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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND ALSO SERVED BY THE UNITED PRESS

With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God.

Roosevelt's War Message.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1945.

THOUGH FOR TODAY
I wish you joy to hold it
If the new year must hold pain.
And quite a lot of rainbows
If you do have rain,
I wish you heads of roses
So the thorns won't hurt at all
And ladders made of little hopes
To climb each hampering wall.
I wish you work and its rewards
Until the new year ends,
And peace and rest and happiness
And friends, and friends, and friends.
MARY CAROLINE DAVIES.

No Time For Change

We agree with Representative Rankin in his opposition to major changes in the "G. I. Bill of Rights" during the new congress.

Pointing to the many provisions, including allotments for dependents, mustering-out pay, unemployment compensation and government-financed education and government loans, the author of most of the measure says he sees no need for revision in the legislation enacted last year.

Perhaps the bill is far from perfect, there are many alterations necessary, but as a whole it will stand until experience dictates the necessity for change. Only time and the returning veterans can decide the amendments. Meantime, to have given the act to the fighting man and then begin new disputes over it will certainly not add anything to his peace of mind.

New Trends

Pessimism over the length of the war means new trends in America's war economy.

These trends, emerging with the new year, shape up as follows, according to the Associated Press' Sterling F. Green:

Materials: New shortages arising. Copper because of more bullet jackets, lead because the country has dipped too deeply into its stockpile. The United States will "borrow" Canadian brass mill capacity, may even use steel mills to make brass strip for cartridges. Lumber "all tight." Aluminum very easy, with only half the country's production capacity in use. Steel "fairly well balanced" with demands.

Construction: Another deep drop ahead if war on two fronts continues through the year—\$3,150,000,000 as against 1944's \$3,840,000,000. If Germany collapses before spring, about the same as last year.

But new residential construction is getting a boost, with 100,000 new homes of nearly prewar quality scheduled in congested cities.

Spending: Still going up. War expenditures totaled \$35,000,000,000 in 1944, including construction, pay and subsistence of troops and other items not included in munitions outlay. But consumer spending outstripped that staggering total, rising to \$37,000,000,000, or 6 percent over 1943. Both figures are the highest on record. War outlay brings the cost of World War II to date to an estimated total exceeding \$226,473,000,000, not counting pre-war "defense" outlays.

War production labor force: Still declining, from 10,400,000 war workers at the peak in November, 1943, to 9,300,000 at last reports. Due mainly to greater plant efficiency, but the trend may be arrested by the "freeze" or civilian output cutbacks in war production, expected in great volume through the fall and feared as a cause of unemployment, failed to materialize in anything like expected volume. Intensive labor recruiting is ahead. Some officials want laws to enforce manpower rules, but legislation is unlikely.

Management of the war effort: Delivered lock, stock and barrel into the hands of James F. Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion. A perceptible tendency of the military to encroach on civilian management of the homefront effort was underscored by Byrnes' choice of Maj. Gen. Lucius Clay, former procurement chief of the Army Service Forces, as his chief deputy.

Byrnes' "produce or fight" decree of a few weeks ago—which threatened military service for men 26 to 38 who are not contributing the cause of victory—indicated his readiness to go above and beyond the efforts of the War Manpower Commission.

In his earlier days as mobilization director, Byrnes settled disputes and did little else.

Now, for the first time, it appears that a single person has accepted full responsibility for making war policy and charting the demobilization when the war is won.

The American Navy

The productive energy of this country has, in the past three years, produced the largest Navy in the world to fight the most extended war in history.

A continuous upsurge in the output of ships, aircraft and ordnance has enabled the Navy to wage a punching, offensive war which has carried the American flag thousands of miles into the fortress of Europe and across the Pacific into Japanese empire waters.

Today, our Navy has 61,045 vessels on hand with which to meet and defeat the enemy. The great majority of these vessels—more than 4,000 of them—are landing craft and assault ships, vessels designed to land American troops on enemy beaches, deeper and deeper into enemy territory.

For 1945, the Navy looks to American industry and American workmen to continue their magnificent support of our combatant and amphibious forces with a steady stream of supplies, supplies needed ever more urgently as we move steadily further across the Pacific.

