

Everything
for
the Front

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

S & S for the Front

Don't shortstop
this newspaper
behind the line

Vol. 1—No. 195

1 Fr.

New York—PARIS—London

1 Fr.

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1945

U.S. Air Might Aids Reds

Foe Stiffens Line Inside West Wall

Nazi resistance stiffened as the battle for the Siegfried Line raged near its climax last night along a 25-mile defense arc between the inner West Wall bastions of Gemund and Prum.

German radio, picked up by the Mutual Broadcasting Co. in the U.S., said that Germans expected action hourly on the U.S. Ninth Army front. Other Nazi radio reports heard in London predicted the Allied offensive in the west, synchronized with Russian attacks in the east, would not be long delayed.

Frontline correspondents' reports that elements of the U. S. First and Third Armies had pierced the main Siegfried Line defenses near Gemund and Prum still lacked confirmation at Supreme Headquarters' public relations division last night.

Stars and Stripes Correspondent Russell Jones with the U.S. First Army said elements of both the 78th and Ninth Inf. Divs. had fought through the formal barrier in the northern sector of the arc, but heavy defenses still confront them.

U. S. Third Army forces burst the main Siegfried defenses at Brandscheid, northwest of Prum, but were battling heavy counterattacks there at last reports.

Resistance Stiffens

U.S. First Army's Second and Ninth Inf. Divs. neared the Nazi communications centers of Schleiden and Gemund, where German resistance was stiffening along a seven-mile front.

The Second Div.'s 38th Inf. Regt. battled renewed Nazi counter-thrusts in Hellenenthal, three miles southwest of Schleiden. Other infantry advanced 1,000 yards to the western outskirts of Scheurin, less than a mile northwest of Schleiden. At Scheurin they hit a cluster of German strongpoints which form a part of the perimeter of the eastern Siegfried Line belt.

The advance of the First Army met a new obstacle which the Germans had not planned. Melting snows were swelling the Olf River, which runs through the path of the American advance between the towns of Hellenenthal, Schleiden and Gemund.

Heavy Siegfried Line defenses were reported east of the swollen Olf River, which First Army Doughs have yet to cross.

North of the Second Div., Ninth
(Continued on Page 8)

His Own PRO —Or— Can You Top It?

LUXEMBOURG, Feb. 6.—1/Lt. H. E. Green, FA, is pretty busy around here. In fact he's as busy as a man with hives having a coast-to-coast epileptic fit. His duties, outlined in a recent letter: "Battery commander, executive officer, mess officer, supply officer, censor, police and prison officer, fire marshal, orientation officer, bond and insurance officer, athletic officer, utilities officer, chief of shelling report team, duty officer, officer of the day—and, of course, public relations officer."

Green wrote after seeing an item in The Stars and Stripes listing duties of another very busy officer and asking if anyone could top them. "I believe I do," wrote Green.

He also said he's getting a little anxious for the war to end.

(What's the matter, Lieutenant, getting bored?)

Thaw or No Thaw—Bridges Must Go Up



The prevailing thaw on the western Front these days isn't making things any easier for U.S. Army Engineers who are rebuilding bridges wrecked by the Germans when they retreated into the Siegfried Line. Here, men of Co. B of the 171st Engr. Bn., working waist deep in water, erect a foundation on one of the banks of a stream swollen by melting snow.

U.S. Forces Complete Liberation of Manila

MANILA, Feb. 6 (ANS).—Liberation of Manila and more than 5,000 prisoners from three years of Japanese subjugation was proclaimed today by Gen. MacArthur, who chose a day of victory to give the reminder that "Japan itself is our final goal."

The knockout blow was delivered by paratroopers of the 11th Airborne Div. who had made an overnight advance of 35 miles northward from Tagaytay Ridge.

They drove into Manila from the south as Yanks of the First Cav. and 37th Inf. Divs., who had won the northern half of the city, smashed across the Pasig River barrier and entered the southern half.

A token garrison which the Japanese left in Manila was surrounded, but still was resisting fiercely. American troops steadily reduced the size of the trap, and MacArthur said that destruction of the Japanese units was imminent. The Japanese had put the torch to the city's business district and Manila firemen were virtually helpless because there was no water pressure. Enemy troops had wrecked pumping stations.

Japs Blast Spans

Two of the four bridges spanning the wide Pasig River inside Manila were blown up by the Japanese. One was the concrete and steel Quezon Bridge and the other was the Ayala Bridge.

Eight hundred Allied prisoners of war and 550 civilian internees were freed Sunday from the ancient, vermin-infested Bilibid Prison in the center of Manila, which the Philippine government had abandoned as a penal institution before the war began.

These prisoners were set free by 37th Div. troops not long after First Cav. units had freed 3,700 persons from the Santo Tomas internment camp.

The Bilibid Prison staff fled and there was no fight there. At Santo Tomas, the Japanese commander took 270 hostages, including prominent American business men,

and held them until he had won safe conduct for himself and 65 of his men.

Four thousand of the persons liberated in Manila were Americans. They included 69 nurses taken on Bataan and Corregidor in 1942. Some of the nurses immediately began caring for American soldiers wounded in the sharp fighting at Santo Tomas.

Japs Were Cut Off

Meanwhile, any Japanese on Bataan were cut off by American forces which won complete control of the base of the peninsula. Strong Japanese forces in the Cayan Valley, of northeastern Luzon, were sealed off when Yank troops took San Jose and Balete Pass.

American bombers pounded the Cavite naval base, Corregidor and enemy-held airdromes south of Manila. Other planes attacked targets along the China coast and on Formosa.

Far to the southwest of the Philippines, Australian troops made another landing on New Britain, moving closer to Japanese troops on the Gazelle Peninsula.

End of One Phase, Start of Another

'On to Tokyo'—MacArthur

MANILA, Feb. 6 (ANS).—Gen. MacArthur said today that "the fall of Manila marks the end of one great phase of the Pacific struggle and sets the stage for another."

"We shall not rest until our enemy is completely overthrown," said a statement by MacArthur. "We do not count anything done as long as anything remains to be done. We are well on our way, but Japan itself is our final goal."

"With Australia safe, the Philippines liberated and the ultimate redemption of the East Indies and Malaya thereby made a certainty, our motto becomes 'On to Tokyo.' We are ready in this veteran and proven command when called upon. May God speed the day."

2 Soviet Armies Force Oder River

American bombers and Russian armies worked together yesterday. While two Red armies were fighting across the Oder toward Berlin, fleets of Britain-based bombers smashed at the centers through which the Germans could rush reinforcements to the Eastern Front.

U.S. bombs crashed into three great rail centers feeding Nazi lines defending the approaches to Berlin.

Heavies Hit Rail Centers

Powerful Eighth AF bomber fleets yesterday swung into tactical warfare in direct support of the Russian armies locked in battle along the Oder River line.

A column of 1,300 Forts and Libs, with a shield of 850 fighters, split three ways to mangle great rail centers in Magdeburg, Leipzig and Chemnitz.

These three cities—the main rail hubs of central Germany—feed trains to Berlin and the Wehrmacht's eastern line from the Saar, the Ruhr and industrial centers in the south. The lock-off of these districts, coupled with the choking off of Silesian munitions by the Reds, would greatly reduce the Nazi war effort.

Berlin Still Aflame

The heavies thundered close to the charred Nazi capital, which still was belching smoke from fires stoked by the bombs of RAF Mosquitoes Monday night. Magdeburg, one of the biggest railroad centers in the world, is 65 miles southwest of Berlin; Leipzig is farther south and Chemnitz, 30 miles from the Czech border, is 120 miles from Berlin.

A few of today's targets were bombed visually, but others were attacked through storm clouds that blacked out the view completely.

Only a few German planes were sighted. Not a single bomber was challenged.

Escorting fighters shot up 16 locomotives near Leipzig and raided an ammunition train and a troop train. They destroyed four Nazi planes on two airfields. One plane tried to rise, but was pounced on before it could get off the ground.

Ninth Hits Rails Behind West Front

American medium and fighter-bombers ended a 24-hour bad-weather pause yesterday with blows on Nazi communications opposite the First, Third and Ninth U.S. and First French Army fronts.

Ninth fighter-bombers hurled explosives into 15 railyards and wrecked or damaged almost 300 rail cars and 283 motor vehicles. Medjums pounded an ammo dump and struck at the Berg Gladback vehicle depot near Cologne for the second time in four days.

The First Tac AF battered German communications in the Rhine Valley, splattering locomotive and rail cars and strafing marshalling yards at Offenburg.

Koniev's Army Gains 15 Miles

Two Red armies yesterday forced the Oder River in strength on fronts 150 miles apart and engaged the Germans in furious fighting beyond that last big water barrier protecting the Reich capital.

Marshal Stalin announced that Marshal Ivan Koniev's First Ukrainian Army troops had smashed across the river southeast of Breslau after breaking strongly-fortified German positions on the west bank. Capturing six important communication towns in their first surge through enemy defenses, Koniev's troops last night had gained 15 miles on a 50-mile front in a push north toward the Breslau-Berlin super-highway.

German radio, declaring the zero hour had arrived for Berliners, said that Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First White Russian Army, posed for a frontal assault on the German capital, held at least six bridgeheads at scattered sections over the Oder on a 55-mile front from south of Frankfurt to a point somewhere northwest of Kuestrin.

Reds in Key Cities' Suburbs

Official front line reports told of intense Red artillery hammering at German positions on the west bank of the river, while Red Army storm troops fought bitter battles in the suburbs of flaming Kuestrin and Frankfurt—keystone cities of the Oder River line.

Official Moscow reports placed Zhukov's troops less than 34 miles from the German capital, while enemy announcements said that the Soviets were but 30 miles away.

Heavy armored battles were raging into the third day for the town of Kienitz, 15 miles northwest of Kuestrin, on the west bank of the Oder, and at Fuerstenberg, 14 miles south of Frankfurt and also on the west bank of the Oder. Other engagements.

(Continued on Page 8)

Senate Postpones Vote On Roosevelt Promotion

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (ANS).—The Senate yesterday delayed for one week a vote on the promotion of Col. Elliott Roosevelt to brigadier general on the grounds that they wanted more time to consider the advancement of the President's 34-year-old son.

In doing so, the Senate also delayed the promotion of 77 other colonels to one-star rank. The delay was voted unanimously on the motion of Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley after polite partisan byplay featured by references to the priority-plane ride taken by Col. Roosevelt's bull mastiff, Blaze.

