

Wilmington Star

North Carolina's Oldest Daily Newspaper
Published Daily Except Sunday
By The Wilmington Star-News
R. B. Page, Owner and Publisher

Entered as Second Class Matter at Wilmington, N. C., Postoffice Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Time	Star	News	Combination
1 Week	\$.30	\$.25	\$.50
1 Month	1.30	1.10	2.15
3 Months	3.90	3.25	6.50
6 Months	7.80	6.50	13.00
1 Year	15.60	13.00	26.00

By Mail: Payable Strictly in Advance
3 Months-\$4.50 6 Months-\$8.70 1 Yr.-\$17.40
WILMINGTON STAR (Daily Without Sunday)
3 Months-\$1.85 6 Months-\$3.70 1 Yr.-\$7.40

When remitting by mail please use check or U. S. P. O. money order. The Star News cannot be responsible for currency sent through the mails.

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
THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1945.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
The future toward which we are marching across bloody fields and rightful manifestations of destruction, must be based upon broad and simple virtues, and upon the nobility of mankind.
Winston Churchill.

Just Beyond Bolton

Because Americans generally are unfamiliar with the geography of eastern Germany and contiguous countries they are having a hard time understanding the advance of the Russian forces steadily advancing on the Reich capital. But if we substitute Washington for Berlin and Baltimore for the nearest enemy concentration point with spearheads some seven miles closer the American seat of government, Berlin's plight becomes more apparent.

Baltimore is approximately forty miles from Washington. The Russians have sent advance units to within thirty - three miles of Berlin, the Germans declared. We can well imagine the feeling of Washingtonians, and all Americans for that matter, if an enemy had its skirmishers that close.

Or, to make it strictly local, imagine Wilmington the chief objective, with the foe's spearhead just two miles beyond Bolton and still coming closer. With enemy planes overhead and the thump of his artillery thundering in all ears, Wilmingtonians would be far from calm.

With this comparison in mind, and with the American and British forces plunging ahead east of the Rhine it is more and more difficult to understand the power that holds the German civilian population in line. Truly, the gasapo must have complete dominance over the people, despite reports that its members never appear alone on the streets, lest a panicky populace slay them out of hand.

Winners All

The nine lieutenant generals nominated by President Roosevelt to be four - star generals have won their right to the proposed promotion. Without disrespect to the others it may be pointed out that Generals McNarney, Bradley, Spaatz, Kenney, Clark and Keueger have been in command of combat forces whereas the others have had office assignments. Undoubtedly the others would have proved as capable in field commands as they have in their less spectacular roles.

Nor is it disrespectful to any Allied military leader to note that General Eisenhower has declared Field Marshal Montgomery the greatest field officer in the Allied armies on any front. This has been the popular estimate of the little beret - wearing Scotchman ever since he started Rommel back - tracking in Egypt when the Allied cause seemed all but hopeless.

By indirect reasoning, it may well be that Eisenhower himself has had something to do with Montgomery's great success. At least he was a party to the decision that gave him his big chance.

Laugh This Off

It was revealed recently that only five per cent of the 11,872 tuberculosis cases discharged from Veterans' Administration hospitals during the last fiscal year were listed as medically rehabilitated—that is "arrested," "apparently arrested," or "quiescent." It is reported that this rate "compares very unfavorably" with the considerably higher rehabilitation rates in the better sanitoriums run by state, municipal or private agencies. About half of the total number of cases discharged were World War II veterans.

Government authorities said that worry, feeling too well to finish treatment, seeking more favorable climate, desire to go to work and other similar reasons accounted for the shocking number of "irregular discharges." However, such reasons are pretty feeble. They are encountered wherever tuberculosis patients are under treatment.

Actually, the above is one of the strongest illustrations of what happens when that intimate something which medical men call doctor-patient relationship, is destroyed by impersonal government administration of medical care. Advocates of state medicine laugh at doctors who claim that the personal interest of the physician in his patient, which

is characteristic of the private practice of medicine, contributes substantially to speed of recovery. And yet many who have been ill will recall the relief that came with the knowledge that their doctor would personally stand by them night and day if the need arose.

Food and Supply Problem

When the United States went into the war and with the customary national predisposition to succor the world, programs for feeding, clothing, arming everybody outside the Axis countries came into being overnight. Wherever there was need, wherever any commodity of war material was lacking, there was where we were to pour out our substance. If not by Lend-Lease or other promise to pay, then by gratuity, the United States should act as the anti-Axis world's most liberal samaritan, and, at the same time and for the duration, make provision for the needs of its own civilian and military population.