The pattern of past production for the Navy contains a hint of future requirements. The needs of the Navy have been, and will continue to be determined by the changing course of the war—each phase of the march to victory itself. Fortunately, the pattern so far has been one of success. Success has taken us far toward the Japanese homeland. Success, however, means that the supplies of war have to travel thousands of additional miles to be used against the enemy. Success means that there are new production and manpower problems to sustain the present momentum. Old weapons are sometimes changed or canceled. New weapons must be built—and transported.

American production has achieved thousands of new records as it built this great fleet. Let no one believe, however, that we are over the hump. The New Year will bring many more problems. The manner in which we meet and solve them will determine the length of the war.

Resolutions

Make any New Year's resolutions?

Perhaps you have, and already cracked them slightly. Personal resolutions are often hard to keep but from the Office of War Information comes a set that every patriotic American can easily follow throughout the year. In doing so, he or she will be well on the way to contributing the utmost to the war effort.

First, and the most important in our opinion, is:

"Stick to your war job to speed and maintain a steady flow of supplies to our men on the fighting fronts."

Others are:

"Destroy all invalidated food ration stamps—their use is a violation of rationing regulations."

"Fill 5,500 jobs for men and women making cotton duck critically needed by our armed forces."

"Donate 100,000 books to the American Merchant Marine library. Books provide relief from 'torpedo tension' and 'convoy fatigue.'"

"Volunteer as a price panel assistant. 50,000 workers are needed immediately—to help prevent inflation—help hold prices down."

Quieter Observance

Observance of the arrival of New Year here appears to be growing quieter each year. From our observations, including reports from law enforcement authorities, riotous times that marked the event in former years are giving way to less outdoor revelry.

Downtown crowds are smaller and better behaved. As an example, city police reported but four persons arrested Sunday night and early Monday morning.

The change, obviously, is for the best. Accidents, often involving pedestrians, have marred more than one celebration in former years. Several persons have been injured by fireworks and there have also been cases of property damage.

Perhaps the world, and rightfully so, is learning to welcome each year with less noise and carousing. Today's events make the times serious ones and there's no place for frivolous celebration.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

GOLF AND THE WAR EFFORT

Byron Nelson, top-flight golfer who has been designated as the outstanding athlete of the year in the Associated Press poll, contends that golf is helping the war effort and points out that the prime purpose of gold exhibitions and tournaments is "to stimulate the sale of war bonds as well as provide entertainment for servicemen now undergoing rehabilitation."

There may be something to be said for this point of view, and in all fairness that ought to be conceded. Our own feeling is that there are all too many husky, able-bodied men traipsing over the country, devoting their strength and energies to hitting a little white ball into a hole, who could be more usefully employed in the war effort in some other capacity, in view of the crying need for more manpower in our war industries. We may be entirely wrong about it, but that's the way we feel, nevertheless.—Roanoke (Va.) Times.

This handsome donation will be invested in a new library building which this institution is soon to erect.

Fair Enough

(Editor's note—The Star and the News accept no responsibility for the personal views of Mr. Pegler, and often disagree with them as much as many of his readers. His articles serve the good purpose of making people think.)

By WESTBROOK PEGLER
(Copyright, 1944, by King Features Syndicate.)

WASHINGTON.—About the time that the political warfare service of the U. S. army seized Montgomery Ward's properties again as a favor to President Roosevelt's party auxiliary, the CIO, I was cramming on the history of the case in preparation for an interview with Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and a member of the War Labor board. This board has ordered the company to protect the integrity of its enemy, the union, by acting as its dues collector; and by promising to fire, in a time of critical labor shortage, any union member who should decide to drop out. Ward refused and the political warfare service moved in.

Dr. Graham belongs to that section of the War Labor board known as the "public" or impartial and objective group. There are twelve regular members, four each for "labor," which Mr. Eddle, the attorney-general, has openly acknowledged as a subsidiary of the New Deal party and government, the "employers" and the "public." On the basis of his gratuitous public statement of Dec. 27 in this case, Doctor Graham appears to be not a "public" member but a union man. The public representation this would be reduced to three and the union strength raised to five. He is a small man with a slight Carolina brogue, a strong prejudice in favor of the unions and great patience for their perfidies which he would endure until unionism corrects them voluntarily from within. He personally disapproves but would legally tolerate such iniquities by withholding legal compulsion and restraint such as the New Deal, with public approval, imposed on "Wall Street" or corporate capital.

Doctor Graham hedged on crookedness and communism in unions and attempted to rearrange questions by answering what he would do if he were a union man under such conditions. He is not a union man, however, and as public official, he takes no account of the character of a union boss who may be a rascal or a declared communist. He considers only the merits of the controversy between the union and the employer. Again, I tried to persuade him to say what proportion of his decisions had gone in favor of unions and against the employers but here got no results at all.

As a new experience in interviewing, I discovered on entering Doctor Graham's office that a young woman was to sit by with a stenotype and make a record of the entire conversation. He explained that this was done in interviews in which any member discussed policy. The board, itself, makes policy as it goes along, deciding each case on its "merits" which means that the Roosevelt political commissars go as far as they like or dare in each controversy, rewarding or punishing according to their discretion. Doctor Graham thus explained that the action in a given case is regulated by the "degree" of interference with the war effort. Montgomery Ward's refusal to serve its enemy, the union, was a case of first degree interference, largely because, as Roosevelt said, other CIO workers in Detroit might strike if the company's property were not seized. Such strikes would be a violation of the unions celebrated pledge and the responsibility of their own officers and members. Nevertheless, Roosevelt and Graham decided that the company was wrong in tempting unions not employed by them to violate their obligation and therefore was punishable for offenses contemplated but not yet committed by others.

In his statement of Dec. 17, Doctor Graham had made an astonishing comparison. He compared the Ward company to the south in the civil war and observed that the southern states were compelled to "accept the policies of the nation and maintain their membership in the union."

"Montgomery Ward," he said, "cannot establish the sovereignty of the corporation over the nation in the midst of a war for the security of corporations, unions and all our free institutions." Amplifying this he made the security of a CIO clerk's union a political cohort of the Roosevelt party, paramount with the security of the United States. Ward's defiance was similar to the southern rebellion. Here, he said, was an issue of sovereignty. Ward was trying to over-ride the war policy of the nation and so the army acted in the interest of a partisan political group whose bosses were unable to keep them loyal. It was vital to preserve unions even though dissatisfied members might prefer to drop out and while this coercion would, indeed, deprive such people of a measure of their human rights and dignity, this loss would be compensated in the long run by their gain in economic security.

"The American people," his statement said, "accepted maintenance of membership." When he was asked when they had voted on this he answered that they did it when the House of Representatives voted 204 to 73, which would be about half the membership, against a proposal to prohibit such clauses.

At the end, we mentioned the defiance of his board and of Roosevelt, himself, by Jimmy Petrillo, the president of the Musicians' union.

That was different. The minor degree of danger to the war effort mitigated the offense and made punishment unnecessary.

Petrillo is a Roosevelt political worker and a campaign contributor.

SO THEY SAY

During 30 days we dropped a rough average of more than 100,000 pounds of bombs per day on urban industrial centers of Japan, including aircraft factory areas. The Hatsudoki plant, largest of its kind in Japan, is at this time out of business with at least 40 percent of its buildings destroyed or gutted by fire.—Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, 21st Bomber Command chief on Saipan.

Universal military training no more means that we are looking for war than getting vaccinated means a man is looking for smallpox.—Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal.

We, the Emperor, are emotionally overwhelmed by the loyalty and gallantry of you, the subjects, and expect to see an early accomplishment of the objective of this sacred war.—Hirohito.

They do have movies of evenings in many places, but the call is the more important item on the schedule and they don't get any it is just awful.—Rep. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, back from the Pacific.

EX-STAR BOARDER?



WITH THE AEF Yank Veterans Smash Nazi Panzers

By KENNETH L. DIXON

WITH THE A. E. F. ON THE BELGIAN FRONT, Dec. 30.—(Delayed)—Three nights ago it was pitch black along this road south of Marche. It was bitterly cold, with the ground frozen into rutted crust.

A cruel knifing wind slashed along the road. It was rolling countryside here with patches of forests dotting the fields and pastures of the Belgian farmland. "Perfect tank terrain" they called it because it was open, with a clear field to fire in and plenty of room for maneuvering and dodging behind hillocks, then reappearing to fire again.

Westward rolled a crack German Panzer outfit.

Eastward sped a veteran American Armored outfit. They were fairly evenly matched numerically and as far as experience was concerned for that matter they had fought each other before—but that is another story which cannot be told until censorship permits their names to be released. On one hand, the German Tiger tanks are tougher than any tank we can put on the field. To say the least their Panthers are as tough as our best tanks. So they had that advantage.