3-Star Generals Confirmed

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (ANS).—The Senate has unanimously confirmed the promotion of three officers to the rank of lieutenant general. They are: Leonard Gerow, Commanding General of the V Corps; William H. Simpson, Commanding General of the Ninth Army, and Albert C. Wedemeyer, U.S. commander in the China-Burma theater.



Thanks

We were on a Holland pass, and had the same ODs we had on the front lines. There didn't seem to be any clean clothing available. We took it for granted we'd be stuck with the dirty clothing till we bumped into the 463rd Quartermaster Laundry. The Negro personnel—swell bunch of fellows—told us to take off our clothing and they'd have them cleaned within the hour, which they did and also supplied showers.

After getting off the line two things we look forward to are clean clothing and showers. Thanks, fellows.—Sgt. Steven Gou-shakjian, Inf.

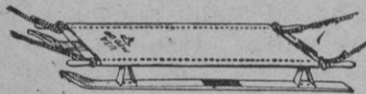
Sorry Sideshow

The Soviet Embassy once published an article saying Germany was preparing for a third World War, with Spain and Argentina chosen for preservation of the Hitlerite reserves.

What is being done to avert this fresh German aggression, if it is true? The Saturday Evening Post also published articles on the Argentine Army. Are we going to take measures or are we going to sit by and watch another blood bath in the making? People again are watching the main event and forgetting the little sideshow that will go over big in another ten years.—Cpl. Frank J. Kuplin, Inf.

GI on the Job

Below is a sketch showing a fast and effectual means of casualty evacuation on the front. We merely bolted skis to the regular MD litter and rigged it as shown. Of course, terrain must not be too hilly, but



we have proven the efficiency of the ski-equipped litter over fairly rugged terrain. It saves wear and tear on litter-bearer and patient. The skis are to be found in numerous abandoned homes and villages.—Lt. P. Kneel, Med.

Adv't (?)

I would like to know who ever got the idea a man outdoors 24 hours a day could keep his feet from freezing with leather shoes and overshoes. I have eel-fished at 20 below zero; driven a milk route in Maine at 35 below, and had warm feet.

I say give us proper footwear, and stop needless frost-bitten feet. Did you ever hear of Endicott and Johnson's felt shoes? One pair of them, one pair of woolen socks, and overshoes—no more foot trouble.—S/Sgt. Guyowen H. Howard, Inf.

Salvage Jerry Tires

As a jeep driver I see many Jerry tires, most of which will not fit our American vehicles. Some are new, some old. Could they be used? Any of us will be glad to pick them up and turn them in.—Pfc F. C. Taylor, Inf.

(G-4 says yes. Turn them over to Ordnance. Serviceable ones are used on captured vehicles in use by us. Others are analyzed by chemists; usable materials are salvaged and utilized in rubber manufacturing plants now operating in the ETO.—Ed.)

National Guard Service

Does National Guard service before Federal induction count on 30-year retirement?—S/Sgt. B. G. Bugg, S/Sgt. C. J. Wheatley. (No. See AR 615-395, p. 7B.—Ed.)

Is a soldier formerly in the National Guard authorized to wear the pre-Pearl Harbor ribbon and hashmarks for hitches served in the Guard?—Sgt. J. C., Inf.

(Ribbon is for active service at any time between Sept. 16, 1940, and Dec. 7, 1941. No hashmarks authorized for previous enlistments in Guard. See AR 600-40, p. 55.—Ed.)

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Printed at the New York Herald Tribune Plant, 21 Rue de Berri, Paris, for the U.S. armed forces under auspices of the Information and Education Division, Special and Information services, ETOUSA. Tel.: ELYsées 40-58, 41-49.

Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors. Entered as second class matter, Mar. 15, 1943, at the post office, New York, N.Y., under the act of Mar. 3, 1879.

Vol. 1, No. 195

Hash Marks

There's a Pfc over here who is particularly anxious to again be a civilian and revert to his "permanent rank." His name is General S. Wilkett.

Today's silly verse has a post-war flavor: A little bird sat on a telegraph wire, And said to his mates, "I declare, "If wireless telegraphy comes into vogue, "We'll all have to sit on the air."

From Sgt. P. D. Freshley comes word that the new greeting from one German to another is: "Greetings Gate, let's capitulate!"

Pvt. Frank Bushek tells this draftee story. A selectee came shuffling up to the induction



center with a seeing-eye dog and was classified 4F only because his seeing-eye dog had flat feet.

Things must be getting gay on the Home Front. We understand that grandma who once wore a nightcap now drinks it!

After watching our heavy bombers go on their missions of destruction over the Reich, Pfc J. A. Baldassare suggests that the planes should announce the peace. On the day the war ends, sez he, they should spread the glad tidings either by loudspeakers or by sky-writing!

Back in the old days, it was a boy's ambition to grow up to fill his father's shoes. Nowadays the girls want to grow up to fill mama's sweater.

Our spy on the Home Front reports hearing the following conversation via a Coast Guard telephone line: "Hey, bud, got any Spare-parts?"

We have a letter from some Joes who sign themselves "the filthy six." They say that at their reinforcement pool there is a group of former Com Z engineers who are slightly browned-off. It seems they



volunteered for the infantry after hearing their first sergeant announce that "volunteers would train in a camp near 'Boston.'" What the topkick really said was "Bastogne."

The seven ages of a woman—the infant, the little girl, the miss, the young woman, the young woman, the young woman.

GI Philosophy. Thrift is a wonderful virtue—in an ancestor.

And then there was the little moron who thought the Articles of War were obsolete equipment to be sold by the War Department after the war is over.

J. C. W.



"Hold it Mac, this ground is occupied."

An Editorial

Must Is the Word

SURE, the news is good. No doubt about it. "West Wall Cracked Again," reads one headline. "Soviets Cross Oder" says another. "Half of Manila Liberated by U.S. Forces" reads a third.

To many readers, here and at home, the war must seem on ice. That's exactly where it is. Ice that's thick in some places. Thin in others. Nothing but a film in the middle. And still open water most of the way.

Headline-happy optimism is one sure way to delay the day when the ice will be crossed. When we reach the other side—to victory.

Victory depends on blood, not ice. That's why, for our money, the really good news in the paper was the squib on the Manpower Bill. "It would tell our fighting men," said Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, "that they will get the weapons and supplies that they must have." And the men.



You can say that again, Mr. Patterson. This war won't be won by good news. By optimism. By headlines. By wishful thinking.

Take it from the writer of this editorial, Mr. Patterson. He's fought in the mud and the blood of the Roer. What the front needs is men and more men. Weapons and

more weapons. Supplies and more supplies. Everything and all that American manpower and industry can feed it. Everything. And all.

They call the proposed Manpower Law the May Bill. That name ought to be changed. There can't be any May about it. MUST is the word.

Hitler's Use of Reserves for Ardennes Drive Crippled Nazi Defense in East, SHAEF Says

Germany's decisive defeat in the Ardennes seriously impaired Nazi power to stem the Russian offensive, a Supreme Headquarters estimate of the Ardennes operation disclosed yesterday. The estimate was made in a 1,500-word report, one of the most detailed and comprehensive SHAEF has released since D-Day.

To attempt this offensive, Hitler had to use his only strategic reserve and practically every offensive division in the west. These were employed at a time when he should have kept a strategic reserve in Germany to meet the Russian drive—which he should have expected, the estimate said.

Instead, it added, Hitler threw practically everything he had into the vaunted winter offensive. Two weeks after the attack began in mid-December, Nazi commanders had had enough of it.

Saved By Bad Weather

They began withdrawing into the Siegfried Line. Only the incidence of extraordinarily bad weather saved the Nazis in the Ardennes from another Falaise pocket, the summary commented.

Reviewing the Wehrmacht's defeat in France, the SHAEF estimate said it was the 12th Army Group's drive between September and mid-December which drew the German Sixth S.S. Panzer Army to the west of the Rhine, thereby preventing Hitler from using it against the Russian drive.

"Moreover," SHAEF said, "it was the Ardennes venture that butchered up the Sixth Panzer Army and seriously weakened its offensive power for any future operation. "Our Red ally is making Hitler pay heavily for these mistakes."

Three Armies Included

For the Ardennes offensive, the German High Command concentrated reserves including the Fifth S.S. Panzer Army, refitted just before the drive, and the Seventh Army in addition to the Sixth Panzer Army.

Enemy forces totaled 24 divisions. Ten of these were panzer divisions.

The attack was launched at the weakest part of the Allied line, in the thinly-held center of the 12th Army Group. Hitler planned to carry the line of the Meuse in two days and Antwerp in three weeks. He thought he would cut off 38 Allied divisions.

Rundstedt, the SHAEF estimate said, saw the effort in its true light. He called it "an all-out gamble."

Because of the early rupture of north-south communications in the 12th Army Group, Field Marshal

Sir Bernard L. Montgomery was directed to take temporary command of all troops north of the breakthrough. Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley fought the battle on the south flank.

Both commanders were directed to throw in defensive forces to stop the attack and get set for a counter-blow. Gen. Bradley started his counter-attacks instantly. He kept attacking until his forces had joined the isolated defenders of Bastogne.

"From that moment," the SHAEF summary said, "the issue was never in doubt."

After the First and Third Armies re-joined, Gen. Bradley resumed command of the First.

SHAEF said enemy casualties on the Western Front in December and January totaled 220,000 men, of which 110,000 were prisoners of war. The bulk of these casualties were incurred in the Ardennes battles which began Dec. 16 and continued through January.

Since D-Day, SHAEF said, the Germans have lost 860,000 prisoners to Allied forces. They killed and long-term wounded total well over 400,000, or almost 110 divisions.

Mauldin's Cartoons of War To Be Published Soon As Book

A book containing 170 of Bill Mauldin's best cartoons will be published by Henry Holt in New York this spring, it was revealed in a current Life magazine article which hailed him as the "top cartoonist of the war."

The volume will be the third Mauldin collection put out. Two pamphlets, entitled "Sicily Sketchbook" and "Mud, Mules and Mountains," sold 17,000 and 300,000 copies respectively. The first was published by the 45th Inf. Div. and the second by The Stars and Stripes in Italy.

The latest collection will include some of the sketches drawn since Mauldin landed in southern France on D-Day, Aug. 15. Bill later returned to Italy, but is now in France to cover the Western Front.

Mauldin, a 23-year-old former National Guardsman, "is applauded by his GI subjects as their sympathetic ally and exponent," Life said. "Their commanders endorse him as an invaluable creator of military morale."

In Italy, the article said, his cartoons piqued rear-echelon commanders because "they were bad for morale—of the base section men." But Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark and other field commanders supported him because the sketches had a "tonic effect on front line soldiers."

Gen. Clark, Lt. Gen. Lucien K. Truscott and Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Keyes are among the many high-

ranking Allied leaders who asked for and now own original Mauldin drawings. One field general assigned him a personal jeep—his only privilege—to help him get around the front. Bill received the Purple Heart after being wounded near Venafro, Italy.



(583 Kc. — 514 M.)

Table with radio program listings for 'TODAY' and 'TOMORROW' including times and program names like 'String Serenade', 'Saddlebags', 'RCAP Show', etc.

Table with radio program listings for 'TODAY' and 'TOMORROW' including times and program names like 'Rise and Shine', 'Morning News', etc.

Births: Folk at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival!

L. T. J. P. Deegan, Austin, Texas—girl, yesterday.

T Tomorrow

"... when we assumed the role of soldier we did not lay aside the role of citizen."

George Washington, 26 June, 1775

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1945

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Vol. 1—No. 8

Page 3

Peacetime Army Plan Draws New Arguments

By Richard Oulahan Jr.

Tomorrow's U. S. bureau

The question of America's postwar Army—the forces with which we will keep the peace—is a topic of hot discussion and debate throughout the country these days, and action on peacetime military training is expected to draw high priority on the calendar of the new Congress. President Roosevelt touched off public discussion at a press conference Nov. 17, when he said he intended to ask the new Congress for action on the conscription question "this winter." It's been going strong ever since.

The peacetime Army is not a new topic. For more than a year two bills have been before the House of Representatives—the May Bill, which calls for compulsory military training for all youths as soon as they reach the age of 17 or graduate from high school, whichever is first; and the Gurney-Wadsworth Bill, which asks for a year's service for young men within three years after their eighteenth birthday.

The debate now going on is not so much on the issue of conscription, as such. It is, rather, a discussion of what form the proposed universal training should take, and when action should be taken.

They Ask Delay

One of the latest expressions came from 12 university presidents, who have asked President Roosevelt to delay consideration of the "highly controversial question" of universal postwar military training "at least until complete victory over Germany is achieved." In a letter made public, the educators said: "We suggest that experience with prohibition amendment indicates unwisdom of attempting to determine long-run revolutionary policies in wartime."

They added: "Continuing program of public education as to requirements of national defense is certainly in order, but we challenge the necessity of urging American people to act under tensions of war psychology in order to bring them to decision which it is said they would not reach under more normal conditions."

Signers are: Oliver C. Carmichael of Vanderbilt, James B. Conant of Harvard, Edmund E. Day of Cornell, Harold W. Dodds of Princeton, Rufus C. Harris of Tulane, Robert M. Hutchins of Chicago, Frederick A. Middlebush of Missouri, Deane W. Malott, Chancellor of the University of Kansas, Robert G. Sproul of California, Donald B. Tressider of Stanford, Herman B. Wells of Indiana, and Henry M. Wriston of Brown.

The National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver, found that 79 percent of the people questioned are in favor of postwar military training. A solid 17 percent of those questioned, however, were flatly opposed to any law which would "require boys to take a year's military

training after the war, when they become 18 years old." A compilation of polls puts the American public opinion at about 70 percent in favor of postwar conscription.

American women as a group, are even more in favor of conscription, according to a survey made by the Women's Home Companion. In answer to the question: "Do

Soldiers Favor Peace Army

Members of the armed forces have indicated they strongly favor postwar universal training. In War Department surveys conducted during the past year in all theaters, Army men voted variously from 65 to 69 percent in favor of post-war conscription.

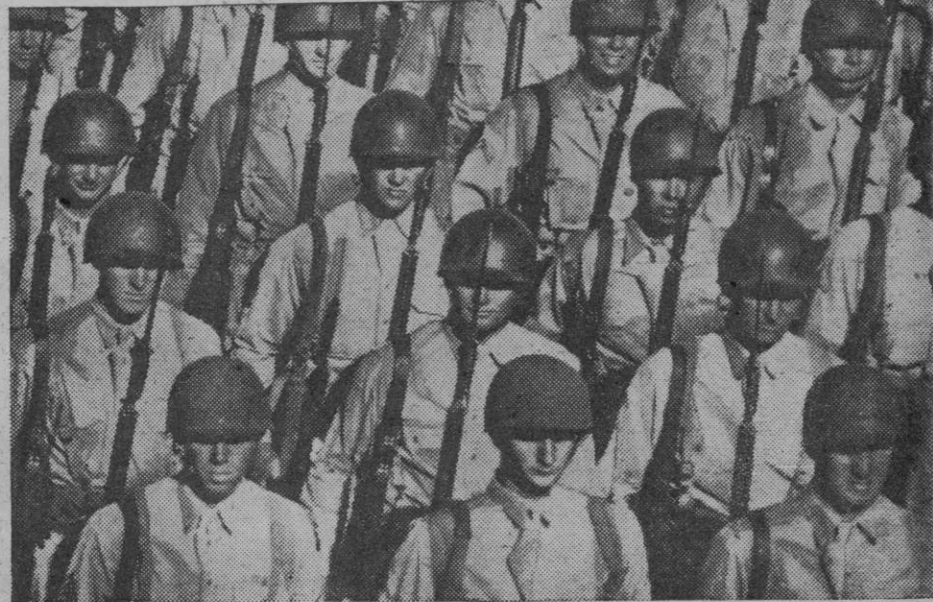
Veterans' groups appeared wholly in favor of the proposed draft. The Legion, actively campaigning for immediate passage of laws for conscription, advocated in a booklet, a post-war program calling for a "respectable" Army and Merchant Marine, and a Navy equal to combined fleets of the rest of the world. The Veterans of Foreign Wars favored a permanent Army of three million—some two million above current Congressional estimates.

you believe your men should be required to devote one year to military training in peacetime?" 83 percent answered "yes."

But in sharp contrast to this, American schoolgirls—the women of tomorrow—were opposed, as a group, to conscription, according to a sampling made by the Institute of Public Opinion through scholastic magazines. Only 38.5 percent said they favored "one year's compulsory military training for 17-to-23 year old boys after the war."

Boys questioned on the same survey disagreed with the girls, and voted 58.5 percent in favor of a postwar draft Army. In the recent survey, 60,555 girls and 52,965 boys were polled.

Among the few groups which took a stand against postwar conscription of any kind



Associated Press.

was the Board of Managers of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, which condemned "something so entirely revolutionary to our way of life." Although this group is not necessarily representative of American teachers as a whole, there were some educators who saw a threat to educational institutions in a law which would take away man teen-aged students for a year's service.

A brisk argument developed over the immediacy of the question. President Roosevelt, supported by the Army, the Navy, and a sizable portion of the press, was in favor of action "this winter." Other groups sought delay in any decision on our postwar Army until after the peace. The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America came out openly for delay. This brought a protesting flood of editorials from the pro-conscription press.

The Papers Comment

Other religious groups were quick to back up the Council of Churches, and clerical thought in America seemed to be overwhelmingly against any action on the question until after the defeat of Germany and Japan.

Some newspapers supported the view of the churches. Said the San Diego Union: "It would seem that final decision could well be held in abeyance until the conclusion of the war gives our men in the Armed forces a chance to express their views on the matter."

Typical comment was in the Washington Post's rebuttal to the American Council of Churches. Said the Post: "The United Nations must be founded in strength—the strength of the great powers... To shrink from that reality would be to jeopardize the new venture in collective security at the very outset." The New York Times asserted: "We believe that our friends abroad would prefer, when the war ends, to see this country militarily strong rather than militarily weak."

Behind the Front

Jet Plane Output High

WAR Production Board officials said in Washington that jet-propelled fighter planes will displace standard fighter escort craft to a large degree in the war against Japan. According to the New York Times, the scheduled increase in jet planes for this year is "terrific," and for next year it may top all single plane production. Also marked for greater output are B-17s and B-24s, with the increase in B-29s expected to be very slight, the Times said.

The Mariana

THE United States must keep the Marianas as a permanent Western Pacific "Pearl Harbor," believes Artemus Gates, Assistant Secretary of Navy for Air. He expressed his views in an interview two days after the announcement that Admiral Chester W. Nimitz had established forward headquarters several thousand miles west of Pearl Harbor. Exact location was not disclosed. Gates, who has just returned from a tour that included Guadalcanal, the Admiralties, and the Philippines, said other bases should also be kept and maintained. He also commented that American carrier forces will encounter more and better enemy planes—some probably jet-propelled—as they hit closer and closer to the heart of Japan.

Navy Boosts Tonnage

SECRETARY Forrestal said the Navy will ask Congress for funds to build an additional half-a-million tons of ships over the three-and-a-half-million tonnage called for in 1945 schedule. Forrestal said the Navy is planning for a long war.

New Cars Shelved

HOPES for the production of passenger cars this year and for an immediate post-war automobile in abundance were dashed by a report of the Office of War Information. The OWI estimated a "pent-up public demand" for 12 to 15 million new cars after the war. This would require three years of record-breaking production. The agency said no new passenger cars would be turned out in 1945. Meanwhile, a million and a half cars are being taken off U.S. roads yearly and the supply of new automobiles in the hands of essential drivers is "dangerously low."

French Plants Mobilized

FIRST contracts under a program to bring French industry back into the war effort call for production of Army tires at the Renault plant near Paris and the Michelin plant at Clermont, the United Press reports. Also included is production of duck. The United States is behind schedule on these two items, said the UP. The combined Production and Resources Board conferred with officials in Washington on such questions as co-ordinating tire production and deciding how French output might be expanded to handle essential French needs. Paris alone was said to need 4,000 new tires for food distribution. Both the Renault and Michelin plants were left undamaged by the Nazis, with the former already repairing Army tires at the rate of 7,000 a week. Most French textile mills also were undamaged. With labor abundant, only raw materials are needed to start production, said the dispatch.

Reduction of 4-F Toll Is Health Plan Goal

By Jack Caldwell
Tomorrow Staff Writer

A nation-wide network of health centers which would bring benefits of medical science within reach of everyone is advocated by the Senate Subcommittee on Wartime Health and Education as the first step toward curbing the country's high 4-F rate.