There could be but one outcome to such planning—insufficiency in all supplies and quarreling among the bureaus set up to administer the preposterous programs. Here is this wrangling between the War Food Administration and the Foreign Economic Administration, for example. They cannot agree on what foodstuffs are to go where and what shall be placed in the domestic market, with result that a meat crisis faces this country and the Army, which has a strong propensity to over buy in everything but is nevertheless doing its job with credit in Europe and the Pacific, is expected to cut down on meat rations for the soldiers as well as reductions in general military supplies.

The whole problem of food, which has been muddled from the start, is more confused and unsatisfactory than ever, both at home and with respect of foreign commitments which must be met even though in large part they were unjustifiable, and there appears to be no prospect of a solution. War Food Administrator Marvin Jones and Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley are polles apart and somewhere in the space between is War Mobilizer and Deputy President James F. Byrnes, with no hope even of a truce. The only outlook is that the whole matter will have to be referred to President Roosevelt for settlement, and in all seriousness it is difficult to foresee any improvement through appeal to the White House. Mr. Roosevelt is not a genius for detail nor given to consideration of costs.

The Army, the domestic civilian population, and foreign peoples to whom supplies have been pledged, face worse conditions, and all because experts in the business at hand have been passed over in the selection of our chief bureaucrats.

Pessimism Unjustified

In connection with the Security conference set to assemble in San Francisco on April 25, it may be noted that pessimists are already forecasting that no group set up for perpetuating peace in the world can be more successful than was the ill-starred League of Nations. Those holding this view fail to consider the reasons for the League's failure, chief of which was that the United States was not a member.

Having played a fine role in the defeat of Germany in the former World war, the Senate, for strictly political reasons, and probably because President Wilson failed to include Senator Lodge among the American delegates to the Versailles peace conference, rejected membership in the League, left it to stumble through its inefficient existence and so did the spade work of its failure.

This time the situation is reversed. The United States is determined to do its full share in maintaining peace. There are those among the aforesaid pessimists who declare that President Roosevelt, with the hope of becoming the chieftain of whatever peace group is established, has allowed himself to become the henchman of Winston Churchill, and that Churchill himself is under Stalin's thumb, but facts supporting this view are lacking. It is true that Mr. Roosevelt's ambitions are exhaustless and that Stalin, because of the magnificent accomplishments of his armies, has won the right to speak lustily at the peace table and sit above the salt in any postwar organization for peace, and that Churchill is displaying the proverbial trade instincts of the British; but there has been unprecedented harmony at all conferences among the Big Three. It is reasonable to think that, with the errors of the League of Nations in mind and the known warlike predisposition of the Prussians as a guide, the trio will find ground for united action after the war.

A little optimism for world peace for more than a quarter century is more justified than the pessimism of the irreconcilables.

Hull May Attend

The course of events is often shaped by the opportune presence of this man or that when they are being shaped. Because this is so, news from Washington that Cordell Hull is recovering from his long illness so rapidly and satisfactorily that he may be able to attend the United Nations conference in San Francisco toward the end of April is heartening.

His presence, when representatives of the governments upon whom will fall the burden of drafting fundamental principles for the world of tomorrow, could not fail to bear fruit. His deep sense of the responsibility resting upon the democracies, his clear vision of

the needs of a reborn world and his judgment of men would be invaluable. Not only Americans but citizens of all nations to be represented at this vital gathering hope that recent progress in his convalescence will continue and that he may take on the task of attendance without imperiling his returning health.

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, 1945, by King Features Syndicate.) In writing some time ago of the use of radio by a Russian born war contractor to harangue the Americans with propaganda consistent with the communist line, I made the mistake of declaring that our standard American press would not sell advertising space for editorial matter. It was a careless observation and incorrect because, periodically, since 1939, the International Latex company of Playtex Park, Dover, Del., has been running political arguments as paid advertisements. These have been new deal preaches, and anti-Nazi but, as far as my reading of them reveals, never anti-communist, nor hostile to totalitarianism, as such.

The company which took to the air with the party line propaganda over a local station of the Blue Network in New York was Electronic Corporation of America. As related before in these dispatches, its news "interpreter" is a renegade rabbi, born Margolis, who changed his name to Gailmor, to conceal his identity as a convicted thief, and deceived the Blue Network regarding his true personality and police record in the interview which preceded his engagement. After the expose, he was invited to the White House alone with many others of like mind and purposes for the inauguration festivities.

