

## ALLIES IN SO. FRANCE DRIVE 8 MI. INLAND

## NAZIS FEAR TRAP NEAR PARIS

## Report Yanks Circling Foe West of Seine

As Allied troops narrowed the German's escape gap from the Falaise pocket to six miles, a new and bigger trap to encircle all Nazi forces west of the Seine River was reported by Berlin to be developing yesterday from a secret American drive eastward from Le Mans.

Hitler's high command announced that American troops were fighting 43 miles from Paris and were engaged in heavy battle against German defenses in the Chartres-Dreux area. These two towns are 44 miles southwest, and 42 miles west of the former French capital respectively.

Meanwhile, Canadian troops reached the outskirts of Falaise and reported the city fairly clear of the enemy while Americans drove north to seal the bottleneck completely. Allied planes and artillery smashed every bridge across the Orne River in the pocket and planes kept all escape roads under savage attack.

Armor Escapes  
There was no official indication last night what proportion of the German Seventh Army was still inside the Falaise bag. However, most reports agreed that a major part of Field Marshal Von Kluge's armor probably had escaped, but there was still a large mass of German infantry west of the escape channel.

The broad picture of German resistance in the area seemed to be that the Seventh Army has broken up into small pockets, which are fighting fiercely for scattered escape routes.

Supreme Allied Headquarters announced that 2,000,000 leaflets, listing surrender terms to the German forces around Falaise, were dropped by Allied planes.

Hint at "Mystery"  
A leading question was raised in an Associated Press dispatch from the Falaise front which said: "There is considerable mystery surrounding the failure to slam the door on the Falaise-Argentan escape gap."

The dispatch said one explanation was that the Allied armies, driving toward each other from the north and south, have been forced to use extreme caution to avoid coming under each other's artillery fire.

Meanwhile, a German News Agency report said that St. Malo, at the northern base of the Bret Peninsula, scene of bitter German resistance for more than 10 days, had been captured by U.S. troops. It said that resistance was still taking place at The Citadel, under the command of a Stalingrad veteran, despite the fact that it was being subjected to constant aerial and artillery bombardment.

## Maj. Gen. Brooks Wins Silver Star for Heroism

Maj. Gen. Edward H. Brooks, of Concord, N.H., commander of the Second Armored Division, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, it was announced yesterday by Maj. Gen. Charles H. Corlett, commander of the VII Corps.

SENATE AMENDS VOTE LAW  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 16—The Senate, by a voice vote and without debate or dissent, has passed amendments to the Soldier Vote Law designed to relax censorship restrictions on press and film matter distributed to members of the armed forces. The amendments will now go to the House.

## 9 Days With Tanks Convince P47 Pilot 'Guys Downstairs Don't Step Backward'

A red-headed former artillery soldier, now a Ninth Air Force fighter-bomber pilot, spent nine days with the men in the tanks, and is convinced today that "these guys downstairs don't know what it means to take a step backward."

1/Lt Joseph S. (Noodles) Nolan, 25, of Springfield Gardens, L. I., chief of section in a 155-howitzer gun crew before he went to flying school is one of the first two Ninth pilots sent to the Second Armored Division for observation of tank tactics. The other is in the hospital, wounded, but a third has taken their place to develop information which will tell the air-support flyers something of the problems of the boys on the ground.

"We lived in and around the tank" Nolan said, "averaging 14 working hours a day—about as long as the peashooters were flying. There were no comforts but plenty of danger—from snipers, if you moved around outside, from shells all the time and from the points that Fritz had zeroed in."

"Both are tough," declared Nolan of the fighting in the air and on the ground, "but I feel more confident in a P47. I also felt more confident when we were able to call in the 'flyboys' when the going was rough. During my

first two days with the tanks we were on a hill which the Germans had lined up in their guns.

"Shells fell at night and the Jerry's bombed the area. Under fire it's better to stay in the tank than use outside cover, so the six boys in the crew and myself made the tank our home.

"But after I became accustomed to the combat routine, I began to work by radiophone with our boys in the air. One day a counter-attack was started against us, and I called the planes in. Joe McLachan (Capt. Joseph L. McLachan, of Detroit) recognized my voice and in a few minutes I heard: 'Here we come, Noodles! Where are they?'"