Advocates of the plan, including the United States Public Health Service, declare that future security lies in the health of the nation and that the current trend bodes anything but good. It is estimated that between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 men of draft age are unfit for military duty—many suffering ills that timely treatment easily would have remedied.

"It took a war for us to realize the unhealthy state of our nation," declared one proponent of the plan. "Now it's high time something was done so we won't be faced with the same problem should an emergency ever arise again."

The national "health center" system would consist of four basic types of medical center facilities—the small neighborhood or community health center, the rural hospital, the district hospital and, finally, the large base hospital. Federal grants in aid and a large post-war hospital building program would be necessary to setting up such a system.

The idea, as well as presenting health aids, would be a source of employment for thousands of military medical aidmen and technicians now getting their training on the world's battlefronts.

The Senate Subcommittee, in its report,



Healthy future mothers, healthy sons—and a healthy nation.

labeled the present "pay-as-you-go" method of payment for medical services as "unsatisfactory" for most people and for the widest possible distribution of high-quality medical care. Instead, it tends to keep patients from doctors until illness is so severe that medical ills are out of hand, it is claimed.

The committee favors some form of group financing which would offer complete medical care, reasonable but not "cut-rate," and which would permit free choice of physicians.

High Rejections Over 29

A Selective Service survey on more than 9,000,000 men given physical examinations from April, 1942, through December, 1943, shows high rejections among those over 29 years.

The best record is held by students, majority of whom are in the lower-age brackets. Only 25.7 percent were turned away from the armed forces. Mental ailments and deficiencies led the causes for rejection. Among other principal reasons were injuries, heart disease, syphilis, ear and eye defects, hernia, nerve ailments and tuberculosis.

A draft study covering seven months of 1943 showed Oregon, Kansas, Utah, Washington and Idaho with the lowest turn-down rates in the country.

National Service Test Near Weighed by House Group

Hearings Today on 4-F Induction Plans Expected to Include Proposed Draft of Nurses and Entire Manpower Problem

By C. P. TRUSSELL
WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Sigs developed today that the hearing beginning tomorrow before House Military Affairs Committee legislation to exert more effective controls over 4-F draft might expand into consideration of a minimum of 1200 additional war workers will be required by New Orleans industry.

The Kids Kick In!

Congress Blamed for War Losses Through Inaction on Labor Draft

Citizens Committee Says Body Has 'Shut Its Eyes Too Long' to Measure 'Selfish Groups' Called Obstructionists

ARMY, NAVY TO BACK WORK-OR-FIGHT LAW FOR ALL MEN 18 TO 45

Congress Plans Action On Manpower Needs
WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (AP)—over foreign policy, is ready to knock-down and draw-out action on the measure.

SCREEN CIVIL JOBS FOR WAR WORKERS
WMC Eastern Chiefs Begin Manpower Survey Looking to Transfer of 120,000

WMC Seeks Vets For Vital War Jobs
WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (A. P.)—veterans will be encouraged in critical

the responsibility lies not with them and not with the War and Navy Departments, but with the members of Congress. pointed out that forth bill, which carefully drawn since Feb. 8, years. It said wing "proper safeguards."



Robert Clow and Elwood Chev, of Burbank, Cal., spend vacations working in airplane plants.



J. R. Henning, aviation company inspector, checks work of students at California trade school.



Instructors and students at Massachusetts plant making aviation goggles work side by side.

By Robert Iglehart
Tomorrow's U.S. Bureau

THEY'VE stowed away tinker toys and Erector sets; they're making P-51s and ships and shells instead.

Ever since big brother-packed a rod and went off to war, creating a man shortage in industry and farms, Junior got on the ball—and a pair of coveralls—and took over.

The kids are kicking in.

Boys and girls of high school age—14 to 19—are manning the machines, the plows; they're punching the time-clock now. A short while back two 17-year-old lads tacked up a new record for making plastic hatches for planes, shattering a previous mark set by three men.

Record Harvest

The High School Victory Corps, sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education, romped away on salvage campaigns, turning up with stores of kit bags, bandages, sweaters and about anything else they could latch on to.

Many have infiltrated the retail trades, or the service industries, such as restaurants, hotels, filling stations and laundries. Others—one-fifth of this age group—took to the farm. And despite the fact that during 1943 there were one million less workers on American farms, the harvest figures showed a 25-percent increase over 1942. Much of the credit was showered on boypower.

One out of every 10 of the teen-agers found his way into a war plant, where employer criticism has been favorable, especially in aircraft production. Said the manager of Vega: "Boypower has given us some of our outstanding workers and fewest employe problems."

From Lockheed comes the claim that kids advance 25 percent faster than the average adult worker, and many production records have been set by them. But not all the story is blue ribbons and ice cream. The lure of independence and attractive

wages has drawn many children into jobs and unfortunate environments. The wartime increase in juvenile delinquency is partly attributed to the ease in which youngsters find work away from home. Many have bade farewell to classrooms long before acquiring sufficient training

so that they might hold jobs in normal times. National and local government and numerous employers have done all but the impossible to provide housing and recreation, which rank as two of the leading problems. Others, formerly headed for college, are now wielding screwdrivers and pitchforks. Educators voice the fear that these teen-agers may feel that school will be too tame for them. Then, too, is the feeling that post-war jobs won't absorb the youngsters, thus giving them an easy chance to shift into unskilled labor, due to lack of training.

Fight War First

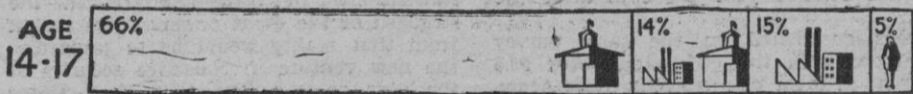
What to do? Various youth programs have been proposed, or are now in process of formulation—programs to care for American youth—but not much can be done until after the war. The U.S. Office of Education fights hard to convince high school students that they are of greater usefulness by first finishing their training; with the result that a million and one-half remain in study halls, or on part-time jobs.

Vocational schools are combining actual work experience with study. Educators are anxious that the largest possible percentage of young workers return to schools after the war. Because many of them would be older and more experienced than their classmates, they many steer clear of the return-to-school plan. Part of the answer put forth for this lies in the establishment of special classes, made up of returning students only.

What do the kids think? Most of them feel that these problems will be ironed out later. Just now they are at work, and as one put it: "We'll fight the war first; the home problems second."

It's Reading 'n' Riting . . . 'n' Riveting

Last year 7 million—one out of every two boys and girls in the 14-19 age group—were either in the armed forces or at work. In 1940, only one out of four was so engaged. Of the 14 to 17-year-olds, about one million and a half are working and attending school, while another million and a half hold down full-time jobs. Since 1940 there was an 18 per cent increase in the number of kids who are working after school hours, and 20 per cent of them put in an average of 20 hours per week in war plants. Those who work full-time average 47 hours per week. A majority of the 18 and 19-year-olds are even closer to the war, and many of them are in the armed forces. Their civilian classmates at home are also pulling their weight. Men in this age group are averaging a 51-hour week, the girls about 42.



Of the kids 14 to 17, 66 percent are in full time school, 14 percent work part-time after school, 15 percent work full time, 5 percent aren't able to work or go to school.



The 18-19-year-olds. Ten percent in full time school, four percent in school and working, 39 percent full time work, 35 percent in armed forces, 12 percent not in school or work.



Wide World.
Youths from 16 to 18 years of age throng employment office of Wisconsin war plant in response to government's plea for more workers to meet stepped-up war needs.



INS.
Bicycles beat gas ration problem, and are lots of fun, too, for high school students who have signed up for after-school jobs at busy California aircraft factories.

Main Street

By Igor Cassini
Tomorrow Staff Writer.

WISCONSIN'S Governor Walter S. Goodland, serving his first elective term, is the oldest Chief Executive in the history of any state. He is 82... In BUFFALO, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Delaney returned from a party, found a stranger asleep in their bed, noted that the intruder had also used Mr. Delaney's toothbrush and hair tonic.

In LOS ANGELES, Cal., a psychiatric patient was asked if he were Napoleon. He craftily said "No." A lie detector showed he was lying... From NEW YORK it was disclosed that a new device which harnesses rays of sun to make drinking water from sea water is now being turned out pocket-size for Army and Navy fliers forced down in tropical waters.

United Seamen's Service headquarters in MANHATTAN instructed its branches to stop sending gift cats to U.S. tanker crews. Reason: the static electricity in cats' fur makes it a fire hazard... The Stethoscope, a naval-hospital newspaper in SEATTLE, Wash., offered a prize to anyone at the hospital who could identify Betty Grable's legs from a selection of leg-art photos. The winner: a chaplain.

In CHARLOTTE, N.C., a husky fireman, responding to a three-alarm blaze, found smoke pouring from a parked truck in midtown, raised the hood, saw flames around the carburetor, bent over, blew out the blaze. Puff! Just like that.

In the sparsely settled regions of the Sawtooth Mountains in CALIFORNIA, a motorist was traversing an area of uninhabited wasteland. Coming to a tiny cluster of four cabins at a crossroads, he stopped his car and hailed a native standing beside the road. "I'm looking for the town of Belden," he said. "Can you direct me to it?"

"Stranger," replied the rustic laconically, "don't move a damn inch."

Three Tennessee towns—MEMPHIS, NASHVILLE and CHATTANOOGA—have received Federal approval for construction of 850 dwelling units to relieve the wartime congestion... In SAN DIEGO, Cal., Peros Protopapadakis made application to change his name to Petros FDR Protopapadakis.

At FORT MEADE, Md., a soldier, newly arrived at the Separation Center for his discharge, went AWOL... At FORT LEWIS, Wash., Pfc Sol Katz, back from furlough in THE BRONX, reported that he had lost his watch when a jewelry repair store was robbed, his uniform when the cleaners burned down, one of his medals to a thief on the train, and his garrison cap, which he left in the baggage rack. What's worse, he found that he had returned a day early.

J. B. Smith, 102, died recently in CANON CITY, Col. His life claim was that he was one of the soldiers on guard on the platform where Lincoln gave the Gettysburg address... A near record catch probably brought Maine lobster fishermen the highest income in their history. The report to the Fisheries' Co-ordinator in PORTLAND, Maine, gave the year's catch at 14,500,000 pounds.