The president of electronic is a native Russian, naturalized American, named Samuel Novick who manufactures secret electrical equipment for the Army and also has interests in a company of similar activities in Mexico, the center of the communist conspiracy in Latin America. Novick hired for his press agent in New York a prominent and aggressive communist who, like Gailmor, also uses an alias, Novick, moreover, is associated with a group of conspicuous communists and fellow-travelers in a new corporation which is preparing a strong campaign by radio voice and television to begin immediately after the war.

In Gailmor's propaganda conscious example of pro-communist bias were denunciations of Great Britain for resisting the communist coup in Greece after the liberation and laudations of the Quisling Polish government set up by Soviet Russia in Poland under the title of the Lublin committee. This matter was presented in the guise of news interpretation and, under ordinary practice, the cost of the program, more than \$50,000 a year, would be deductible from the profits of electronic as legitimate advertising expense, in the preparation of its tax returns. Thus, in final effect, the American people, the actual taxpayers, would bear the cost of their own indoctrination, subtly administered as explanation of news developments. Even though it were not deducted but paid out of the company's own profits, they would still pay for it because, after all, it is the tax-payers who pay the profits, too. A communist organization having the form of an American business corporation might desire profits only to be able to use them to promote the cause of communism.

There are points of similarity between Novick of electronic and the president of International Latex, whose name is Abraham N. Spanel. Like Novick, Spanel was born in Russia and, like Novick, he is diligently engaged in war production and would appear to have prospered enormously. His advertisements run two or three columns wide, the length of the page, in a national list of newspapers, a campaign suggesting a huge appropriation for political propaganda, and he is a rapturous advocate of Henry Wallace as an American political prophet. To this end he has published at advertising rates on a national scale several eulogies of Wallace, ostensible as "a public service," including one by the ineffectual Senator Joe Guffey, of Pennsylvania, the artful tax dodger, who for many years owed the treasury an item of \$4,000 and, finally, after much publicity, persuaded himself to pay it, but without the usual impact of accrued interest.

"No wonder the forward looking people of the United States and the common people of the world believe in Mr. Wallace," said Senator Guffey in one of Mr. Spanel's ads, neglecting, however, to mention Wallace's disparagement of the American constitutional Bill of Rights or his plan to build a highway, whether of eight lanes or one, and whether of concrete or platinum, from New York to Paris by way of Alaska and Siberia.

Another of Mr. Spanel's rhapsodies was a reprint of a column by a member of the Roosevelt newspaper following in Washington, which described Wallace as a champion and symbol of the "aspiration of the common man and the under dog." This was a poetic construction well expressing the attitude of some demagogues of the extreme left who regard the American citizen as a soulless lump to be fed, quartered, ordered and disciplined even as a dog. A native of Russia and an admirer of the Soviet system might be pardoned in the error.

Collier's recently published a laudatory personal history of Mr. Spanel, praising him for his invention and manufacture of pneumatic boots for jungle warfare and a pneumatic stretcher for the recovery of casualties and for his foresight in laying up, before Pearl Harbor, a reserve supply of liquid latex, or pure rubber. He formerly had manufactured girdles for women and baby pants. Collier's tells us that like Gailmor, Spanel studied for the clergy.

He is said to have returned voluntarily \$1,500,000 of his profits to the Treasury but we are not told whether he might have had to do this anyway, as many manufacturers must, under the renegotiation process. A war contractor thus could make patriotic virtue of legal necessity.

We do know, however, that the advertising matter is entirely political and ideological, with no mention of any commercial product, and that it represents a lavish outlay of money by a corporation for political propaganda in the guise of public service, financed by an immigrant from Russia, who seems to admire Russia as a trustworthy national comrade of the United States, without reference to the record of Russia's past performances or examination of the communist system.

"After Us the Deluge"



Your War--With Ernie Pyle

IN THE MARIANAS ISLANDS. (Delayed)—One thing that might help you visualize what life is like out here, is to realize that even a little island is lots bigger than you think.

There are many, many thousands of Americans scattered in camps and at airfields and in training centers and harbors over the three islands which we occupy.

Rarely does a man know many people outside his own special unit. Even though the islands are small by our standards, they're big enough that the individual doesn't encompass them by any means. It would be as impossible for one man to see or know everybody on one of these islands as it would to know everybody in Indianapolis.

You could live and work in your section, and never visit another section for weeks or months at a time. And that's exactly what does happen.

For one thing, transportation is short. We are still building furiously here, such fast and fantastic building as you never dreamed of. Everything that runs is being used, and there's little left over just to run around in for fun.

And anyhow, there's no place to go. What towns there were have been destroyed. There is nothing even resembling a town or city on these islands now. The natives have been set up in improvised camps, but they offer no "city life" attractions.

As we drove around one of the islands on my first day here, we went through one of the Marianas towns that had been destroyed by bombing and shelling. It had been a good-sized place, quite modern too in a tropical way. It had a city plaza and municipal buildings and paved streets, and many of the buildings were of stone or mortar.

In destruction, it looked exactly as destroyed cities all over Europe look. The same jagged half-standing walls, the stacks of rubble, the empty houses you could see through, the roofless homes, the deep craters in the gardens.

There was just one difference. Out here tropical vegetation is lush. And Nature thrusts up her greenery so swiftly through rubble and destruction that the ruins are festooned with vines and green leaves, and it gives them a look of being very old and time-worn ruins, instead of fresh modern ones, which they are.

An American soldier in Europe, even though the towns may be "off limits" to him or destroyed completely, still has a sense of being near a civilization that is like his own.

But out here there is nothing like that. You are on an island, the natives are strange people, if you had a three-day pass you'd probably spend it lying on your cot. Eventually, boredom and the "island complex" starts to take hold.

Even if it isn't a good movie, it kills the time between supper and bedtime.

The theaters are usually on the slope of a hill, forming a natural amphitheater. The men sit on the ground, or bring their own boxes, or in some of them the ends of metal bomb crates are used for chairs.

You can drive along and sometimes you'll pass three movies not more than 300 yards apart. That's mainly because there is not enough transportation to haul the men any distance, so the movie has to come to them.

There is lots of other stuff provided besides movies, too. On one island there are 65 theater stages, where soldiers themselves put on "live" shows, or where USO troupes can perform. Forty pianos have been scattered around at these places.

In Europe it was a lucky bunch of soldiers who got their hands on a radio. Over here in these small islands, the Army has distributed 3,500 radios, and they have a regular station broadcasting all the time, with music, news, shows and everything.

WITH THE AEF: Ambulances, Footballs

BY ROBERT C. WILSON (Substituting for Kenneth L. Dixon)

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.—This is a story of ambulances and footballs.

It involves the American Field Service and took place in Alsace, Paris and London. C. B. Alexander of Baltimore, Md., needed ten ambulances for his volunteer drivers attached to the First French Army.

Alexander and Mark Ethridge, Jr., of Louisville, Ky., went to see Gen. Jean de Latre de Tassigny about getting those ambulances. The general had a shortage too of footballs.

He needed 100 pigskins for his officers candidate school. "And so it is a deal" said the general. "I'll give you one new ambulance for every ten footballs you give me."

It sounded like an easy deal and Melvin Braustein, son of a Pittsburgh, Pa., sporting goods dealer, was assigned the task of getting the footballs.

Armed with letters from the general requesting the footballs, Braustein flew to Paris. First he went to Supreme Allied Headquarters. Then to French Special Services Headquarters. Then to American supply officials and finally to the French commissariat of sports.

WITH THE FOURTH ARMORED DIVISION, Germany, March 14.—Troops of the Fourth Armored Division today captured a V-1 launching site near Buchel and learned from the irate residents that the range of some of early "vengeance" bombs was no farther than their own roof tops.

The sports program is big. On one island there are 95 softball diamonds, 35 regular diamonds, 225 volleyball courts and 30 basketball courts. Also there are 35 boxing arenas. Boxing is very popular. They've had as high as 18,000 men watching a boxing match.

In addition to all this program, which is deliberate and supervised, the boys do a lot to amuse themselves. The American is adept at fixing up any old place in the world to look like home, with little picket fences and all kinds of Rube Goldberg contraptions inside to make it more livable. All this uses up time.

Just as an example, the Coral Sea bottom inside the reef around these islands abounds with fantastic miniature marine life, weird and colorful. Soldiers make glass-bottomed boxes for themselves, and wade out and just look at the beautiful sea bottom.

I've seen them, out there like that for hours, just staring at the sea bottom. At home they wouldn't have gone to an aquarium if you'd built it in their backyard.

Pleasures are all relative. Joy is proportional. Why don't I shout up?

"Sorry, no footballs are kicking around here." Was the story he got at each place.

Braustein recalled that before the war a sporting goods firm in London had exported footballs to his father's firm.

So he hitch-hiked across the channel in an RAF plane, only to find the company tied up with Army orders. But finally the American Special Services in London said they could take care of him.

The other day Braustein returned to Tassigny's headquarters with 108 footballs, 24 pair of football shoes and 12 football pumps.

The ten ambulances will be turning up any day now.

