

USO CLUBS WILL HOLD OPEN HOUSE

'Veterans Visiting Day' Will Be Observed By Local Organizations Today

In keeping with the observance of "Veterans Visiting Day" by USO clubs over the nation, open house will be held by each of the USO centers here Sunday to allow veterans of past wars to inspect the units and to visit men in service.

A special musical program has been arranged by the staff of the USO club at Second and Orange streets at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon including a concert by the Atlantic Coast Line male chorus and a community sing for the veterans and service men.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Instead of visiting the cemeteries Sunday as in past years, Commander Norman Hunter and Legionnaires R. F. Lee and J. R. Dess of the T. J. Bullock Negro post of the American Legion will speak at a special program that has been arranged by the Negro USO club at Ninth and Nixon streets and the club will be open to members of the post all through the day.

The program arranged for the concert by Director George Walker of the male chorus includes "Eight Bells," "Away to Rio," "Song of the Deep Blue Sea," "Kentucky Babe," "Bells of St. Mary's," "The Rosary," and "The Deathless Army."

The program will be concluded with a special arrangement of the National Anthem which will be followed by the community sing, directed by Mr. Walker, and accompanied by Miss Mary B. Foscoe.

Litaker To Represent Davis At U.S.O. Rally

Major Oliver M. Litaker will represent Camp Davis at the U. S. O. Victory concert-rally to be held at the armory auditorium in Charlotte this afternoon.

The program will include music by the Charlotte Symphony orchestra, singing by Norman Corson of the Metropolitan opera company, and an address by Walter Hoving of New York city, chairman of the U. S. O. board.

North Carolina has a quota of \$400,000 in the national campaign to furnish U. S. O. with \$32,000,000 to carry out its program in behalf of American troops, and the meeting at Charlotte will be attended by military, civic and U. S. O. leaders from all sections of the state.

John Barrymore Shows Signs Of Improvement

HOLLYWOOD, May 23.—(AP)—John Barrymore took his first nourishment in nearly five days today but he didn't have a single quip for his nurse. It was one of the few times the great lover was speechless in the presence of a woman.

"He still is too sick to wise-crack," the girl remarked.

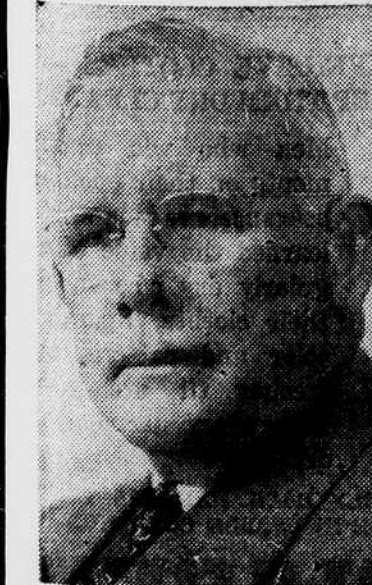
Barrymore nevertheless showed marked improvement in his fight against a complication of hypostatic pneumonia and kidney and liver ailments.

CONVERSION PUSHED

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(AP)—Conversion of the Civilian Conservation Corps camp work program to a complete war basis is 85 per cent accomplished and will be completed by June 25, CCC Director James J. McEntee reported today to Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt.

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New Hanover County has only one representative in the lower house. It is important to have a person with experience in this position as the progress of the City and County can be affected by state-wide measures that must come under his observation. Our port must be developed for a continuation of progress and I have never failed you when service could be rendered. My record of service to the taxpayers of this County by appearing before the Utilities Commission and legislative committees in your behalf speaks for itself.

Your Support Will Be Appreciated

Americans In Ireland Practice Anti-Tank Warfare



United States troops in Northern Ireland take up positions in a bomb-wrecked building during practice maneuvers simulating actual war conditions. Artillerymen crouch behind a 37-mm. anti-tank gun while infantrymen at left offer support with a 30-calibre machine gun.

Fair Enough by WESTBROOK PEGLER

NEW YORK, May 23.—The most significant remark in the general cry of outraged dignity raised in the Senate over the gasoline rationing farce was Robert M. La Follette's reminder that if the executive branch of the government should ever try to suppress critical comment in print, then the only place where the press could find adequate defense would be in the halls of the National legislature.

I believe this although suggestions have occurred in congress that freedom of opinion in the press should be curtailed. And I note that in offering his thought, Senator La Follette said he had detected a deliberate design in certain sections of the press to undermine the people's faith in congress. He seems to feel that the press should exempt congress from criticism in return for which dishonest forbearance congress would undertake to protect its own silent defender. If that is his idea he simply doesn't understand the nature of a free press because free, honest journalism cannot spare a buyable defender from honest criticism even to save its life.