WASHINGTON'S Office of War Information disclosed that war dogs have lost one of their most perilous jobs—detecting wooden and plastic mines—because better detection methods have been perfected. A school of "Military De-education" for dogs is already functioning at FORT ROBINSON, Neb., and the Army will return to owners all dogs which prove adaptable to civilian life. Not so easy to get a discharge, even for a dog!

The GI Huddle

Big Brothers

Recently the GI Huddle impressed me with an idea. Since so many issues are up—what to Do with Germany, Occupation, Demobilization, Postwar Security, Bonus, Education, Surplus Material, and Peacetime Army—why not issue a questionnaire of the important items concerning Army life and let GI Joe vote on it.

After the first war, many years later, the service men received benefits after creating a disturbance. I'm sure we have enough intelligent men to avoid this, and give the service man what he needs. Since we are recognized as big brothers to other countries, let's think first and be big brothers to ourselves.

Pvt. J. J. Jendrzewski.

Regular Army Guy

Why has the fellow that plans to return to the ranks of the Regular Army been discriminated against? Army publications are full of advantages offered service men upon return to civilian life, but not a single item has appeared outlining what future is in store for Regular Army career men.

Where will he fit into the picture of return to former jobs, educational factors, opportunity to enter business, land grants, civil service jobs and other advantages?



Is my privilege going to be one of pre-war status, being called a bum because I wore the uniform of a soldier, trying to save an occasional dollar after deducting haircut, dry cleaning, pressing, laundry, shoe repair, insurance, bills from my \$21 per month, etc? I can picture myself guaranteeing my family life, liberty, pursuit of happiness under those conditions. Perhaps the War Dept. has in mind discouraging individuals from selecting the Army as a career; if that is true, they have succeeded as far as I am concerned. If not they had better not plan on a flood of re-enlistment applications when those that have intentions are fully aware of the advantages the Army offers, a bed, a meal, a job.

A Professional Soldier.

The Kid Speaks

In reference to your recently published article, I'd like to express my point of view about: "Kids Demand Vote."

It happens that I am 18 years of age and I have fought in the U.S. Army Paratroops since July 19, 1942. I fought in Normandy and in Holland, and I am going back to the front soon. I have the Purple Heart and a Cluster to go with it. Now don't you people think that youngsters—or kids—call us what you wish—should at least have the right to vote for what we are fighting for? I don't think anyone knows more about what we are fighting for than the youngsters who are fighting this war.

If we kids haven't got brains enough to vote because we are too young, then would you please get us the HELL out of this Army.

Pvt. Richard E. Thorne,
501st Pchnt. Inf.

(Now wait a minute—)

'We Propose...'

A favorite topic for discussion among soldiers is the bonus issue. The policy of Congress is entirely disagreeable to us. In fairness to all a soldier's bonus should be paid for combat, length of time overseas, and also time spent in the States.

We propose the sum of 50 cents for every day served in the States, one dollar



for every day overseas, and \$1.50 for every day spent in combat! We think this makes sense, don't you?

T/4 Joseph Stankovich
T/4 Morris Oppenheim
T/4 Leonard D. Grenier
Pfc. John Di Fazio.

(We don't care to get involved, fellows. Arguing with Congress is like arguing with first sergeants—well, almost.)

Mess Kits and Enemies

Every time I pick up a paper I see where some big shot is trying to convince the people back home that one year's training is necessary for 18-year-olds. Well I don't think it is. I came in the Army when I was 18 and I have said many times, if I had had another year at least, I would be better mentally fit for the Army.

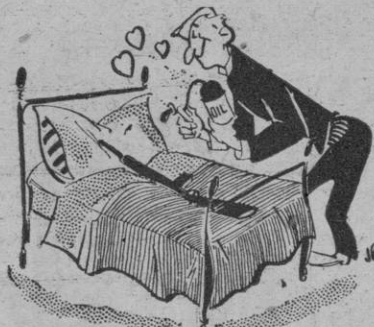
If 18-year-olds must have military training, why don't they make it compulsory in college? The average 18-year-old is in college at that age, and I know he would rather spend a couple of hours each day learning to march, than to spend every day in an Army camp learning to eliminate his enemy and how to shine a mess kit for Saturday's inspection.

If they must have military training, give them R.O.T.C., but for the safety of future generations keep them out of the Army.

Pvt. Leonard Griffin.

One Carbine, Please

In 1920 I was a boy of 14 and I will remember the way left-over war material was disposed of. After hostilities things



were stored and later sold in large lots to dealers and junkies.

Now I have a few souvenirs of European origin, but what I'd like most, after all the shooting, is my own carbine. I have looked after that gun, cared for it and relied upon it.

It seems to me Uncle Sam should let a soldier buy his gun, not at a replacement cost, but at a reasonable second-hand price.

T/5 Adrian W. Fredricks, Div. Arty.

On Making Statements

At the annual meeting in Atlantic City, Jan. 12, of the Association of American Colleges the educators voiced strong opposition to universal military conscription.

Dr. Paul Bowman, President of Bridgewater College, Va., expressed fear that a year of conscription might regiment young boys in the routine of the military system and thereby cripple them for life in free society.

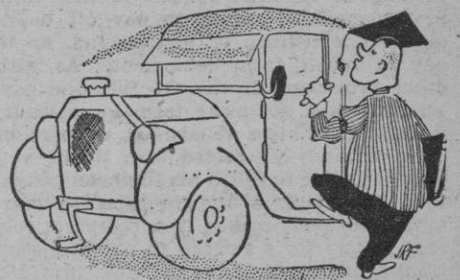
I admit that at first everything in civilian life will seem strange but that's only natural. However, I do know this: that whether a soldier spends one month or five years in the Army, it teaches him to really appreciate his home and the freedom he used to have. In nine cases out of 10 the average soldier will become a better citizen after he has adjusted himself to society.

I suggest that the educators of America consult some of the soldiers who have already returned before making such statements to the press.

T/5 Dan Price, Engr.

The Old Joes

Much has been planned and done toward helping out the younger GIs when they return after the hostilities are over, but I haven't seen anything about what is going



to be done for Joes like myself who are too old for applying for further schooling and government jobs (I understand the age limit is 35). And haven't been in business or had any experience in farming, so I wouldn't make a good risk for GI loan.

Prior to being inducted I had been a bus-driver and before that a truck-driver. Even though I had plenty of experience with heavy equipment, I still had to go to school for four months before I got the feeling of holding a bus on the road. Except for a few short interludes I've not done any driving since 1942. Even though my job is assured when and if I return, will the government finance me while I learn my job again?

Curious.

(As a matter of fact, Mr. Curious, the GI Bill entitles you to a refresher or re-training course up to one year in length. Uncle Sammy foots the bill up to 500 bucks per year for tuition and fees, and allows you 50 bucks a month subsistence if you aren't married; \$75 a month if you are. So there—)

Some Help

It's a good idea to think about new businesses for the post-war GI. It's the small industries that employ most of the people.

The post-war reconstruction will be quite a problem, as will jobs for us GIs. We all have our ideas, so here's mine: As soon as it's possible to release some of the GIs, why not pick out the ones that already have a business that can be reopened as soon as they are let out.

As soon as that is done we can help those that want to start new businesses. In that way we can re-employ the GI in the quickest way.

Pfc George Limon, Armored Inf.

"Tomorrow the World!"
By John R. Fischetti

Souvenir
Take it or Leave it...

THE FRITZ FLOWER BOX FOR CAGED IN NATURE LOVERS...

NO RENT HEADACHES! THE TOPS IN SOUVENIRS—A PRE-FABRICATED PANZER MODEL HOME.

A LITTLE SOLDER AND PRESTO! JUNIOR'S BEDROOM ACCESSORY

OF COURSE, IF YOU LEAVE 'EM ALONE, ODDS ARE BETTER THAN YOU'LL GO HOME.

Dixie GIs Harvest Bumper Crop of Loans



LOANS under the GI Bill of Rights to one-time farmers and farmhands in the armed forces are being certified throughout the States, and yearnings for five acres and independence are materializing for those who can show they have a reasonable chance of making a success from the soil.

First reports indicated a flood of applications from the agricultural South, with other sections making skimpy returns. This is right in line with expectations, according to the Veterans' Administration. Southern farmers are in the midst of spring planting and interest is at a peak below the Mason-Dixon Line. As the planting season comes around in the rest of the country, officials expect a large influx of loans.

At the present time, no figures are available on the number or value of the loans certified. Regulations governing the issuance of farm loans were announced in December, the last of the three sets of provisions set up by the Veterans Administration to govern guarantees on loans for businesses, homes and farms. Forms for the applications were not distributed until Jan. 15.

Sudden Interest in Farms

As with loans on businesses and homes, the government may guarantee 50 percent of any private advance for a farm, up to the guarantee amount of \$2,000—or half of a \$4,000 loan. Farmers and would-be farmers may obtain loans for the purchase and improvement of farms, to pay off delinquent indebtedness or assessments, or to buy or repair farm equipment. As with other provisions of the GI Bill, the government does not make farm loans itself; it only guarantees repayment of part of each privately-contracted loan if the veteran is unable to fulfill his financial obligation. The weight of the government's guarantee, however, makes it a comparatively easy matter for a veteran to obtain a loan from a private company or bank, provided it is for a practical purpose and there is a reasonable chance of success.

Veterans Bureau officials report that a large number of loans for farms are being sought by city-bred veterans, and neuropsychiatric victims. Reasons for the large number of requests from the latter is probably that these men believe that on a farm they can find the quiet and independence necessary to complete recovery. The sudden interest in farms shown by city boys is harder to explain. Perhaps it's the beginning of a "back to the soil" movement.

Lending agencies, advisory committees and government officials are making a conscientious effort to discourage these farmer-hopefuls. They are pointing out the dangers in present inflated land values, the high mortality of new farms and the pitfalls for untrained, unscientific farming.

Applications for farm loans go through a winnowing process that is perhaps the most careful and thorough given any type of loan provided by the GI Bill. Stop-checks and aids for the veteran-farmer are webbed into a nation-wide system of committees, echeloned from local farmers themselves to Gen. Frank Hines, Veterans Administrator. In nearly every farming community in the country there are local advisory committees, which donate their services to brief former servicemen on the situation in that area. The various processes and steps through which a loan application moves, sounds like an endless amount of red tape, but actually each step is designed to aid the veteran. Most loans are cleared in less than a week.

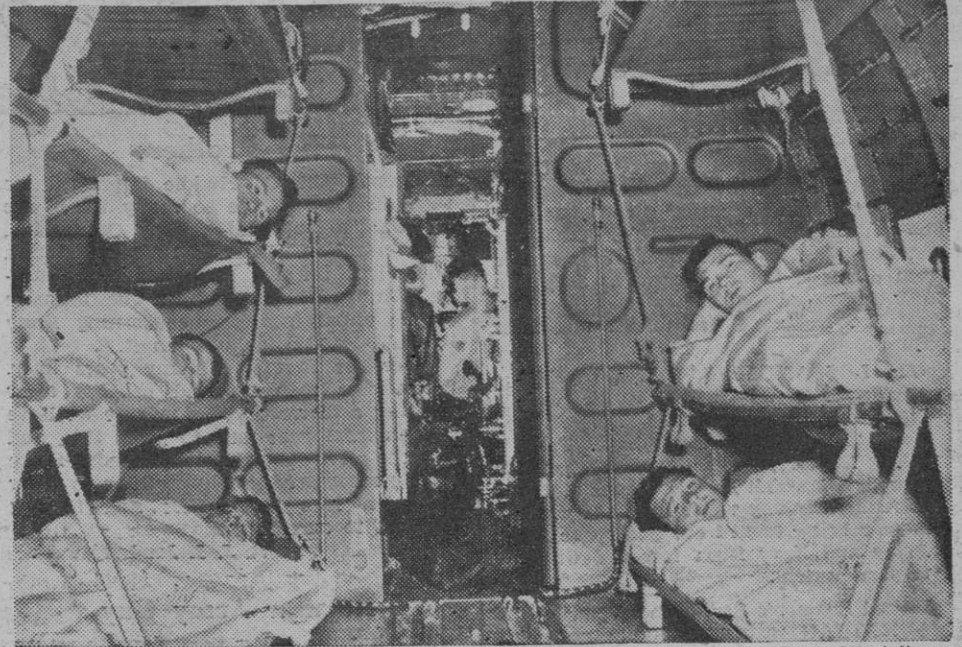
Huge Lending Operation

GI farm loans are expected eventually to snowball into a huge lending operation involving thousands of veteran-farmers and the whole farm economy of the country.

The matter of homesteads has interested many veterans. There is still public land remaining in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and small areas in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Wisconsin. Lands in the original thirteen states—Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Virginia, and in the states of Maine, Vermont, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Texas, are not part of the public domain. They are governed by state law, and information on them can be had from state authorities. No public lands are known to remain undisposed of in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Ohio. Information on more than 2 million acres of unappropriated government land in Alaska can be obtained from the General Land Office, Washington, D.C. That office can also furnish information on homesteading on public land in those states which have it.

The booklet "Shall I Be a Farmer?" can be obtained upon request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C. It tells about opportunities in farming, including kinds of farms, their costs, sound farming methods and sources of credit.

Ambulances With Wings



Press Association.



WITH a load of wounded soldiers in her belly, a Douglas C-54 plants her wheels on the turf at Mitchell Field and rolls to a stop.

Eighteen hours ago these men were at a Scottish base; 60 hours ago, in the frontline foxholes. On them yet is foxhole mud, but just 30 minutes after the Douglas stops rolling they will be between clean sheets, getting benefits of full surgical and medical facilities.

They're evacuating them by air nowadays. Not everybody, but from 1,000 to 1,200 each month.

They can pick you up in Luzon and drop you off at a Texas receiving center in 46 hours; they can tuck you in at Aachen

and release you in Kansas in not more than three days.

U.S. Troop Carrier Services in England announced recently that more than 100,000 wounded were transferred from the Continent to England—without a single mishap.

Who gets in on these mercy flights? Veterans with every conceivable wound, with the exception of two: those with chest injuries or serious mental disorders—cases which won't stand the altitude. These are usually returned by speedy hospital ships.

Twenty to 36 men, besides the crew, are carried on each run. They may land at New York's Mitchell Field or at Hamilton Field, near Frisco. On both long runs—the North Atlantic and South Pacific—stops are made for refueling and passenger comfort.



Press Association.



World War-toons



Carmack in Christian Science Monitor



Hutton in The Philadelphia Inquirer



Temple in The Times-Picayune



Sweigert in San Francisco Chronicle

Hepcats and Bookworms

By Joseph Wechsberg
Tomorrow Correspondent

Lieutenant John Mason Brown, one-time New York dramatic critic, watched the first minutes of D-Day from the signal bridge of the U.S.S. heavy cruiser Augusta (on which, three years ago, Roosevelt and Churchill discussed the Atlantic Charter), standing behind Vice-Admiral Kirk and Lt. Gen. Bradley. Brown's assignment was to give to the hundreds of seamen down in the flagship over the ship's public address system the story of the invasion, blow by blow. A terrifying assignment and "one of the moments when history holds its breath." In his new book, "Many A Watchful Night" (Whittlesey House), Brown gives the story as he saw it—not the whole battle but an inspiring account of courage and sweat and death.

Ernie Pyle's "Brave Men" is topping all popularity records. Within six weeks after publication over 650,000 copies of the book have been distributed and Henry Holt, the publisher, reports he has been compelled to hold print order down to 240,000 because of the paper shortage. All of these have been sold beforehand.

Recommended reading for bored or homesick fellows: S. J. Perelman's "Crazy Like a Fox," confessions of a great lunatic; Margery Sharp's "Cluny Brown," a delightful story, full of humor and warmth... Russian note: in besieged Leningrad, in three years

of war, three hundred books were published, though most writers and publishers were on the front (perhaps because of that reason). Literary magazines came out, even under blockage, siege, fire, famine. Military orders and medals were awarded to over a hundred of Leningrad's authors.

"Egg in Your Beer," a show written by GIs recovering from battle wounds is now touring the U.S. at camps and hospitals, the first GI show which was produced overseas and later brought to the States... War pictures are still poison at the box office. A Philadelphia movie house last week featured "Abroad with Two Yanks" and found it necessary to advertise that it was "not a war picture."

Arturo Toscanini will conduct the Los Angeles Philharmonic in a single concert on March 2. This is the first appearance of the 77-year-old Maestro west of Chicago... Music sheet sales have topped all previous records. This year over 24,000,000 sheets have been sold. Leaders are "Don't Fence Me In," "White Christmas" (again and again), "I Dream of You," "Together," "Always," "Dance with a Dolly," "I'm Making Believe," "There Goes that Song." Biggest record seller of all times is Bing Crosby's recording of "White Christmas." First done in 1942, it has sold over 2,000,000 discs for Decca. Up to now Gene Austin's "Blue Heaven" was the top seller.

This Was America Yesterday:

Hershey and House Committee Tangle on Farm Deferments

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The question of deferring young farm workers came up again yesterday in the House Agriculture Committee in Washington. And the committee got a couple of answers.

Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey held that the Tydings amendment, deferring farmers, was "broad enough" to permit drafting of all farm workers if there is a "drastic" need for men in the Army.

Committee Chairman John W. Flannagan, Jr., (D-Va.) doesn't think so. He said that the amendment provided deferment regardless of manpower needs, and that farmers "must be deferred when they are essential to agriculture."

Hershey said that if this were true, he would ask for a change in the law. His comments drew from Sen. Millard F. Fydings (D-Md.), sponsor of the amendment, this brusque comment: "The act means exactly what it says—that no young farmer can be drafted for whom there is no replacement."



Jim Thorpe, the athlete, makes his night club debut in a Vallejo, Calif., hot spot.

An idea, believe it or not, from Boston: The B. & M. Railroad has opened a sort of parking salon for babies, complete with bunnies, storks and puppies on the walls and comfortable chairs for mothers. In addition there are automatic electric bottle warmers, and an electric stove to cook feeding formulas. But there will be no "checking"—Mama has to take baby along when the choochoo comes.

FROM Los Angeles comes the story of a man who fooled 'em. Robert Ingram, electrician's mate 2/c, was married in St. Ignatius Church, where three years ago a funeral mass was said for him when the Navy reported him missing in action. Some time after the funeral he turned up, a survivor of Pearl Harbor—and the same priest married him to Thelma Brommels, of Seattle.

And while we're in California, all Florida rooters gather 'round: Heavy rains, accompanied by high winds, caused six to seven hundred inhabitants of the San Joaquin Valley to be evacuated. Water raced through the streets of Visalia, and the American river reached a crest of 40.7 feet near Sacramento. Slides closed highways and numerous railroads rerouted traffic.

Crowded in Washington? Maybe Here's Reason

IF you think interests aren't being taken care of in Washington, consider Writer Frederick C. Othman's report on lobbies there. He has counted representatives of peanut-butter grinders, lead-pencil makers, soda-pop bottlers, sugar-cane choppers, flour-mix manufacturers, broccoli dealers, fiber-box builders, artificial leg whittlers, apple dryers, ice-cream freezers, stone crushers, jelly preservers, wire-cloth weavers and narcotic researchers.

If you're trying to hide from the public, it's best not to guffaw. Errol Flynn made this mistake while viewing the riotous shotgun wedding scene in "Oklahoma," and during the intermission New York bobbie-soxers, usherettes and autograph seekers chased him into the men's room, where he locked the door and—it is assumed—sat down for a sigh of relief. (Incidentally, nothing new on his alleged marriage down in Mexico.) Flynn didn't come out 'til they were all gone.

THIS question of marriage, ever a serious one, has become more so for those people out in Salt Lake City who were in trouble with the law over old-fashioned harem arrangements. The Utah Supreme Court denied rehearings of their appeals from lower-court convictions, and now the 15 men—each facing five years in prison—will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

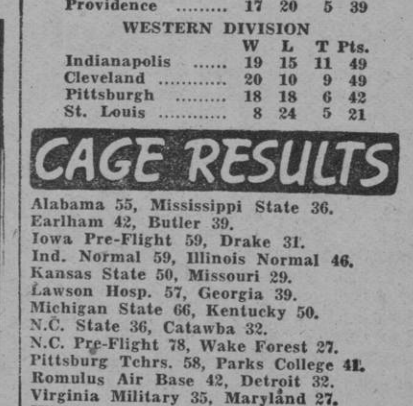
The Gutters Ran, and So Did Gas-Starved Residents

THEY'VE got some smart people down in New Mexico. At the town of Dora, a gasoline truck overturned, spilling 1,100 gallons of gasoline into the street, but it wasn't wasted. Residents appeared with pans and tubs to save the rationed fuel, and one guy came up with a small pump.

