

The Mountaineer

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Soft Or Hard

In both England and America the battle of ideas centers around what type of peace the Allied Nations will make with Germany and Japan. Will it be a "hard" or a "soft" peace?

"Hard peace", according to the press, means the "unconditional surrender" talked at Casablanca by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in their conference regarding the policy of the Allied Nations.

Something To Write About

We were speaking of civic affairs in general to a well known citizen of this community during the week and we asked for a current and seasonable subject for an editorial, something of local concern.

"Yes, there is plenty of write about in this town. Right now, tell the people to clean up their premises. Tell them to hunt out all the old tin cans around their homes and property.

"Tell them to rid their homes and grounds of breeding places for insects of all kinds and of any kind in particular, the name of which we dare not even mention out loud in this section.

"The town trucks don't stay busy. They seem to have quite a few idle hours. Put them rolling by your requests to carry off winter's accumulated trash, right now before the grand rush for Spring cleaning gets going.

"This year we have to spruce up for summer just as usual, even if the war is on. Most of us are optimistic about the tourists. They may not drive in their cars, but we still have buses and trains, and it looks like folks intend to use them.

"Another thing they tell me that there are some pigs being housed and fed right in the city limits. It's time the neighbors got after the town officials and the two got together on the subject. Personally we have no complaint to make along this line, for never has the evening breeze brought us so much as a suggestion of the habitation of a pig in the vicinity but there are sections where they tell us it is more pleasant to leave your windows down. I like meat as well as the next one, and I have not indulged quite as often as I did before rationing went into effect, but in the general clean-up campaign, let's move the pigs to the rural sections where they will have plenty of room.

"Of course I don't mind giving you all these suggestions, but I don't expect you to have the nerve to print them. I'll be watching out next week to check on the paper. I'll find out how sincerely interested you are in your town, for if you use this in The Mountaineer, it will be read, for that is one thing the folks around here do, they read their home town paper."

In the East a 285-pound architect has built himself a cottage of glass. It surpasses that older mystery, the full-rigged ship in the bottle.—Detroit News.



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

Last week we stated that we felt that Easter should have a deeper meaning this year... and we honestly believe if one judges by attendance at Easter church services that it did. However we did not notice quite as many new clothes, though there were plenty of flowers... which dressed up old clothes in an amazing manner...

We heard before the token system was inaugurated that it would be so much easier for both the buyer and the salesman, but the longer we observe the system the more we have our doubts about it... we watched a woman at the meat counter. To begin with, like all women of today she had too much in her pocketbook.

The mother of two boys in service, one of whom volunteered before Pearl Harbor and did not get a leave home for four years, gave us some advice on how to talk to men in service this week.

What is the first thing you plan to buy when the war is over? Mrs. C. F. Kirkpatrick—"I guess it will be some silver."

Mrs. Guy Massie—"I plan to restock on household linens." C. B. Russell—"A gas stove."

Mrs. R. L. Coin—"A vacuum cleaner. If anything drives me to the Devil it will be a broom."

W. A. Bradley—"I plan to buy some farm tools that I can't buy right now."

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Saul's Early Preaching

HIGHLIGHTS ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By NEWMAN CAMPBELL (The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for April 16 is Acts 9:19-30; 11:19-28, the Golden Text being Romans 1:16, "I am not ashamed of the gospel; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.")

AFTER SAUL had received his sight from Ananias, he ate, and gained his strength. He stayed with the disciples for several days after this, and then went to the synagogue to preach. How amazed the people must have been to hear this Saul preach the Christ. He who had come to the city to capture the Christians and take them—men and women alike—back to Jerusalem to be tried and probably put to death.

"Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?" they asked one another. "But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ."

Saul was a well educated and very able man. He was unusually well versed in the Old Testament and trained to argue. He was a very great addition to the group of disciples, as he was a man well used to meeting all sorts of people, especially those who were highly educated. He was able to answer their questions and disprove their arguments better than less well-trained men.

Of course, as was to be expected, the rulers and high priests of the synagogue were enraged that this one of their number had turned traitor to them. They sought to kill him, lying in wait at the city gates day and night to take his life. Knowing this, the disciples found a way to get him out of the city. They took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a large basket.

Getting to Jerusalem, Saul sought the disciples there, but they were afraid of him. They did not know that his conversion was sincere, and they doubted it. Barnabas, however, believed in him and took him to the apostles, telling them how Paul had seen the Lord on the way, and how Jesus had spoken to him; also how Paul had preached in Damascus.

So Paul was accepted and "spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed

against the Grecians...

When the brethren knew of they brought him to Cassam, sent him to his old home. Barnabas, by the way, is the most lovable men of the Christian church. He is mentioned at the end of the chapter of Acts, where it is that he sold some land and the money at the apostles. He was a man of wealth and a leader, and it meant everything to Saul to have him sponsor.

Our story now goes back to the dispersion of the disciples at the martyrdom of Stephen. Paul traveled as far as Phoenicia and Antioch. The latter was a very important third city in the world of that century. There were two churches, one in Pisidia, Asia Minor, which Paul had visited on his missionary journey, and which is described in Acts 13, and which was located far north in Syria, on the Orontes river. It was not only a very important city, but it was considered very rich, wicked and luxurious place.

The preaching of these days was successful—the "hand of the Lord was with them; and a number believed, and turned to the Lord."

When these tidings reached those in Jerusalem, they sent Barnabas to Antioch, because he was a kindly, tactful man who would further the work that had begun there.

When Barnabas arrived in Antioch and saw the work that had been done he was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave to the Lord. And "much people" added unto the Lord while he was there. However, he felt that man was needed, so he went to Tarsus to seek Saul.

And when he had found Saul, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a year they assembled together with the church, and he was called Christians in Antioch. Possibly, indeed, some of the name Christians first applied to the followers of Jesus in mockery. But here in Antioch it was given them because they saw these people had with Christ in spirit, if not actually, and had learned of Him. They talked Christ, lived for Him.

Inside WASHINGTON

Admiralty Invasion Shoves Forward Pacific Schedule No Need for "Bonus March" After End of World War

WASHINGTON—The Allied invasion of the Southwest Pacific put General Douglas MacArthur's weeks, if not months, ahead of schedule in the war against Japan. MacArthur's forces were set for a strong reconnaissance in force and undoubtedly would have withdrawn to try again later if Japanese had been alert and had put up stiffer initial resistance. As it was, the Japs were caught asleep and the vital airfield before they knew what had happened. The clever maneuver outflanked the key at Rabaul and Kavieng, which now may fall to the Allies, you can look for even greater strides to sweep the out of the entire central and southwest Pacific areas.

VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II will fare much better than their buddies of the first world conflict as a result of a two-prong drive in Congress to provide returning servicemen and women with ample bonus payments and a sweeping rehabilitation program. A major fight looms on Capitol Hill over the amount of "adjustment service compensation" to be paid veterans, but there will probably be a compromise over the two pending bonus bills to forestall another "bonus march" on Washington.

THE CAPITAL'S SOCIAL and political cocktail party hostesses beginning to "feel the pinch" on the liquor shortage. The man rounded up the spirits for one reception held recently complete that he had "scour" Washington and New York to obtain liquor. Somehow, he said, he managed to scrape up—109 bottles Scotch, bourbon and rye!

LOOK FOR AN INTENSIVE check-up campaign by OPA volunteers throughout the nation beginning any day now. Volunteers of 5,400 local war price and rationing boards are to launch the drive to see to what extent retail food stores are keeping their prices in line with OPA ceilings.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS