

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.

Table with 4 columns: Time, Star, News, Combination. Rows for 1 Week, 1 Month, 3 Months, 6 Months, 1 Year.

By Mail: Payable Strictly in Advance
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.

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. SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1945.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
Love was not given the human heart
For careless dealing;
Its spark was lit that man might know
Divine revealing.

Grace Goodhue Coolidge.

Vote On Monday

Trite though it be, it is still true that qualified voters who stay away from the polls on election day have no right to cry if candidates they favor are defeated or to complain if the administration elected bungles its job.

There is to be held in Wilmington on Monday a primary election for selecting five candidates for the City Council whose names will appear on the ballots in the final election set for May 8.

It is known that certain elements will do all they can to get out the vote for some candidates in no way fitted for the responsibilities they would have to assume if elected.

This can be prevented only by every person on the poll lists casting a ballot in this primary election.

Suicide Bombers

Recognizing that defeat is inevitable, Japan has turned its attention to the only possible means left for prolonging the war in the Pacific.

Thus far the operations of these bombers has not met with much success. Allied gunnery is too accurate for them to come near enough to drop their bombs at funnel level.

Time Is Necessary

Quick to see a chance for additional profits, there is a proposal in Hollywood to make a moving picture of the late President Roosevelt's life, before the nation's tears for his death are dried.

Deserve Promotion

The nomination of Lieutenant General Patton and Hodges to be full generals represents well earned and richly deserved promotions.

City Will Purchase New Police, Fire Uniforms

The City of Wilmington will receive bids for furnishing various articles of clothing for members of the police and fire departments until 10 a. m. Wednesday, May 9.

The Advance On Berlin

While this war was still in its phony stage, with the Germans drilling behind their Siegfried line and the French plowing behind their Maginot line, there was wide speculation on where Hitler would strike, whether to the north or south.

Those days are long past. With the German armed forces largely cut to pieces on their own soil, current speculation centers on which force, the Russians or the Americans, will reach Berlin first.

As the situation stands, supply poses a greater problem for General Bradley's armies than the enemy because of the German failure to defend the Thuringian and Westphalian plains in adequate strength to delay the Allied advance.

This, in combination with the lesser distance Russian forces must traverse to get there, suggests they will reach the Berlin goal first, but only if the advance from two sides is merely a race.

Because there is complete cooperation between the Russian forces on the east and the Americans to the west, with final decisions reached by Russian and Allies staffs, it may still be a joint entry, with the Reds and the Americans approaching simultaneously and going into the city together.

"We Like That Guy"

It is possible to say of President Truman, without impinging upon the dignity inseparable from his high office or an iota of disrespect, "we like that guy."

It is merely translating the great esteem in which he is held by the masses of Americans during these trying days and the humble but competent manner in which he has assumed his new responsibilities into language more familiar than "better English."

The impression President Truman made on the reporters, and on the public at large with his address before the Congress, apparently is shared in Wall Street. We find this in the New York Times financial section:

President Truman's utterances and his general approach to world and domestic problems have found so far a responsive reaction in Wall Street. A cross-section of comment by brokers in their daily letters to customers contains one general statement, and this is that the national administration is returning to a system of representative government.

Brokers cite Mr. Truman's statement in his address to Congress that this country can solve its post-war problems only with the consent and active cooperation of Congress as background for this belief.

WAR CRIMINALS

One phase of President Truman's address to Congress provided a mild shock for some Americans. The President emphasized that no war criminal can hope to escape punishment.

The shock came with the implication that anyone, anywhere among the United Nations could be considering the possibility that Adolf Hitler or any other German or Germans might be left unmolested in any retreat—in Berchtesgaden, Switzerland or for that matter, Argentina.

The principle of political asylum has been pretty well established, but most Americans will hope that their Government and our Allies will require an exception in the case of this war and exert combined force, if necessary, to root out of any hideout or compel the surrender of from any country of refuge, the criminals of World War II.

Job For Byrnes

WASHINGTON.—One major plan on which President Roosevelt was working at the time of his death, according to well-informed persons here today, was the chart of a top Committee on Policy—the approximation of that War Cabinet which had been urged upon him since 1940.

The immediate concern of the group would be to agree on a post-war policy for Germany. Only a few days ago the President was warned that necessity for immediate decision on this might come suddenly, and it was pointed out that this would find him without an integrated and agreed plan and without personal knowledge of the subject.

The Committee on Policy which Mr. Roosevelt was studying was to be composed of seven members: the Secretaries of State, Treasury, War and Navy; Leo T. Crowley, Director of the Foreign Economic Administration; Fred M. Vinson, Director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, and Harry L. Hopkins, special assistant to the President.

This committee was to be served by a counsel who, in the form of briefs, would present at its meetings the facts on all disputed, unsettled or confused Government activities affecting war and post war that required settlement or integration.