In Wickenburg, Ariz., 30-month-old Tommy Perner fell down a sheer 200-foot cliff on to a rocky river bank—and lived. His injuries, according to the doctor, amount to broken jaws and various head injuries.

POST-WAR job department: If you know anything about executions, go to Lincoln, Neb. While they were getting ready to put to death a man convicted of murder, it was discovered there was nobody around who knew how to assemble an electric chair. Nebraska's last execution was in 1929.

Abbie an' Slat's



Coaches' Target



Mayor LaGuardia

Bribe Jury May Call LaGuardia

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia is expected to be called before the Brooklyn Grand Jury, now investigating gambling in basketball and bribing of college players.

On Sunday, in a radio broadcast, LaGuardia said many colleges had been throwing games and blamed newspapers as having encouraged gamblers.

Coaches from all sections of the country, together with referees and athletic directors, criticized LaGuardia for not naming specific instances and called on him to produce evidence that Brooklyn College is not the only one selling out to gamblers.

Gambling King 'Guilty'

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The drive to clear gamblers from athletic events in this area gained impetus today when Sam Boston "King of Broadway Gamblers" was found guilty of taking bets on the Willie Pep-Allie Stolz fight in Madison Square Garden, Jan. 29, 1943. Boston will be sentenced Feb. 14.

Int. League Adopts 154-Game Schedule

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—The International League adopted a 154-game schedule at a meeting held here yesterday. The season will open April 19 and close Sept. 9. Opening day games will show Rochester at Jersey City, Toronto at Newark, Montreal at Baltimore and Buffalo at Syracuse.

On May 2, when the scene shifts to the northern club's home grounds, Syracuse will play at Buffalo, Newark at Toronto and, on May 3, Jersey City plays at Rochester and Baltimore at Montreal.

Askinazi Beats Ashmore In XIX Tactical Fights

HQ, XIX TACTICAL COMMAND, Feb. 6.—Cpl. Sol Askinazi, of New York, scored his second straight win here when he decided S/Sgt. Harry Ashmore, of Boston, in the top bout of a nine-card GI boxing program.

Pfc Ed Block, Garden City, N.Y., decided Pvt. Tony Gale, New York; Pvt. John Perkins, Harrisburg, Pa., decided Pvt. Salvatore Portolese, New York; Pvt. George Smith, New York, TKO'd Pfc Harry Robinson, San Francisco; Pvt. Jessie Greer, Detroit, TKO'd Cpl. Dave Peebles, Fond du Lac, Wis.; Pvt. Lyman Ried, Detroit, decided Pvt. Lloyd Pohlman, Paterson, N.J.; Pvt. Jack Sharkey, Fond du Lac, Wis., decided Pvt. John Jones, Detroit, and Pvt. John Mariano, Brooklyn, decided Pvt. Pat Linton, Birmingham, Ala.

Hudlin Little Rock Pilot

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 6.—Willis Hudlin, veteran pitcher, signed yesterday to manage the Little Rock Travelers of the Southern Association. Hudlin, who starred on the mound for the Cleveland Indians most of his big league career, managed the club in 1942. He succeeds Bob Seeds, who resigned.

DePaul Cagers Ranked First in College List

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—DePaul University of Chicago, riding on the crest of a ten-game winning streak with Notre Dame and Purdue its most recent victims, is rated No. 1 priority among the country's college basketball teams.

Army and Navy, however, both are undefeated, but the service institutions haven't met such stern opposition as has DePaul.

Ray KOs White In First Round

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—A devastating right punch to the heart gave Elmer "Violent" Ray, of Los Angeles, a knockout victory over Johnny White, of Jersey City, in the first round here last night. Ray weighed 193, White 215.

With less than one minute remaining in the round, Ray sent a hard left to the body, followed by a right to the chin. Then came the finishing blow to the heart for the kayo. The time was 2:19.

Joyce Beats Wright

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 6.—Willie Joyce of Gary, Ind., won a decision over Chalky Wright, Los Angeles Negro, in a ten-round bout here last night. Joyce lacked power in his punches, but hit Wright often enough to convince the judges. A crowd of 16,324 saw the bout.

Wright landed several hard left jabs and followed with smashing right crosses in the early rounds, but Joyce recovered and carried the fight to Wright. The Los Angeles battler came back strong in the ninth, until a low blow gave Joyce that round.

Pacific GIs Grab Jap Baseball Gear

HQ, 41st DIV. (Somewhere in the Pacific), Feb. 6.—Japanese soldiers are playing baseball in spite of former Premier Tojo's edict the day after Pearl Harbor, when he banned baseball, which had become Japan's most popular sport, because it was "too decadently American."

Definite evidence of Jap soldiers playing the national pastime was discovered when the 41st Inf. Div. destroyed the islet-fortress of Biak. There they found three bats, several gloves and a catcher's mitt, which apparently had seen plenty of use. The mitts were in well-oiled condition.

The equipment now is being used by the 41st team, champions of the Southwest Pacific.

Question Box

Pfc S. C. Stern.—Lou Gehrig smacked 494 homers during his major league career. He also hit 61 for Hartford, of the Eastern League, 10 in World Series games and 2 in All-Star contests. Total: 567.

Cpl Elbera Hull.—Tennessee's Rose Bowl record: 1940, lost to Southern Cal., 14-0; lost 1945, 20-0, also to Southern Cal.

S/Sgt. John Jurjevich.—Great Lakes basketball record for season 1943-44: Milwaukee, 55-35; St. Norbert (twice), 73-24, 63-21; DePaul, 70-36; Ohio State, 49-46; Lawrence, 76-43; St. Thomas, 67-44; Illinois, lost, 53-57; Glenview, Cal., 55-32; Ft. Sheridan, 81-33; Butler, 61-44; Stanford, 57-41; Northwestern (twice), lost 47-59; won, 57-36; Purdue (twice), 48-43, 60-38; Mich. St. (twice), 38-34, 56-39; St. Joseph's (twice), 60-32, 63-28; Marquette (twice), 60-54, 56-37; Creighton, 63-55; Chicago, 64-35; Wisconsin (twice), 61-43, 55-48; Missouri, 92-45; Kansas, 47-41; Detroit, 34-30; Carroll, 68-32; Lake Forest, 68-33; Calvin, 79-44; Washington (Mo.), 51-33; Notre-Dame (twice), 60-56, lost, 42-44; Minnesota, 46-41; Kentucky, 53-39. Won 34, Lost 3.

(Lack of space prohibits frequent use of complete season's records so please take it easy.—Ed.)

Pvt. Preston T. Prewitt.—Jimmy Foxx hit 58 home runs in 1932; Hank Greenberg 58 in 1938; Hack Wilson 56 in 1930.

Pvt. Robert Checks.—The college basketball games in Madison Square Garden are played in 20-minute halves, not 10-minute quarters.

Pfc J. R. Pigott.—Frank Keaney is basketball coach at Rhode Island State College.

Beaten only by Kentucky's classy club, DePaul has a record of 16 victories in 17 games and is certain to receive a bid to the National Invitational Tournament here next month.

Yale's Bulldogs took some lustre off Army's record when it took a spectacular field goal by Cadet Bobby Dodds in the last 40 seconds to score a 44-43 victory.

Navy, which has faced stronger opposition than the West Pointers, displayed brilliance in defeating Columbia, 51-44, for its seventh victory this year.

St. John's Leads Met. Fives

In New York's Metropolitan group, St. John's won its 12th game in 13 starts, defeating St. Joseph's of Philadelphia, 52-36, to retain the top rating.

Pennsylvania took a firm grasp on first place in the Eastern Intercollegiate League with a 52-50 victory over Cornell in an overtime game Saturday and the Quakers, with only one game left on their loop schedule, are assured of at least a tie. Penn has won four and lost one and Cornell, in second place, has divided four contests.

South Carolina, Duke and Richmond are undefeated in the Southern Conference with six, five and two victories, respectively. Richmond has been idle because of a 15-day quarantine due to an epidemic of mumps at the school. Citadel is second with five and one and North Carolina has eight and three.

The Southwestern Conference is in its final phase with Rice out in front with eight triumphs and no setbacks. Southern Methodist is second with six and two, trailed by Arkansas, which has won five and lost three.

Kansas, Oklahoma Tied

Kansas gained a tie with Oklahoma in the Big Six Conference by defeating Kansas State, 39-36. Each has won four and lost one. Missouri's victory over Nebraska enabled the Tigers to remain in the running with Iowa State.

Colorado and Utah paced the Big Seven with five and four victories against no defeats. Wyoming, with a record of three and two, is third.

Out on the Pacific Coast, California knocked Southern California off the top rung with a 50-34 victory and UCLA took the lead in the Southern division of the Coast Conference. It was the first defeat for the Trojans. In the Northern division, Oregon split a two-game series with Washington to retain the lead with a record of eight and three. Oregon State upset Idaho and is second with six verdicts and five defeats. Washington State and Washington each have won five and lost five.

Nat'l. Baseball Congress To Select New Czar

WICHITA, Kan., Feb. 6.—The National Baseball Congress will meet tomorrow to name a new commissioner for the sandlot game. President Ray Dumont announced today. George Sisler, former major league star, has filled the post for the past seven years.

The commissioner's duties, as defined by Dumont, are to act on protests, in sanctioned tournaments and certify players' eligibility for the 11th annual tournament at Wichita in August.

American Hockey League

Table with columns for Eastern Division and Western Division, listing teams (Buffalo, Hershey, Providence, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St. Louis) and their records (W, L, T, Pts.).

CAGE RESULTS

Table listing cage results for various teams including Alabama, Earlham, Iowa, Ind. Normal, Kansas State, Lawson Hosp., Michigan State, N.C. State, N.C. Pre-Flight, Pittsburg Tehrs., Romulus Air Base, Virginia Military, and Wichita.

By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren

Big Three Conference Now On, Briton Asserts

The first information that the Big Three meeting is now in session was revealed yesterday in London by Sir Walter Citrine, Secretary General of the British Trades Union Congress.

Disclosure of the conference—first since that at Teheran one year and two months ago—came at the opening of the World Trade Union Congress when Sir Walter explained Mr. Churchill's absence by declaring that the long-awaited meeting of the Big Three was "taking place at this very moment."

