Overwhelming Willkie Vote Here

Switch From Democratic To Republican Party Is Significant As Campaign Enters Crucial Stage

Claiming decisive gains in registration throughout the Dallas area, local Republican forces, headed by District Chairman Peter D. Clark, are poised for a drive to roll up an overwhelming majority for Wendell L. Willkie in this rock-ribbed Republican sector on November 5.

Although the campaign until now has been a quiet one, with activity confined to the organization leaders, it has not been without concrete results. At the special registration day at the borough building on Tuesday the GOP gained 86 voters by new registrations and changes of party affiliations.

The State campaign will move into high gear tonight when Governor Arthur H. James delivers a speech in Willkie's behalf over a nationwide radio hook-up. Within the next week a series of local political rallies, synchronized with the State and county campaign, will be started. It is also likely that a Republican headquarters will be opened in Dallas.

E. H. Kent of Huntsville is chairman of the Willkie Finance Committee which is soliciting contributions for the campaign fund in Luzerne County and hundreds of voters throughout this section received letters from Mr. Kent this week, inviting donations.

Women's committees are active in selling Willkie-McNary Dollar Certificates to help finance the campaign in Pennsylvania. Miss Dorothy James, who is chairman of the State-wide drive, sold her first certificate to her father, Governor James, on Wednesday.

"The sentiment in behalf of Mr. Willkie's candidacy in our district is most gratifying," District Chairman Clark said last night, in announcing that his committeemen are ready to plunge into the most decisive stage of the campaign. "Our Republican registration is bigger than it has ever been and it is still growing."

Margie Protests Powell's Parole

Court Orders Mental Test For 'Model Youth'

A parole for Joseph Powell, 25, West Pittston "model youth" who was jailed last spring for committing about \$1,000 worth of damage on Walter Margie's summer home at Harvey's Lake, was protested this week by Mr. Margie, on the grounds that he and his wife felt unsafe while Powell was at large.

The strange youth was given a sentence of from one to three years after he admitted visiting Margie's cottage at Warden Place seven times in 18 months to commit acts of vandalism in satisfaction of a grudge which arose from a petty quarrel the two men had several years before.

Powell slashed curtains, broke window panes, jabbed furniture with a knife and spread paint over a rug. He was arrested when he walked into a trap laid by Harvey's Lake police.

On petition of Powell's attorney, Judge Fine paroled the youth last week, after he had served five months of his term. Alarmed, Mrs. Margie promptly left the cottage which had been the scene of Powell's vandalism and on Monday Mr. Margie and Chief of Police Ira C. Stevenson of Harvey's Lake asked Judge Fine to reconsider the parole.

As a result, the judge had Powell returned to jail for a mental examination, the final decision on the disposition of his case to await the report of the physicians.

Waters Knows Vichy

Vichy, the seat of the new French government, is familiar to Dan Waters, secretary of Dallas Borough school district. While with the A. E. F., during the World War Mr. Waters was stationed at the famous French watering place for some months and had an opportunity to acquaint himself with the city and its numerous curative springs.

Martin To Address League

Prof. J. A. Martin, supervising principal of Kingston Township High School will speak at the Luther League devotional service at 7 Sunday night at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

MYSTERIOUS BLAST AT KENVIL WITNESSED BY LOCAL LAWYER

Attorney Peter P. Jurchak of Goss Manor, Dallas, was in an automobile a few hundred yards from the Hercules Power Co. plant near Kenvil, N. J., last Thursday when a mysterious blast wrecked the factory, killing 42 persons and injuring 85 more.

Although its activities are correlated with those of the National Republican Committee, the League is concerned primarily with the Willkie campaign, seeks no commitments on local candidates and has a strong non-partisan quality.

Mr. MacVeigh, a councilman in Dallas, will select committeemen throughout the Dallas area to carry on the League's program here.

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Although there will be no more registration days here, voters who desire to register, change their party affiliations or correct their voting addresses may do so at the court house in Wilkes-Barre until October 5.

Trend To GOP Continues

The switch from the Democratic party to the Republican, a reversal of the trend which cut GOP strength here six years ago when the New Deal was attracting independent voters and splurging on patronage, continued and 10 more Democrats changed their affiliation to Republican at the special registration day Tuesday.

The new GOP gains this week came on the heels of similar increases when Kingston Township had its special registration day two weeks ago.

New registrations recorded at the borough building on Tuesday were:

| | Rep. | Dem. |
|-------------------|------|------|
| Dallas Borough | 12 | 3 |
| Dallas Township | 50 | 5 |
| Jackson Township | 3 | |
| Lehman Township | 18 | 1 |
| Kingston Township | 5 | 1 |

Twenty nine voters changed their party affiliations from Democratic to Republican and four changed from Republican to Democratic.

In interesting contrast with the national situation, the Democratic party is weaker here now than it has been at any time probably in 75 years. The last official registration figure for the Sixth Legislative District showed 25,632 Republicans and 16,263 Democrats, with the GOP majority being even greater than that ratio in the Dallas end of the Sixth District.

Eipper Becomes Manager Of New York Dairy Farm

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Eipper and children, Janice and Robert, have moved from the Schooley Farm at Orange to Frankfort, N. Y., where Mr. Eipper will become manager of the Strathbar Dairy Farm. The Eipper's left Monday night for their new home.

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