

The Echo

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY AND FOR EMPLOYEES OF
ECUSTA PAPER CORPORATION, CHAMPAGNE PAPER
CORPORATION AND ENDLESS BELT CORPORATION
AT PISGAH FOREST, NORTH CAROLINA

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The War Is Not Over

War plants are re-converting . . . soldiers are returning home . . . foodstuffs and commodities have been taken off ration list . . . but there is one organization for which the war is far from over—the Red Cross.

Many servicemen are still overseas with the forces of occupation. The Red Cross has stayed overseas with them, maintaining Red Cross Recreation Clubs — organizing sightseeing tours, amateur theatricals, games and other entertainment to keep their minds occupied. Red Cross field workers are still overseas—and will stay there until the last soldier returns home—to help lighten homesickness, to listen to any G. I. who wants to "get it off his chest," to iron out any difficulties the serviceman might have. For them, the war is far from over.

Other servicemen are returning to the States, but they are not "marching home." They are coming back on hospital ships and planes and many of them will require long months of hospitalization before they will be discharged into civilian life. From the moment he arrives on the ship, the wounded serviceman receives the benefits of the Red Cross—workers are ready to write his letters and provide entertainment for him. He finds the Red Cross waiting for him when he reaches the military hospital, too—Gray Ladies to read to him and perform countless little services—Nurse's Aides to help the nurses make life easier for their patients—volunteers to teach him arts and skills to while away the long hours—workers to help his family understand the nature of his injuries. When his condition has improved, he will find Red Cross facilities for convalescent swimming to help him on the road to recovery, and Red Cross sunrooms will provide him with a place to loaf, read or play games.

The fighting may be over for the discharged veteran, but the Red Cross is still at his side giving him help, advice and counsel. When he receives his discharge papers, for example, Home Service workers are on the spot to explain his rights and benefits as a veteran, to help him draw up and file any necessary legal documents and to help put him in contact with other organizations such as the Veterans Administration. Should he be disabled and need temporary financial help, the Red Cross makes arrangements. Or, if he needs hospital care, the Red Cross will take care of that, too.

To provide for these men, and to give aid to civilians who are stricken by disaster, the Red Cross is asking you, once again, to dig deep into your pocket and come up with your contribution to the 1946 Fund Campaign. The Red Cross depends on you for its existence, so won't you give all you can possibly spare? It's your chance to say "Thanks" to your servicemen for all they've done.

—oOo—

They Had What It Takes

Two rounds before the finish it was quite apparent that James J. Braddock was an old man of the ring as champions go. He was hitting Joe Louis with everything he had but what he had wasn't nearly enough. Louis took his time but Braddock held out to the last in the hope that he might deliver that one important blow that would result in his retention of the championship.

Before that Jack Dempsey faced the same problem one rainy night in Philadelphia when he took everything that

Beneath The Pisgah The Poet's Corner

Jailbird's Lament

Why, oh, why! did I spend so
wildly
And lounge about, so lazy and lax,
Just sitting around, taking life
mildly
When I knew in the future lurked
my income tax.

I went into stores and bought this
and that,
A darling new dress or a pair of
shoes—
And in that window yonder, a
dream of a hat,
But now I'm overwhelmed with
income tax blues.

I took trips that played heck with
my allowance
Spent huge sums for candy and
gum—
Bought doo-dads and perfume at
five dollars per ounce,
Never did I give a thought to my
dwindling income.

When the trial has long been over,
and to the "pen" I'm sent,
And when, living in exile, I'm be-
ginning to fail—
Dear Friend, while I'm having to
repent,
Won't you write me a few letters,
care Birmingham Jail?

So let this be a warning, my inno-
cent friends,
Don't pamper yourself, or to your
whims cater—
If you do, you'll regret it in the
bitter end
For death and taxes will get you,
sooner or later!

—Betsy Allison.

A Tidy Life

By PAULINE B. HENDERSON

I want a tidy life,
Neat as a woman's
Workbasket.

Tasks . . .
Wound on separate spools
That unravel
In single-thread
Logical fashion.

Ideas . . .
That keep filling the basket.
Good cloth
To make things of.

Dreams . . .
That lie close
Though separate
As a woman's collection
Of buttons.

A mind . . .
That is stern
As the scissor,
That cuts the cloth
To shape.

And love . . .
Like the basket itself,
Firm-woven, strong
And cradling.

Tunney had to give . . . yet came back each time for more. And what of Bob Fitzsimmons who years before found himself stacked up against Jeffries? Toward the end of the fight Fitzsimmons made a last ditch stand. His fists were beginning to crack and every punch he delivered gave him acute pain. When he went down finally, there wasn't a Jeffries' rooter that didn't admire his pluck and stamina.

Champions who can take it are not confined to the ring and the battlefields. There are many in other walks of life who have fought game battles for a principle and won . . . or if they lost, went down slugging . . . giving just as much as they had to take. There's an old saying that the whole world loves a winner, but Americans with their sense of sportsmanship and fair play are always in there rooting for the "man who has what it takes."



Our Book Corner

"Read, mark, learn and in-
wardly digest."

The Koran

In our February Book Corner we offer books for every reader's taste. First, a list of our newest fiction: INTERVAL IN CAROLINA, William Abrahams; DASHA, E. M. Almedinger; ENCHANTED GROUND, Faith Baldwin; LOVELY IS THE LEE, Robert Gibbings; THE CHEROKEE STRIP, Marquis James; THE RIVER ROAD, Frances Parkinson Keyes; THE KING'S GENERAL, Daphne Du Maurier; MEXICAN VILLAGE, Josephina Niggli; STORM TIDE, Elisabeth Ogilvie; THE CHAPIN SISTERS, Fynette Rowe; DAYS AND NIGHTS, Konstantine Simonov; STORM CANVAS, Armstrong Sperry; THE THREE BAMBOOS, Robert Standish; THE LONELY STEEPLE, Victor Wolfson; BRIDESHEAD REVISITED, Evelyn Waugh; and the BEDSIDE BOOK OF FAMOUS FRENCH STORIES

To the non-fiction readers, we submit these: BEHOLD YOUR KING, Florence M. Bauer; A STREET IN BRONZEVILLE, Gwendolyn Brooks; GENERAL IKE, Alden Hatch; THE LEPER KING, Zofia Kossak; THIS MAN TRUMAN, Frank McNaughton and Walter Hehmeyer; THE EMPEROR'S PHYSICIAN, J. R. Perkins; FOREVER CHINA, Robert Payne and REPRESENTATIVE AMERICAN SPEECHES.

These Western stories, you will be happy to learn, are now available: ALL IN A DAY'S RIDING, Will James; AND THE WIND BLOWS FREE, Luke Short; BORDER CITY, Hart Stilwell.

Keep a step ahead of accidents
by observing safe practices.

When a fellow is so fat he can't
tie his shoes, you don't have to
remind him of the discomforts of
inflation.

The navy took our army to Eu-
rope, but the war brides are bring-
ing back the infantry.