"Five hundred yards ahead," I told him and after flying a 'dry run' over the area despite light flak they turned and came down strafing. The 'AA' and the counter-attack stopped.

"German 88s and mortars were pounding us one evening and again I called in the boys. This time Tommy Montag (Capt. Thomas Montag, of West Bend, Iowa) sounded off: 'That's Noodles down there!' A few minutes later there was no German shooting. Another time we had three squadrons of Thunderbolts bombing and strafing 45 minutes after we asked for air support."

## On Other Fronts

## GERMANS IN EAST COUNTER-ATTACK

Strong Soviet armored divisions drove back the Germans several miles at the eastern edge of East Prussia yesterday, but heavy enemy counter-attacks put the Russians temporarily on the defensive at Warsaw and in the Carpathians.

Moscow dispatches said Red Army reconnaissance planes found roads behind the front crowded with more German troops and armor, moving up.

Superior Russian forces less than 14 miles from the Estonian rail junction of Valga on the Tallinn-Riga main line advanced several miles, and another Red attack was begun from the Vistula bridgehead 35 miles south of Warsaw.

## Japs Term Philippines U.S. 'Focal Point'

The Japanese News Agency, taking cognizance of mounting Allied air activity in the Pacific area, stated yesterday that the Philippines appeared to be "the focal point of U.S. operations" and reported further raids upon the Bonin Island group by American planes.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported that Allied bombers had again plastered Halmahera, setting fire to Jap warehouses on the island which lies between New Guinea and the Philippines.

## Report Allies May Land On Ligurian Coast

While little change was reported on the Italian front yesterday, German and Swiss sources indicated a possible new Allied landing on the Ligurian coast of Italy which would take Kesselring's Gothic Line in the rear and create a single battle line in Southern France and Italy.

A German correspondent speculated that the American Fifth Army may have withdrawn from the Italian front in preparation for the new landing.

## Domfront Nazis 'Drunk as Goats'

THE U. S. FRONT, Norman- dy, Aug. 16 (Reuter). A pocket of Germans believed typical of thousands trapped in the Falaise bag was taken today at Domfront and all were, in the words of one American captain, "drunk as goats." The pocket had been garrisoning a portion of Domfront, but according to the Nazi major in command had "been waiting for you to come get us for two days. We had a large amount of liquor and decided we might as well get drunk and be merry while waiting for you to arrive," he said.

The group, though drunk, had fought a stubborn rearguard action for the remainder of Domfront's garrison until it realized the fight was hopeless.

## Price of Eggs at Roadside Market? 2 for 3 Cigarettes — Wine Is for Free

By Tom Hoge

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer  
FORT-BRILLET, Aug. 13 (delayed)—Passing down the broad highway toward Fort-Brillet one encounters one of the strangest "market places" in France.

Lined for miles along both sides of the road men, women and children stand holding up baskets of eggs, bottles of cognac and even melons. As the convoys come by they wave frantically, shouting out their wares in French and a smattering of English.

Whenever the line stops, they swarm over the vehicles like flies, laughing and shouting. It's not money they want, however. They smile and shake their heads if you reach in your wallet for franc notes. "Cigarettes!" they cry . . . or "Les K rations!"

The market is a reasonable one. For three cigarettes you get two eggs and a bouquet of flowers. For a box of K rations you re-

## Gen. Patch, Guadalcanal Veteran, Directs Troops; Claim Foe Had Invasion Tip

American, British and French troops now are firmly established between Cannes and Toulon on the southern coast of France and some units have penetrated as far as eight miles inland, Allied advance headquarters in Italy announced last night as reinforcement of men, arms and equipment poured onto the beaches in a steady stream.

All initial objectives have been taken, the communique disclosed. Maj. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, who led U.S. Army forces in the successful Guadalcanal campaign, is in command of the Allied invasion troops in southern France, it was officially announced.

The buildup of the invasion army was described officially as proceeding smoothly and ground operations were "going ahead according to plan" aided by continuing fine weather for the landing of fresh troops and transport.

The communique came a few hours after the Allies announced the first successes of the operation—capture of two islands east of Toulon and a tiny mainland peninsula jutting out into the sea behind them. Newsmen with the assault forces, at the same time, reported Allied troops held three substantial bridgeheads.