However, in Washington, the White House declined to admit that President Roosevelt is attending the Big Three meeting in face of Sir Walter's positive statement, Army News Service reported.

No Comment Needed



If you haven't got a valentine, try this for a while—it's Martha Vickers, actress, who posed at request of soldiers at Camp Haan.

Jonathan Daniels, acting White House press secretary, declined to comment on the Citrine statement on the grounds that Citrine occupies "no official position" in the British government.

United Press in London reported that a "censorship mixup" inadvertently passed for world publication Sir Walter's statement. It said publication of the statement was "in direct contradiction to an agreement between the U.S. and Britain." A censor in the Associated Press office passed the story without referring it to higher authority, it was said.

Sir Walter gave no hint as to where the meeting was being held.

The French Telegraph Agency, according to the Associated Press, asserted that the Allied leaders were conferring at Sochi, a Russian Black Sea port, 20 miles above Stalin's home province of Georgia.

Nazis Guess at Black Sea
German radio continued to assert the meeting was being held either on a warship in the Black Sea or at a Black Sea port.

A Reuter correspondent pointed out that the agenda was no less formidable than that of the November-December parley in 1943. He listed among the items up for discussion:

- 1—The final destruction of the German military machine.
- 2—Detailed draft of conditions to be imposed on Germany after her "unconditional surrender."
- 3—Switching the whole might of the Allied war machine to the Far East immediately following Germany's collapse.
- 4—Political problems arising out of the liberation of Europe, such as Russo-Polish relations, the status of France, and the establishment of permanent governments in Czechoslovakia and the Balkans.

Leaflet Campaign Suggested
According to the AP, the Nazis are obviously deeply troubled over the prospect of an appeal by the Big Three directly to the German people to rise up against the government, with possible instructions to slave workers to create confusion and sabotage.

In Paris, Gen. Charles de Gaulle, head of the French government, listed the demands that he hoped the Big Three leaders would accept. He asked for a separation of the territories on the left bank of the Rhine and the Ruhr industrial basin from the future German state or states; the posting of French troops along the whole length of the Rhine, and the independence of Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia and the Balkan states.

ELAS Accepts Terms
ATHENS, Feb. 6.—Foreign Minister Sofianopoulos announced tonight that the ELAS delegation to the Greek civil war peace conference has accepted the government's proposals for amnesty to all except those chargeable with ordinary crimes outside the actual fighting.

The move, it was said here, opened the door for further negotiations due to begin tomorrow.

Treaty Urged As U.S. Shield

DETROIT, Feb. 6 (ANS).—Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.) said in a radio address last night that he wanted "our intelligent American self-interest" as vigorously protected "by our spokesman as British self-interest is always protected by Churchill and as the self-interests of the Soviets are protected by Stalin."

Vandenberg said that "for our own American self-interest" the United States should join now with all her major Allies in a treaty guaranteeing permanent demilitarization of the Axis.

Such a treaty, "solemnly ratified by the Senate," Vandenberg said, would pledge "our constant armed co-operation instantly and peremptorily available through the President without further reference to Congress to keep Germany and Japan out of piracy for keeps."

Vandenberg called the Atlantic Charter the "bone and sinew of our flaming forward march" and not "just a nautical collection of fragmentary notes."

He also said that the power to declare war should remain with Congress, although the peace league should have available such military force as is granted the President "for national defense" and for Axis demilitarization.

Supply Thefts General, Convicted GI Tells Court

The Paris court-martial, trying the railway battalion black-market case, yesterday heard Pvt. John P. Masterson, already convicted by a previous court, charge that thefts are taking place "from Cherbourg to Paris, and nearly every-one handling supplies is involved."

Other testimony in the case of 1/Lt. Ariod Dal Porto, second officer to come before the military court, charged him with neglect of duty and with wrongfully disposing of Army supplies, including clothing and 50 pounds of beef. Soldiers who served under him testified he had to take rations from trains to feed his men.

On Foot, Then on Tanks, and Now on Skis



Members of the Allies' first ski patrol pass through the snow-covered "dragon's teeth" of the Siegfried Line. Ninth Army reports that these patrols have proved valuable in maneuvering over ground that foot soldiers find almost impassable.

Senate to Hold Closed Hearing On Work Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (ANS).—The Senate Military Affairs Committee yesterday voted to hold closed hearings on the pending "work-or-fight" national service bill.

The Administration's drive for speedy action on the bill, the Associated Press commented, thereby hits a snag, since the committee's action will delay consideration of the manpower measure on the Senate floor for at least one week.

Committee hearings will begin today. Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, Under-Secretary Robert P. Patterson and Secretary of Navy James V. Forrestal were asked to appear and give their views.

Who Will Have Say?

When it first took up the proposed legislation, the Senate committee decided against hearings on the grounds that arguments already had been aired. Back of today's reversal lay the controversy over the question of whether control of manpower placement should be lodged under James F. Byrnes, the war mobilization director, or Selective Service.

As passed by the House and tentatively approved by the Senate committee last week, the bill would provide for induction, imprisonment or fining of males in the 18-45 age bracket who disregarded government orders to stay on jobs or to transfer to other jobs deemed more essential.

The House version, however, would give local Selective Service boards a say about who should be shifted. The Senate committee changed this to put Byrnes in charge and authorized him to delegate actual placement to any other agency of government.

Confusion on WD Stand

The War Department took a stand last week in favor of putting the program under Byrnes. Then Sen. Edwin C. Johnson (D-Col.) asserted Saturday that the department had "doublecrossed" the committee and was secretly urging the program be under the Selective Service.

Johnson said yesterday, however, that Under-Secretary Patterson had telephoned him, saying that the department "made a mistake in suggesting any change," and was backing the plan to put the program under Byrnes.

AFL Flays Bill

MIAMI, Feb. 6 (ANS).—The AFL's executive council, here for its mid-winter meeting, today expressed unequivocal opposition to the "work-or-jail" bill now in the Senate.

Germans Stiffen in West Wall; Battle For Line Nears Climax

(Continued from Page 1)

Div. doughs advanced to within a mile of Gemund from the southwest, moving into outer pillbox defenses of the eastern Siegfried Line belt.

Northward, in the Kesternich sector above Monschau, 78th Inf. Div. men advanced 1,500 yards toward the Hurtgen Forest town of Schmidt. Schmidt was the scene of some of the most bitter fighting on the Western Front two months ago during the initial First Army drive southeast of Aachen.

Artillery Controls Dam

The 78th tried to bridge the neck of the Roer River lake-reservoir formed by the Paulushoff Dam, three miles southwest of Schmidt. The attempt was stalled by German artillery and heavy weapons fire. This reservoir lies northwest of the Urft Lake-reservoir, east of Monschau.

Americans, however, control the Paulushoff Dam with artillery on high ground near the great water-works.

Southward, U.S. Third Army forces battled counter-attacking Nazis at the Siegfried Line town of Brandscheid, four and one-half miles west and slightly to the north of Prum.

Other Third Army forces advanced a mile and a quarter and took the Siegfried Line town of Schlausenbach, four miles north of Brandscheid.

Southwest of Brandscheid, 90th Inf. Div. men beat their way forward a mile and a quarter to take Habscheid while other infantry reached the high ground to the southwest of the village. Southeast of the southern borders of Germany and Luxembourg, 94th Div. men repulsed a counter-attack of 50 German infantrymen near the town of Berg.

Nazi Pockets Shrinking

On the northern Alsace Plain, melting snows flooded a triangular area between the Zorn Canal and the Rhine Plain southeast of Haguenau, paralyzing military operations in this sector of the U.S. Seventh Army front.

South of Strasbourg, German resistance stiffened near Neuf-Brisach, east of liberated Colmar. Severed by Franco-American forces, the once threatening Colmar bulge yesterday consisted of two shrinking pockets separated by the Ill River and Allied troops.

Between the Ill and the Rhine, the German pocket was ten miles deep and 17 miles long. Between

the Ill and the Vosges Mountains, an undetermined number of Germans, estimated from 3,000 to 10,000, are surrounded in a pocket ten miles wide and seven miles deep.

East Front . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

ments were being fought for bridgeheads three miles south of Frankfurt and at two points north of Frankfurt.

Fuerstenberg lies on the main Breslau-Berlin railway and controls important supply routes to the Silesia front.

Hundreds of Red Air Force bombers hammered at German lines of communications between the Oder and Berlin.

United Press, in a Moscow dispatch last night, said the fact that Zhukov's troops are nearest to Berlin does not necessarily mean the greatest danger for the capital lies in that direction. Marshal Ivan Koniev has a sly talent of hitting when least expected, the UP said.

Moscow reports last night indicated that Koniev had "big surprises in store for the Germans, possibly a drive toward Berlin from the south, which would menace the capital from three directions.

Armsdorf Captured

In East Prussia, troops of Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Third White Russian Army captured Armsdorf, 45 miles south of Koenigsberg. Its capture indicates that Rokossovsky's northern wing is now moving up close to positions held by Cherniakovsky's left flank.

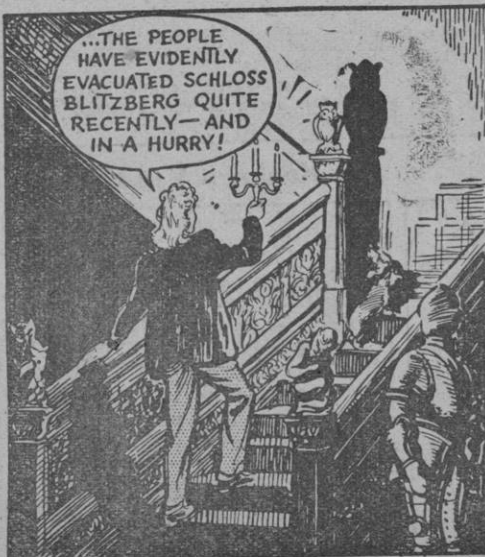
In the encircled Prussian province the Germans are being split up into small groups and falling prey to roving assault groups of Soviet machine-gunners. Most of the province now is under control of the Red Army.

Four Mountain Villages Taken by Allies in Italy

ROME, Feb. 6 (AP).—Fifth Army troops continued their advance up the Serchio Valley occupying four mountain villages above Galliciano, 25 miles north of Pisa.

Allied tactical aircraft blasted railway yards and ammunition dumps in northern Italy, flying more than 1,700 sorties. Seven aircraft were reported missing.

Jane



By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett