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and

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Obituary notices, cards of thanks, tributes of respect, by individuals, lodges, churches, organizations or societies, will be regarded as advertising and inserted at regular classified advertising rates. Such notices will be marked "adv." in compliance with the postal regulations.

Try me, O God, and seek the ground of my heart;
 prove me, and examine my thoughts.
 Look well if there be any way of wickedness in
 me; and lead me in the way everlasting.
 —Psalm 139: 23, 24.

A THOUGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR

LET us take the first week of the New Year to "rate" ourselves. No gloomy introspection, but honest appraisal, to see where we stand. Does *Tame Duck*, by Kenneth Kaufman, describe us with amusing accuracy?

"There are three tame ducks in our back yard,
 Dabbling in mud and trying hard
 To get their share, and maybe more,
 Of the overflowing barnyard store,
 Satisfied with the task they're at,
 Of eating and sleeping and getting fat,
 But whenever the free wild ducks go by
 In a long line streaming down the sky,
 They cock a quizzical, puzzled eye
 And flap their wings and try to fly.

"I think my soul is a tame old duck,
 Dabbling around in barnyard muck,
 Fat and lazy, with useless wings,
 But sometimes when the North wind sings
 And the wild ones hurtle overhead,
 It remembers something lost and dead,
 And cocks a wary, bewildered eye,
 And makes a feeble attempt to fly.
 It's fairly content with the state it's in,
 But it isn't the duck it might have been."

But let us remember: Souls aren't ducks — souls can change!

A More Hopeful Year

A year which holds more promise for the future dawns for a war-racked world with 1943. At this time last year the United States was still stunned by the Japanese destruction at Pearl Harbor and all that this meant for a nation still unprepared for a war it had been forced to declare.

The picture is different this year. Facing realities, the huge peace-time industries of the country have been streamlined for war production on a scale that would have been unbelievable last year—one of the most stupendous accomplishments in production that the world has ever seen. It took a Pearl Harbor to awake the obstructionists and isolationists who had held back the preparation for a war that the President and other statesmen knew was inevitable, but a year has witnessed a mighty united effort which has shifted from defense to offense for the objective of world liberation.

We have "assumed the initiative on an ample scale" which was the hope that Winston Churchill expressed before skeptical Congress in Washington only a year ago. The second front in Africa following the stemming of the Japanese victories in the Pacific by that brave company of our men who have suffered and died, begins to promise ultimate victory and hope for dying, starving millions.

The end is not yet, but the will to sacrifice holds the promise of fulfillment.

Post-War Proposals

Vice-President Wallace, in a broadcast commemorating the birthday of President Woodrow Wilson last Monday night, proposed a post-war world council to preserve peace and to promote world welfare. He suggested that the guiding principle for some form of international organization be "the maximum of home rule that can be maintained along with the minimum of centralized authority that must come to give the necessary protection."

His address, which was sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation and affiliated historical organizations interested in political science, was approved by the President and was considered as representing the mind of the administration for post-war reconstruction.

Mr. Wallace advocated not only military but "psychological" disarmament of defeated nations that would try to undo through education for the coming generation as far as possible the diabolical work of Hitler and the Japanese war lords "in poisoning the minds of the young."

He outlined objectives: To preserve liberty, equality, security and unity of the united nations—political liberty; equality of opportunity in international trade; security against war and depression due to international causes; and unity of purpose for the "general welfare" of the whole world. He denied that his proposals were utopian, declaring that they were only "decently human."



LIEUTENANT GENERAL MARK W. CLARK
 BEARER OF THE MODERN MESSAGE TO GARCIA—ONE OF THE YANKEE OUTSTANDING HEROES!



UNDEVELOPED BY SUBMARINE AND CRUISER, ACROSS OCEANS AND CONTINENTS IN THE DEEP OF THE NIGHT.

LEAD IN A CELLAR WHILE THE ENEMY WALKED OVERHEAD.

FINALLY CONTACTED HIGH FRENCH MILITARY OFFICIALS TO COMPLETE HIS MISSION!

Poet's Corner

SOLDIERS MAIL

While working on the postal car
 On the "Tallahul Falls,"
 There seems a lot of mountain folk,
 The best folk of them all.

I have noticed lots of letters
 To boys in Army camps;
 And lots of answers coming back,
 And bearing foreign stamps.

I can't help but take a moment,
 And look back a short year,
 When those young men told loved ones 'bye,
 And left without a fear.

Young men, who from their mountain homes,
 Came down to "Valley" towns,
 To sign the Draft for "Uncle Sam",
 And soon were Army bound,

Short time was spent in Army camps,
 And loved ones wrote them there;
 Then orders came to travel on,
 The place they knew not where.