Free French radio at Algiers broadcast an unconfirmed report that Cannes harbor already was in use by the Allies, but German Overseas News Agency on the other hand reported harbor installations at Cannes, Nice and St. Tropez had been destroyed. The report suggested all three ports might be abandoned to the Allies.

Reserves Forced to Fight  
The German communique conceded the Allies had "succeeded in gaining a foothold at a number of points on the south coast." Enemy-controlled Scandinavian Telegraph Agency, elaborating, said flatly the assault troops had won a firm hold on St. Tropez, a Riviera port about 27 miles southwest of Cannes, and also held another area north of St. Raphael, ten miles to the northeast.

The enemy communique also made an important admission that some Nazi reserves, at least, had been committed to battle against Allied airborne troops landed in the rear of the German defense zone.

Although the Berlin communique spoke of "violent fighting," all Allied reports remarked about the most complete absence of German resistance.

The BBC reported that captured Germans had stated they were placed on the alert at midnight Monday—seven hours before Allied warships and planes began their pre-assault bombardments. This indicated, the BBC said, that the Germans had advanced information of the Allied plans.

French Help Take Islands  
"All signs point to the fact that the Germans knew we were coming but decided not to oppose our landings," said CBS commentator Winston Burdett. "The only conclusion is that they have fixed their line of defense some miles inland."

Burdett reported "a large strip of the French riveria is our" and told of "hundreds of jeeps, scores of trucks and thousand of soldiers" pushing inland.

The two islands captured in the first day's fighting were Port Cros and Levant, both in the Bay of Hyeres, about 15 miles east of Toulon. Known as the "watch-dogs of the French riveria" and bristling with gun emplacements and ack-ack batteries, the two were taken by U. S. and French troops who slipped ashore silently in the darkness before dawn.

The success of the raiders mission was proved an hour or so later when gliders and paratroop-carrying transports swept over without attracting a shot. Later, large naval vessels and small landing craft slipped shoreward beneath the islands guns without meeting the slightest resistance.

## PLANES CRIPPLE GERMAN ARMOR; REICH HAMMERED

Allied airmen yesterday took another devastating toll of Nazi armor and communications in France and at the same time penetrated deep into the Reich to pound aircraft factories, engine plants, synthetic oil refineries and an airdrome.

Reuter estimated the damage wrought by Allied air forces in a 48-hour period ending Tuesday night included 1,000 German tanks and vehicles, Ninth Air Force fighter-bombers during the period destroyed 38 enemy tanks and 147 motor transports, apart from preliminary returns which showed eight tanks probably destroyed, 62 damaged and 30 guns silenced.

The Forts and Libs hit the Delitzsch air equipment depot, one of the most important in the Reich; the Schkuditz and Hallie bomber assembly plants, aircraft engine plants at Magdeburg and Dessau, the Kothen synthetic oil plants in Aeltz, Boblen and Magdeburg, a carbonization and oil refinery plant at Rositz, and the Luftwaffe station at Halberstadt.

Ninth Air Force fighter-bombers escorted Marauders and Havocs to targets in the Paris area, where several enemy airfields southwest of the city were reported set on fire.

Large stores of Nazi ammunition, believed earmarked for front-line delivery, in the Foret de Roumane five miles south of Rouen were pounded by Havocs escorted by RAF Spitfires. No opposition was encountered.

ceive a melon and a bottle of cider or white wine. And for a carton of cigarettes you get everything they have, including enough flowers to decorate your vehicle like a hearse. The cognac they ceremoniously dispense to you in small tumblers as a sort of bonus. This involves clinking of glasses and a solemn handshake all around. If you forget the handshake they look deeply hurt.

Along the roadway we saw one begrimed GI bouncing a rosy-cheeked infant on one knee, while he balanced a helmet full of eggs on the other, at the same time attempting to clink glasses with a flower-laden Frenchman. At another spot stood a farmer, his mouth filled with pork loaf, his arms filled with melons. On the sleeve of his blue shirt was a set of American corporal's stripes.

A burley Pfc perched on the hood of his vehicle waved a lilac-wreathed helmet as we drove by. "Things was never like this in Brooklyn, chum!" he shouted.



THE STARS AND STRIPES

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Straight from the Front

By Ernie Pyle
Scripps-Howard Correspondent

WAYS of an invasion turned out to be all very new to Pfc Tommy Clayton, the 29th Division infantryman we wrote about yesterday. It was new for thousands of others also, for they hadn't had training in hedgerow fighting. So they had to learn it the way a dog learns to swim. They learned.

As we said yesterday, this Tommy Clayton, mildest of men, has killed four known enemy and probably dozens of unseen ones. He wears the expert rifleman's badge and soon will have the proud badge of combat infantryman, worn only by those who have been through the mill.

Three of his victims he got in one long blast with his BAR. He was stationed at a bend of a gravel road in the bushes covering crossroads about eighty yards head of him.

Suddenly three German soldiers came out of a side road and polishly stopped to talk right in the middle of the crossroads. The BAR has twenty bullets in a clip. Clayton held her down for a whole clip. The three Germans went down never to get up.

Third-Grader

HIS fourth one he thought was a Jap when he killed him. In the early days of the invasion lots of soldiers thought they were fighting Japs scattered in with German troops. They actually were Mongolian Russians with strong Oriental features who resembled Japs to the untraveled Americans.

On this one Clayton was covering an infantry squad as it worked forward along a hedgerow. There were snipers in trees in front. Clayton spotted one and prayed the tree with his automatic rifle and out tumbled this thing he thought was a Jap.

To show how little any one who hasn't been through war can know about it—do you want to know how Clayton located his sniper? Here's how:

When a bullet passes smack over your head, it doesn't zing, it pops the same as when a rifle goes off. That's because its rapid passage creates a vacuum behind it and air rushes back with such force to fill this vacuum that it collides with itself and makes a resounding "pop."

Clayton didn't know what caused this and I tried to explain. You know what a vacuum is," he said. "We learned that in high school."

And Tommy said: "Ernie, I never went past the third grade."

But Tommy is intelligent and his sensitivities are fine. You

don't have to know reasons in war, you only have to know what things indicate when they happen.

Well, Clayton had learned the pop of a bullet over his head preceded the sound of an actual rifle report by a fraction of a second, because the rifle explosion had traveled a ways before hitting his ear. So the pop became his warning signal to listen for the crack of a sniper's rifle a moment later.

Through much practice he had learned to gauge the direction of sound almost exactly. And so out of this animal-like system of hunting he had the knowledge to shoot into the right tree—and out tumbled his "Jap" sniper.

Clayton's wierdest experience would be funny if it weren't so flooded with pathos. He was returning from patrol one moonlit night when the enemy opened up on them. Tommy leaped right through a hedge and spotted a foxhole, plunged into it. Much to his amazement and sudden fright there was a German in the foxhole sitting up and holding a machine pistol. Clayton shot him three times in the chest before you could say scat.

The German hardly moved when he shot him. And then Tommy suddenly realized the man already was dead—dead and stiff and indifferent to hurt. He had been shooting a corpse.

made in war

ALL these horrible experiences seem to have left no effect upon this mild soldier from Indiana, unless to make him even quieter than he was before.

The worst experience of all is just the accumulated blur and hurrying vagueness of too long in the lines. The everlasting alertness. The noise and fear. The cell-by-cell exhaustion. The thinning of ranks around you as day follows nameless day. And the constant march into eternity of your own small quota of chances for survival.

Those are the things that hurt and destroy. And soldiers like Tommy Clayton go back to them, because they are good soldiers and have a duty they cannot define.

Destiny Rides Again

Flowers, Wine, Hugs and Kisses, Cheers and Hair Flag-Bedecked French Tank Forces

By Edward Ball
Associated Press Correspondent
SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE, Aug. 16—High spirited French troops, commanded by the famed desert general Jacques LeClerc, have gone into action on their home soil against the Germans for the first time since the 1940 capitulation.

Wearing brilliant orange caps and riding Sherman tanks, armored and eager Frenchmen, many of them veterans of North Africa, began arriving on the Normandy beaches late in July. However not until yesterday was it disclosed that these forces, forming the Second French Armored Division, have been fighting alongside Americans.

There are thousands of them in this force. There is a complete armored force fighting under Allied overall command.