In Great Danger
The fact is that both the legislative branch of our government and the free American daily press, the best journalism the world has ever known, are in great danger from the executive branch. And if congress is the last defender of freedom of the press, then the press is the final defender of the integrity of the National legislature. Neither can exist without the other and if either goes all our freedom will die.

I wonder whether Senator La Follette realizes that in criticizing unworthy actions by individual senators and representatives and the surrender of the legislative function to the executive, the press has been fighting for the independence of congress. After all, the mere passing personnel of these houses are not the institution itself but only momentary custodians of its mission in free government. If they neglect their responsibility, if they sell out to the executive for patronage or financial or political support at the polls, to the impairment of their independence and their equality with the other two branches of the government, they deserve and inevitably must incur the criticism of the free American press. This criticism does not desire to undermine the people's faith in congress

NOAH NUMSKULL
GET THAT GRIN OFF OF YOUR FACE!

5-23

DEAR NOAH = MUST I CRACK A SMILE BEFORE I CAN BREAK INTO A LAUGH?
ROSE WITCHE MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

DEAR NOAH = DO ELEPHANTS PACK THEIR OWN TRUNKS WHEN TRAVELING WITH A CIRCUS? YES A L. BODELSCHIES MANSFIELD, OHIO

DEAR NOAH = WHO GREASES GREASED-LIGHTNING?
DON COURTAUD UPPER SANDUSKY, O.

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CONGRESSIONAL 'SUTTLETIES'

(Continued from Page Six)

The rather lean ration is intended, however, to encourage canning fruit while in this syrup rather than in such sugar-using forms as jams and preserves. Price Czar Henderson declared "every effort" is being made to encourage canning, but precautions are being taken to insure the maximum of efficiency for every pound of sugar released for preserving purposes.

Details of the preserving program are being sent by Mr. Henderson's office to rationing boards throughout the country.

'FREE MAIL' ABUSED

For the benefit of soldiers, sailors and marines in the Carolinas, Uncle Sam is casting a critical eye upon the manner in which the men in the armed service are using the "free mail" privilege extended them by congress.

Like franked congressional mail and free mailing for government agencies, the "free mail for service men" plan has become a monster headache to the postoffice department.

Abuses of the congressional franking privilege were first brought into the spotlight through disclosure that Axis propaganda was circulated through the mails at the expense of the U. S. Treasury.

Without attempting to justify this defeat of some congressmen in early primaries and doubtless will eliminate others, Senator Joseph O'Mahoney, of Wyoming, former assistant postmaster general, declares that the volume of free mail from the executive departments is much greater than the total amount of franked mail dispatched by Senators and Congressmen.

"The real drain on the postal service," said Senator O'Mahoney, "comes from the still growing volume of publications, many of them useless, that are being sent to all sections of the country."

Now it develops that physicians who have entered the military service are using the "free mail" privilege to send monthly bills to their former patients. Although this is not considered a violation of the statute, which extends a blanket privilege to "any first class mail matter . . . sent by a member of the military or naval forces," certain members of congress have stated privately that the practice is a violation of the spirit of the law extending the "free mail" privilege.

It is a plain violation, however, according to authorities for service men to leave with their sweethearts and families envelopes bearing their military franks for use by these loved ones in correspondence with the soldiers and sailors.

The abuse which caused the postoffice and justice departments to get together for consideration of action to put more teeth in the law is that of some civilians who are themselves as service men on envelopes and dropping such franked letters into mail boxes. Under the present loosely-written law, the post office department has no way of checking the validity of such letters.

LABOR CAMP INDEFINITE
Whether the migratory labor camp at Castle Hayne will be continued after June 30 depends upon action by the house in accepting or rejecting a senate amendment to the agriculture appropriation bill, providing funds for continuation of such camps throughout the country.

When the agriculture bill was before the house provisions for labor camp funds, to provide suitable living quarters for transient workers employed by the farmers, was stricken. The Senate restored a portion of these funds. Now the bill is in conference and agreement must be reached between the two bodies concerning this and other amendments added to the present bill by the senate.

Representative J. Bayard Clark is attempting to sell his colleagues upon the idea of retaining in the measure the senate amendment providing funds for migratory workers' camps.

President's Daughter An Associate Editor

BY SIGRID ARNE SEATTLE, May 23.—(Wide World)

The third floor hall of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer is just a gray corridor between offices, shut off by old-fashioned frosted glass.

"Mrs. Boettiger's office?" I asked. "See the door with 'Publisher'?" That's her husband's office. Hers is just to the right.

I heard a high, gay laugh behind the door to the right. I'd heard it many times at the White House. It was the chuckle of "Sis" of the White House Roosevelts — Anna Roosevelt, who married a reporter, and trekked west with him to try to run a paper which had been shut down by many months of strike.

That trek was five years ago. I've seen her many times waiting at the White House with a tall brother. Out to dinner with Boettiger before they married. In jodphurs, driving up to the White House in a creaky jalopy. In a tailored suit on the Capitol portico listening to her father take his first oath of office, his second, and then his third.

How was she now? The door whammed open. It was Mrs. John Boettiger, associate editor.

She supervises the women's pages, but she also aids her husband in developing policy: Like the '40 election when they were so careful to give each side the same amount of space that, if a President Roosevelt speech ran 20 inches of type, the Boettigers ordered 20 inches for the next Willkie speech.

She's still a slim girl. Her bright yellow hair falls in a long bob. Her blue eyes twinkle like her father's. It was her first day back at work after an operation. The doctor had permitted her a half day's work. So, in good Roosevelt tradition, she was putting in a full day.

"—And that's tonight," she said, pointing to a bulging mail bag. Both she and her husband tussle with mail at night. They dictate into a portable dictaphone which they lug back and forth.

They have a house and two acres on an island where the three children can run. Mornings Mrs. Boettiger stays home an hour longer to plan the day with the housekeeper. Week-ends both parents give to the children. There's little partying.

The President's daughter has hood quite a row here. You get stories from both sides: violently "pro" and violently "anti"—which is also in the Roosevelt tradition.

The most violent "pros" are the people who work with her: the ink-stained press room men who grin about her. They say she can get her face as dirty as the rest, she works all hours checking proofs, and she grabs lunch at the "greasy spoon."

She tells stories on herself.

For instance, she had a baby a while back. The staff worried silently about "the missus," but she worked right up to the gong. She left on time. The baby arrived, and in a few weeks she was back at the desk, as pink and blonde as ever.

Well, she has 11 women on her staff. They were evidently so impressed that, up to this point, five have followed suit: had babies, and worked right up to the gong.

It probably takes staying power to work with her. You gather that no one works "for" her. It's "with."

She decided on her arrival here that the women of her staff should be known better by the women of the city. So she announced:

"I've taken the public auditorium. We're putting on shows to dramatize the women's pages: nutrition and the like. We're writing our own shows."

They nearly killed themselves, but they filled the auditorium.

There was one holly-toity reception given for the Boettigers which demanded some split-second thinking. It was a best-bib-and-tucker affair.

But outside the building a whistle blew for a gang of WPA workers who heard the President's daughter was shaking hands inside. They scaped the mud off, tramped in, stacked their shovels, and went down the reception line. Mrs. Boettiger went right on shaking hands, but around the hall some "right" people were having goose pimples. The WPA-ers had refreshments.

Seattle is no "rah-rah" town, says Mrs. Boettiger, and she likes it for that reason. You have to fight for your place in it. But the "show us" spirit led to one jam. It was a ladies' tea at which Mrs. Boettiger hoped to get off on the right foot. She had phoned to ask what to wear. The answer was, "oh, just come as you are from the office."

She did. In a homespun suit. The ladies had chosen long lace and pearls. Only a woman can understand the nuances of that situation.

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WEED REFERENDUM BEING CONDUCTED

Will Determine Whether Growers Desire Federal Grading At Markets

A tobacco inspection referendum in the Border belt is now under way to determine whether or not tobacco growers selling tobacco on certain designated markets last season desire government grading. County Agent R. W. Galphin said Saturday.

It will require two-thirds favorable vote by the growers voting in the referendum to have the inspection service on the designated markets.

A producer votes only in the case he sold tobacco last season on one of the markets for which the referendum is being held. Farmers should be impressed with the fact that this tobacco grading referendum should not be confused with the tobacco, cotton or other referenda held in the past on marketing quotas.

In order for the vote to count where it is cast, it will be necessary for the ballot to be postmarked not later than May 28. Votes should be sent to U. S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, State College station, Raleigh, N. C. 4

NAZIS MAD
LISBON, May 23.—(AP)—Some of 84 German diplomats and civilians who arrived today aboard the repatriation liner Serpa Pinto from Brazil looked back toward South America and shook their fists in rage. But most of 74 Italian Allies said they were sorry they left and hoped to return as soon as possible to resume their "happy life with the kindly Brazilians."

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