But while the Germans thought there were only scattered infantry units somewhere ahead, the Yank tankers knew the whole Panzer outfit was on the prowl that night. Patrols had estimated its size and direction.

Head on along this road they met at midnight and the cold and darkness was split by the light and thunder of slashing explosions and fires. There was light along the road until dawn.

Today I walked along the road to find out how the American Armored outfit managed not only to halt the deepest western penetration the Germans made, but also to cut the Panzer outfit in half while taking less than one-tenth the casualties inflicted on the enemy.

That makes news because it does not happen often. It was a case of sheer surprise and the ruthless use of experience. Those were the elements which aided the Germans when his bloody breakthrough started.

Lying along the road you can see the burned out charred skeletons of tanks, armored cars, weapons carriers, supply trucks and personnel vehicles. Nine out of ten of them are German, usually they are about equally divided and often the percentage runs grimly the other way.

There is a light snow across the wreckage but not enough to erase the story written in the scrap.

A couple of miles this side of where those two mighty masses of metal collided you begin to see American tank tracks leaving the road. They crushed through the frozen crust sinking a few inches. They rolled across fences and ditches rumbling along in flanking positions waiting for the attack.

Striking from the side that way they were able to cut down the Tiger tanks to nearer their size by knocking off treads and damaging turrets.

But that was not all that hit the Panzer column from both sides. Riding the tanks, assault guns, tank destroyers and anything they could straddle were hundreds of armored infantrymen, still other Doughboys roved the fields and roads ahead.

Pouring every type of explosive at their disposal into that jammed blazing mass, the veteran Yanks never gave the Germans a chance to recover from their initial shock of finding their way blocked. Some of them toward the rear got away, about half probably. The rest either died or gave up.

Surprise and battle experience did it. Those two things and the grim efficient ruthlessness which the Yanks have developed during recent days—and all three qualifications were still evident today along this road.

Interpreting The War

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Associated Press War Analyst
The time lag imposed by the Allies on revelation of developments in the battle of the Belgian bulge, continues to mask the exact situation.

But there seems little doubt in view of a belated report of an additional six mile American advance west of Bastogne, however, that an enemy retreat from the dangerous western loop of the bulge to escape entrapment is in progress.

While the direction or width of the new Third Army forward surge in the St. Hubert area is not indicated, a six mile advance there would certainly put American forces astride a considerable section of the Bastogne-Marche highway. It also probably would restore an important section of the Liege-Rochefort-Arlon railway to Allied use. It would virtually close the gap between Third Army forces in the south and First Army divisions on the north of the Bastogne-Manhay waistline position, splitting the German bulge through the middle.

With that advance the original corridor carved out by General Patton's men to rescue the gallant garrison of Bastogne must have been eliminated. The line so far as it can be traced has been flattened out on the southwestern angle of the German bulge to such an extent that enemy hopes of regaining possessions of the town can be but slight.

Nazi failure to take Bastogne from its American garrison marked the turning point in the German counterattack. Bastogne is the communications key to the whole upper center area of the bulge. Without it, the German commander's hope of reaching the Meuse valley either to the west or to the north on a scale to force American evacuation of the Aachen-Roer bulge into Germany was doomed to failure once the shock of surprise had passed and General Eisenhower had regrouped his armies.

Loss of the western loop of the Belgian bulge would convert the German foothold into a relatively shallow dent but one sufficiently wide at its base line to make it a difficult job to reduce it and throw the foe back behind German frontiers. There are intimations in some front line dispatches that despite the progress of Patton's troops, Allied prospects for turning the Nazi gamble offensive into the worst German defeat in the west are waning. There has been little for several days to indicate any substantial American gains on either the north or south "shoulder" positions at the eastern base of the bulge.

In the light of the situation in Belgium, reported multiple Nazi counter attacks in some strength both east and west of the Bitche anchorage of the old French Maginot Line in the Karlsruhe frontier angle to the south look like a diversion move.

The Bitche attacks probably are aimed at forcing return of some part of the Third Army to the Saar area, thus relieving pressure on the southern face of the Belgian bulge.