If President Truman should carry through the plan, it has been suggested that, until Mr. Hopkins regains his health, or in the event of his retirement from government, the seventh place on the committee, and perhaps its active management, be offered to James F. Byrnes. The President has been casting about for a portfolio suitable to the talents and former high offices of the ex-Justice, ex-Senator and ex-Director of the OWMR, but thus far none has been discovered.

But, whether or not the suggestion as to Mr. Byrnes materializes, the creation of this Committee on Policy by the President would provide at last that War Cabinet which President Wilson tried with such effectiveness in World War I, and the advocates of which never ceased to press upon Mr. Roosevelt. Despite all the organizations and reorganizations of war and post-war departments and agencies, it has still been found necessary to apply at many different places for an over-all policy, and often in vain.

Mr. Wilson's War Cabinet members were the Secretaries of the Treasury, War and Navy and five administrators: B. M. Baruch of the War Industries Board, Herbert Hoover of the Food Administration, E. N. Hurley of the Shipping Board, Vance McCormick of the war trade and international economic division, and James M. Garfield of the Fuel Administration. The Treasury chief, William G. McAdoo, was also in charge of domestic transportation.

President Wilson acted as chairman of this group, and whenever it gathered he would ask: "Is there any trouble today?" Thus disputes had to be stated and argued out, and the result was that all important differences were settled and integrated promptly.

The plan that was before President Roosevelt at his death was worked out in greater detail, on the basis of previous experience, and it was geared to the greater magnitude of this war program and of the problems that must be met after VE-Day (especially that of Germany, and the final route of the Axis. The installation of the counsel and his briefing is new, and the three-day barrier is also an innovation.

There are many high boards, including the regular Cabinet, where the chief policy-making officials meet and discuss general and specific problems. But the system has never been tightened to a point where an orderly over-all policy machine has functioned promptly, and decisions were quickly and finally obtainable on issues in dispute or confusion among departments and agencies of almost equal authority which overlap many areas.

The authors of the Committee on Policy plan believe this is the best solution of all. They were encouraged to hope that President Roosevelt was coming to their way of thinking at the time of his death, prompted by the continuing intra-government dispute over post-war Germany.

The office of committee counsel would be of high importance, and in this connection the name of Hugh Fulton is heard. He served in a similar capacity for the special Senate committee which Mr. Truman headed and which conducted a running investigation of the war program on the home front.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

One phase of President Truman's address to Congress provided a mild shock for some Americans. The President emphasized that no war criminal can hope to escape punishment.

The shock came with the implication that anyone, anywhere among the United Nations could be considering the possibility that Adolf Hitler or any other German or Germans might be left unmolested in any retreat—in Berchtesgaden, Switzerland or for that matter, Argentina.

The principle of political asylum has been pretty well established, but most Americans will hope that their Government and our Allies will require an exception in the case of this war and exert combined force, if necessary, to root out of any hideout or compel the surrender of from any country of refuge, the criminals of World War II.

EASY TO UNDERSTAND

No living statesman in all the world has a greater mastery of words than Winston Churchill. Yet when Britain's eloquent Prime Minister rose in the House of Commons yesterday to deliver his eulogy of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, he acknowledged that words failed him in trying to express his admiration for the late President.

"Brought To Book!"



Your War--With Ernie Pyle

By ERNIE PYLE

OKINAWA—(By Navy radio)—That was one of the most miserable damn nights out of hundreds of miserable nights I have spent in this war.

Bird Dog and Gross and I turned into our sacks just after dark. So did everybody else who wasn't on guard. It was too early to go to sleep, so we just lay there in the dark and talked.

We didn't take off our clothes, of course; nobody does in the field. I did take off my boots but Bird Dog and Gross left theirs on for they had to stand watch on the field telephones from 1 till 2 a.m.

The three of us lay jammed up against each other, with Bird Dog in the middle. We smoked once cigarette after another. We didn't have to hide them under the blanket for we were in a protected position where a cigarette couldn't be seen very far.

Right after dark the mosquitoes started buzzing around our heads. These Okinawa mosquitoes sound like a flame thrower. They can't be driven off or brushed away.

I got a little bottle of mosquito lotion out of my pocket and dosed my face and neck, though I knew it would do no good. The other boys didn't even bother.

After a while the hillsides grew silent. The hours went past. By an occasional slap at the mosquitoes each of us knew the others weren't asleep.

Suddenly Bird Dog sat up and pulled down his socks and started scratching. Fleas were after him. Even the grass has fleas in it over here.

For some strange reason I am immune to fleas. Half the boys are red welted with hundreds of itchy little flea bites, but I have never had one.

But I'm the world's choicest morsel for mosquitoes. And mosquito bites poison me. Every morning I wake up with at least one eye swollen shut.

That was the way it was all night, with all of us—me with a double dose of mosquitoes, all the rest with a mixture of mosquitoes and fleas. You could hear marines hushfully cussing all night long around the hillsides.