The homecoming of France's fighting sons was greeted by their proud people with one of the

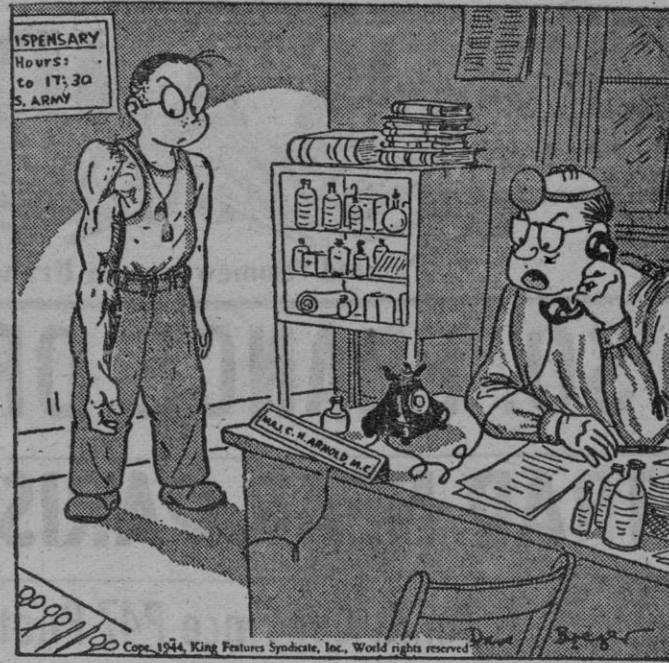
wildest outbursts of enthusiasm ever witnessed.

Although this French armored force was supposed to be a "military secret," word got around that it was due in towns along the route of march. Tears mixed with cheers as medium and light tanks, bearing such names as "Dunkerque," "Dijon," "Marne," and "St. Michel" rolled past with the Tricolor flapping from the American-built tanks, the Cross of Lorraine over a white relief map of France in blue squares on the sides.

The French troops' progress across the country was made over a carpet of flowers between rows of up-lifted bottles of their beloved wine and cognac.

For some there was joy unrestrained when they spied girl friends and families whom they had not seen in four years. For them the columns were held up while embraces and kisses were exchanged.

Private Breger



"Colonel, I have a man here who complains he's been doing too much saluting!"

News From Home

WPB Eases Ban on Civilian Goods, But Says Production Boom Unlikely

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16—WPB Chairman Donald Nelson last night lifted the ban on hundreds of civilian articles where local surplus of labor and machinery permit.

The long-awaited orders delayed since July 1 by opposition from the War Manpower Commission, effects 79 per cent of civilian goods, including vacuum cleaners, electric fans, automatic phonographs, gambling machines, metal furniture and electric ranges.

However, Nelson warned that "for the time being it is not anticipated that any large increases in production of civilian goods will be possible."

Nelson said his order was the fourth and last in his program to provide the mechanism for partial reconversion of industry to peace time production.

...AND AFTER D-PLUS-SIX?

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Aug. 16—Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national director of Selective Service, told newsmen that despite the present satisfactory situation "you've got to brace yourselves for the prospect of seeing men sent into the service, many of them overseas, month after month even after the war has ended." Hershey said this would be necessary to effect an orderly demobilization, which he said should be directed toward relieving first those men who have seen the longest service.

HARMON WEDS AUG 26

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Aug. 16—Lt. Tommy Harmon, former all-America football star, and Elyse Knox, movie actress, will be married in St. Mary's student chapel here Aug. 26. Harmon, who was twice reported missing in action after forced landings, has been in the States since January.

HOT LIPS

CHICAGO, Aug. 16—When Herbert Clark makes love to a woman, he apparently kindles a flame in her heart. Sitting in a tavern with Margaret Mayhood, 41, Clark gave her a sizzling kiss that sent her running out into the street where she pulled a fire alarm box. By the time 15 pieces of fire-fighting equipment arrived, Margaret had cooled down, but police booked her on a disorderly conduct charge.

TRUMPETER LIMPING

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16—Orchestra leader Harry James is hobbling about with his fractured right foot in a plaster cast as a result of a sandlot baseball accident. The trumpeter, playing with members of his orchestra twisted his foot sliding into third on an attempted steal.

Only One More Week Of Free Rations in CZ

In another 10 days the PX gravy train for men in the Communications Zone will be over. By the end of next week, free distribution of cigarettes and candy in the rear areas will cease, and soldiers again will carry ration cards and pay cash over the counter.

This announcement was made yesterday by Maj. Harold G. Schaefer, Army Exchange Officer for the Communications Zone.