That the enemy has the means to mount a new major offensive effort in the Bitche region as front line advices suggest seems highly doubtful. However, Nazi leadership cannot doubt in any event that it has already succeeded in stalemating the Allied Saar Basin offensive indefinitely.

MUMMERS PARADE

Sloshy Weather Fails To Stop Famous Spectacle

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Grease paint lashed by a heavy rainfall and "golden slippers" mud-soaked, 2,000 hardy mummer-sloshed up Broad street in a downpour today to greet the new year in traditional fashion.

Thousands of umbrella-covered spectators cheered the clowning of the four comic divisions which marched in spite of the weather. The mummies tried to keep alive the spirit of their marching song, "Oh, Dem Golden Slippers," but they sang without accompaniment for none of the 11 famous string bands would expose their instruments to the soaking rain.

The Wheeler Club, known for its finery, also withdrew from today's march and will parade with the string bands on Saturday.

Mexico 'Good Neighbor' Commends Roosevelt And Camacho In Newspapers

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 1.—(AP)—A New Year's message expressing the hope that 1945 will see continuation and growth of friendship between the United States and Mexico appeared in Mexico City newspapers today as a full-page advertisement. It was signed "A Good Neighbor."

The message commends President Roosevelt, President Avila Camacho and other U. S. and Mexican officials for their "good neighbor" work. Among those mentioned are Dr. Francisco Castillo Najera, Mexican ambassador to Washington, and George Messersmith, U. S. Ambassador here.

RUBBING IT IN

SEATTLE, Jan. 1.—(UP)—The driver of a Seattle bus stopped his vehicle before a drug store, left his perplexed passengers and trotted into the establishment. He returned a few minutes later, crestfallen. "The cigarettes were all gone, weren't they?" gently jibed a passenger.

MEXICO WELCOMES NEW YEAR WITH A HEARTY EMBRACE

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Mexicans saw in the new year today with gaiety and embraces.

Night clubs were crowded until nearly dawn. At some, like Ciro's and Minuit, the early morning supper cost 100 pesos (\$20). At the University Club, hundreds who had not made reservations in time were turned away. At the Club France, the charge was \$10, and proceeds went to French War Relief.

Men gave each other the "abrazo" (embrace) — as did women, and men embraced women as Senor 1945 was born. Each member of a party is supposed to embrace each of the others and say "Feliz Año Nuevo" — Happy New Year. With the right hand each embracer pats the other on the back.

Many of the revelers went to church first, to be there at midnight, then to parties.

During the forenoon streets were nearly deserted.

New York Flier Takes Lead As Ranking Ace

LONDON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Lt. Col. John C. Meyer of Forest Hills, N. Y., is the highest scoring active U. S. Eighth Air Force fighter ace in Europe with a total of 35 Nazi planes to his credit, the U. S. Strategic Air Force announced today.

The New Yorker has destroyed 23 German planes in the air and 12 on the ground. His 22nd air kill was scored on a jet plane Sunday.

Three Men, Lost On Boat Trip, Found By Guardsmen

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Two New Orleans physicians and an Army lieutenant who had been reported missing for more than 24 hours in an outboard motor boat off Bayou Grande off Lake Borgne were located today at nearby Bi-loxi Bayou by the Coast Guard and rescued. They were lost yesterday on a fishing trip.

The rescued men were Dr. Charles S. Holbrook, a prominent psychiatrist, Dr. James Burks and a Lieut. Curtis, whose full name had not been learned.

The Literary Guidepost

BY W. G. ROGERS

"War Criminals: Their Prosecution and Punishment," by Sheldon Glueck (Knopf; \$3). Germans and Japanese have committed certain atrocities against enemy soldiers and civilians. Prof. Glueck believes, and he is undoubtedly right in assuming that this point does not need to be argued. He goes on from there, has very curiously clouded: How shall the criminals be tried and punished?

Glueck who teaches criminal law and criminology at Harvard, reminds us of the absurd outcome of the attempt to punish Germans at the close of World War I. The record shows, for instance, that the Allies' original (but incomplete list of accused numbered 896; that on a test list submitted to the jurisdiction of the Leipzig court there were only 45 names; that of these, 12 actually came to trial; that of them six were convicted; that sentences totaled less than 12 years.

Glueck is convinced that if adequate individual punishment had been meted out, the Nazis would have hesitated before starting their own orgy of brutality.