But soon they sent word to Mother,
 "When writing me hereafter,
 Telling the news of loved ones,
 and home,
 Send it "Care the Postmaster."

So here's the hometown paper,
 That takes him all the news,
 Of doings of big and little folk,
 Also familiar views.

This box is marked "perishable",
 And it smells mighty good,
 I'll bet its packed by loving hands,
 With best of home-cooked food.

And so, as I sort their letters,
 And route them the right way,
 I picture the thoughts in Mother's heart,
 And what she has to say.

The penmanship's a bit ragged,
 But welcome it shall be
 To him, who loves that rugged hand,
 Now fighting o'er the sea.

She tells the news that all are well,
 "The crops are pretty good;
 Daddy and Bub have "got" them in,
 And now are cutting wood.

The hunting's pretty good this fall,
 There's lots of squirrel and dove;
 We went to church on yesterday,
 And Nellie sends her love.

And she was looking mighty sweet,
 But kind o' lonesome, too,
 Still do we all feel that at times
 When thinking, son of you.

And we are proud of you, my boy,
 Though needs you be away,
 Across those seas, a-fighting wrong,
 That threatens us today.

We're mighty glad you joined-up,
 And to your duties true,
 We hope the job will soon be done,
 So we'll be seeing you.

Don't worry 'bout the home front,
 son,
 We'll care for things here, well,
 And think, and love, and pray
 God help
 You give those Nazis Hell."

J. D. Williams, Mail Clerk on the
 Tallahul Falls Ry.
 Box 354
 Decatur, Ga.

Press Comment

Wilson's Birthday

The birthday of Woodrow Wilson on December 28, 1943, is more than passing notice in the light of the things that have been 86 years old today. Recalling his permanent peace

major political parties it appears obvious that the new Congress will seek to regain some of its lost powers.

The 77th session scrapped the neutrality laws, declared war on the axis nations, granted sweeping powers to President Roosevelt and delegated unprecedented authority to executive agencies.

This session voted more funds than any other legislative body in history. It approved the staggering total of over two hundred billion dollars for war expenditures.

After declaring war, Congress immediately started clothing the President with all-out authority to prosecute it. Two war power bills gave him authority to juggle administrative functions of various agencies, permitted him to revise war contracts, order property seizures, control priorities and to do other things. It provided for registration of men between ages of 18 and 65 and drafting men from 18 to 45. It increased armed forces' pay from \$21 to \$50 per month. It brought the war to the home front by the gigantic tax bill, controls over prices, wages and salaries.

The number one problem of the new Congress appears to be new taxation proposals, centering around compulsory savings programs and a pay-as-you-go basis.

There are many other matters

slated and it is apparent that this Congress will be a rather independent one.

IN MEMORY OF TOM RUSSELL

I
 There's an empty chair by the fireplace;
 But there's a new star in heaven tonight.

II
 There are lonely hearts in the home now;
 But in heaven there's glory bright.

III
 He'll be missed by each of his family;
 But we know he waits with a smile;
 As he stands by the River of Death and waits;
 For each loved one to come the last mile.

IV
 Time will wither the flowers on his grave;
 And it will also heal all the pain.
 May it teach us to walk in the Christ-like way;
 So that death will only be our gain.

V
 Tom's through with all trials and sorrows,
 In this troublesome world of care,
 And we know that Heaven is brighter,
 Because another old friend is up there.

Mrs. Leslie Young,
 Ellijay, N. C.
 (Written by request of the family)

SPECIALS THIS WEEK:

3rd Grade Tires In Stock!
 Sweaters
 Also Pretty Line of Neck Ties
WESTERN AUTO
 Associate Store

INVENTORY SHEETS

in pads of 100
 or by the dozen,
 for sale at

THE FRANKLIN PRESS

Office

Season's Greetings ★★★

I hope that you had a very Merry Christmas and that the very Spirit of the Season has visited your hearts and your homes.

Wishing you and yours a very happy and prosperous New Year, and let us hope for "Peace on Earth and good will to men", during 1943.

For over 30 years I have acknowledged your cooperation and helpfulness of our customers & friends throughout Macon and adjoining counties & thanked you for the business with which you have favored us. We concede that your patronage has contributed to our success and trust it has yours, when you visited our store.

Now, more than ever, under Government restrictions and controls, we shall strive harder to merit your good will and trust that you will continue to visit our store for your needs in our line.

"We Clothe The Family"

Very Sincerely Yours,

Joseph Asher