"Troops in Army area will continue to receive a free issue of PX necessities—cigarettes, candy, soap, razor blades etc.—indefinitely," Maj. Schaefer said. "However, free issue in the Communications Zone will end next week."

The basic ration will be the same as that in England, with the exception that over here men will get a couple more candy bars and a few more cigars each week.

Although "necessities" will still be free in Army area, "luxury items," such as lighter flints, wicks and towels, will be sold—where available.

Commando Kelly Fined For Overstaying Leave

FT. BENNING, Ga., Aug. 16—T/Sgt. Charles E. (Commando) Kelly, national hero and winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, was sentenced by a court martial here today after Infantry School authorities had filed AWOL charges against him.

Kelly was restricted to Ft. Benning for 90 days and fined \$15 a month for six months, but was not broken in rank.

Kelly said well-wishers all along the route back to Ft. Benning delayed his return from a furlough. He is an instructor at the Infantry School.

WISCONSIN POLITICS

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 16—Republican Sen. Alexander Wiley easily won renomination in Wisconsin's primary yesterday, defeating three opponents. The State's 81-year-old Gov. Warren S. Goodland outdistanced four Republican opponents and was renominated while the Democratic gubernatorial nomination went to Daniel W. Hoan. Alexander O. Benz, former Socialist mayor of Milwaukee, won the progressive nomination. All incumbent congressmen who sought re-election were victorious.

YANKEES LOSE ROLLIE HEMSLEY TO UNCLE SAM

NEW YORK, Aug. 16—Uncle Sam falls heir today to a model gentleman who a few years ago was one of baseball's most colorful characters when Ralston Burdett Hemsley, 37-year-old Yankee catcher, enters the armed services.

Since getting another chance with the Yanks two years ago, Hemsley, who once richly deserved the nickname "Rollie," has been a new man, reformed and respectable. In other words, he has confined his activities to curve balls and fast balls and foresworn highballs.

Rollie started his big-league career with the Pirates in 1929 and it was one week after the season started that he showed his courage by taking on Bill Klem in an argument. Hemsley thought Klem missed one and turned to inform the old arbitrator he was "A blind bat."

"Young man, you've been drinking," Klem roared at the fresh young bushier.

"And the way you're calling balls and strikes, you could have been too," Hemsley roared back as Klem heaved him from the park.

From the Pirates Hemsley went to the Cubs. One of his biggest stunts with the Cubs was his taking on the ribbing of John J. McGraw one day during a Cubs-Giants game by calling him "Mugsie," a name McGraw despised.

Leaving Chicago he moved to Cincinnati and then out of the National League to the Browns, with whom he stayed long enough to put live frogs in Manager Roger Hornsby's berth on the train. Then he went to Cleveland where he attained his greatest heights as cop fighter and all-around Hell-raiser.

He broke a dresser drawer over a photographer's head one night while with the Indians.

From Cleveland he went to Cincinnati where he drew his unconditional release two years ago at the age of 35.

Rollie, on the wagon, was hired by the Yanks when Buddy Rosar jumped the team to take a job as a Buffalo cop. Joe McCarthy wired him at his Verona, Mo., home after some on tipped him off Hemsley had reformed.

He has done a tip-top job ever since. No matter what his next assignment, fans and players wish him luck.

Majors & Minors

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, PCT., GB. Includes St. Louis 6, Boston 5, New York 3, Chicago 1, Detroit 3, Philadelphia 2 (11 ins), Cleve. 1, Wash. 0 (12 ins, night).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, PCT., GB. Includes St. Louis 6, Brooklyn 3 (night), Cincinnati 6, New York 3 (night), Pittsburgh 7, Boston 5 (night), Chicago 4, Philadelphia 1 (6 ins.).

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, PCT., GB. Includes Toronto 8, Jersey City 0 (1st), Toronto 2, Jersey City 1 (2nd), Montreal 11, Baltimore 2, Newark 7, Rochester 4, Buffalo 9, Syracuse 2.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Table with columns: Team, W, L, PCT., GB. Includes Toledo 10, Kansas City 0 (1st), Toledo 6, Kansas City 5 (2nd), Columbus 5, Milwaukee 3, Louisville 6, Minneapolis 3, St. Paul 10, Indianapolis 7.

BLONDIE