The inner or sensory wall of the eyeball is the retina.

BY W. G. ROGERS "Report on the Russians" by W. L. White (Harcourt, Brace; \$2.50). A conversation of this White paper on Russia by the author of the excellent "They Were Expensible" appeared recently in a magazine and was criticized heartedly. In the introduction to the book, White admits there were some errors. "Some of these mistakes were favorable to the Russians," he writes; "some were unfavorable and these last of course I regret."

Interpreting The War

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON Associated Press War Analyst

Invasion jitters sweeping Japan home islands may be a bit premature. There is much to do on the other side of the world before full power can be concentrated against the Japanese end of the disintegrating Nazi-Nipponese Axis but that does not necessarily preclude early Allied steps to secure footholds on continental Asia.

That is exactly what Tokyo fears. It explains Japanese discarding of the "protection" massed in 1941 to cover seizure of French Indo-China. On Tokyo orders, Japanese troops are moving to disarm or destroy all French and native forces. It is for defense against expected Anglo-American incursions from across the South China Sea into French Indo-China that could cut off the whole southern end of the collapsing Japanese "greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere" by land as well as sea.

It remains to be seen whether that is the purpose that underlies creation of the powerful British Pacific Fleet, American occupation of Palawan Islands in the west central Philippines, just over 600 miles from the eastern bulge of Indo-China and seizure of the Zamboanga peninsula of Mindanao dominating the Sulu Sea gateway to the South China Sea from the Pacific. Disclosure from Bombay that a French military mission has been in consultation with Allied authorities for months and now is attached to Lord Louis Mountbatten's Southeast Asia Command will do nothing to ease Japanese apprehensions.

American Naval Task Forces recently have operated close off the Indo-China coast. American air power has been steadily blasting at Japanese shipping in Indo-China and at the narrow gauge railroad that hugs the coast line all the way from Hanoi to Saigon, connecting central and eastern China and Burma and the Malay peninsula.

Announcement that a French military mission is attached to the Allied Southeast Asia Command carries a suggestion that at some moment a combined squeeze might develop from east and west to split off Japanese garrisons in Malaya and the Dutch Indies for annihilation, with establishment of air and sea bases in French Indo-China as a necessary preliminary. Once air and sea control of the Gulf of Thailand were secured, simultaneous blows from the Bay of Bengal and the South China Sea to gain positions on the Malay narrow upper end of the Malay peninsula would seem possible. That would isolate Singapore.

Daily Prayer

FOR SIMPLE FAITH

For all creation Thou art a sovereign God; but to us Thou art Father; so we come to Thee in childlike confidence, sure of Thy love, Thy wisdom and Thy power. We do not understand all Thy ways with us, but we know they are Father ways. We are but children; Thou art our Father. Now as we undergo our trials and testings we pray that Thou wilt increase our faith in Thee. Give us, we reverently plead, utter childlike confidence in Thee and in Thy purposes for us. Beweathered by war, burdened by grief, afflicted by perils to our dear ones and to the world, we cling to Thy Fatherly care; for Thou carest for us. May our trustful dependence upon Thee impart courage and patience and peace to our hearts. Forgive us that we have so often been disobedient children; and make us wrothier of our Divine inheritance. Amen.—W.T.E.

DEAN OF ENGINEERING

ATLANTA, March 14.—Appointment of Cherry Logan Emmons, vice president of Robert and Co., Atlanta engineers, to be dean of engineering at Georgia Tech was approved today by the board of regents of the Georgia University system.

CONSULTANT

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Mason P. Thomas, Silver City, N. C., has been appointed consultant to the cotton yarn board of the War Production Board. His appointment was announced today. He is president of the Hadley-Peoples Manufacturing Co., cotton yarn spinners of Silver City.

The Literary Guidepost

The bulk of his book, written after a trip with Eric Johnston and interpreters, is composed of findings like these:

Russia is run by "combined-city manager-Little Caesar type" men. The country is like a pentagon. The army is as bedraggled as the Mexican army. There are few paved highways. Stalingrad is only a little place compared to London. The factories are dirty. The Moskva hotel is like a barn. Wash basin drains don't drain. To continue: Red badly suits shoddy material. The representative of the commissariat which was official host reminded him of a pair of cold hard. The women have bad complexion. The actresses have gold or silver less-steel teeth. Does he find nothing to admire in his enthusiasm? Yes. He admires very much some old palaces of czars, various architectural features in pre-Soviet villages, and the Bolshoi ballet. . . which as he explains is a hold-over from pre-revolutionary days.