Suddenly there was a terrible outburst just downhill from us and a marine came jumping out into the moonlight, cussing and jerking at his clothes.

"I can't stand these goddam things any longer," he cried. "I've got to take my clothes off."

We all laughed under our ponchos while he stood there in the moonlight and stripped off every stitch, even though it was very chilly. He shook and brushed his clothes, doused them with insect powder and then put them back on.

One of the boys on guard came to wake my bedmates at a quarter till one, but they weren't asleep. I thought maybe I could get to sleep while they were away, but I didn't. The mosquitoes were really crucifying me.

The boys came back about 2 o'clock and took off their shoes and lay down. With my blanket over the three of us we were as warm as toast. At least we had that advantage.

All night without even raising our heads we could see flashes of the big guns of our fleet across the southern part and also shooting the flares to light up the front lines in the south.

There were times when we could actually see red-hot shells, traveling horizontally the whole length of their flight, 10 miles away from us, and then see them explode.

Every now and then throughout the night our own company's mortars were called upon to shoot a flare over the beach behind us, just to make sure nothing was coming in.

Once there was a distinct rustling of the bushes in front of us. Of course the first thing I thought of was a Jap.

But then I figured a Jap wouldn't make that much noise and finally I decided it was one of the horses the mortar boys had commandeered, crashing through the bushes. And that's what it turned out to be.

Pop Taylor also had the Jap idea at first. The next morning "Brady" Bradshaw, who was a sleeping with Pop, said Pop shook him violently during the night to wake him up and borrow a .45, just in case. Brady laughed and laughed about it, for lying on the ground between them all the time was an arsenal of two carbines, two shotguns and Pop's own .45.

Two about 4:30 I guess we did sleep a little from sheer exhaustion. That gave the mosquitoes a clear field. When we woke up at dawn and crawled stiffly out into the daylight my right eye was swollen shut, as usual.

All of which isn't a very war-like night to describe, but I tell it just so you'll know there are lots of things beside bullets that make war hell.

Federal Judge Endorsed, Senators Withhold Name

Senator J. W. Bailey and Clyde R. Hoey recommended to President Truman yesterday a new federal judge for the Eastern North Carolina district, but declined to say whom they endorsed for the position, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Washington.

Senator Bailey said he and Senator Hoey made a definite recommendation, but that he did not believe it would be "appropriate" to disclose the name of their choice. Hoey nodded agreement.

The vacancy was created by the retirement of Judge Isaac M. Meekins, of Elizabeth City, in February.

Once before the two senators recommended Comptroller General Lindsay Warren for the judgeship, but he declined to accept. Among those who have been mentioned as being considered for the judgeship are Don Gilliam of Tarboro; William B. Campbell, attorney for the City of Wilmington; Stanley Winborne, chairman of the North Carolina Utilities commission; Congressman J. Bayard Clark; W. B. Rodman of Washington; Judge Henry L. Stevens of Warsaw; Judge W. C. Harris of Raleigh; W. F. Taylor of Goldsboro; Dickson McLean of Lumberton; and Judge Hunt Parker of Halifax.

X-Ray Treatment Begun Of New Hanover Students

The completion of taking X-rays of a number of New Hanover High school students and some Negro graded school students, whose whose skin tests in February revealed positive reaction to tuberculosis tests, was expected to day.

Dr. A. H. Elliot, city-county health officer, said, 205 X-rays were made yesterday by him and H. L. Satterwhite, of the State Tuberculosis sanatorium.

The school children in which a positive reaction to tuberculosis is found by X-ray will be notified by the County Health board, following advisement from the State Tuberculosis sanatorium, Dr. Elliot said.

City Will Purchase New Police, Fire Uniforms

Proposals are wanted for the following articles in the police department: 46 pairs of trousers, nine police officers caps, 37 police privates caps, and 200 police uniform shirts; in the fire department, 68 pairs of trousers, and 200 firemen shirts.

Stimson Seeks Report On Death of Gen. Rose

WASHINGTON, April 20.—(AP)—War Secretary Stimson has asked for a full report on the death of Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose who was killed in action, reportedly after he had surrendered.

In a letter to Senators Johnson (D-Colo.) and Millikin (R-Colo.) made public today, Stimson said that facts so far known by the War Department indicate that General Rose was killed while holding his hands above his head.

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGER "QUIT FOR THE NEXT," by Anthony March (Scribner's, \$2.50). This Anthony March is a cool customer. He stands off and looks at his subject, in this case the American and Filipino retreat at war's start, from Lingayen gulf to Bataan, as calmly and dispassionately as a newspaperman.

Which is what he used to be. He writes with the utmost objectivity. He writes, as it were, with a ten-foot pole.

And he does a good job. By some hocus-pocus he drains out all the emotion and still leaves you fascinated by his descriptions of men and his recital of tragic events. He even introduces a beautiful woman, such a one as has spoiled many a war novel for the sake of love interest, and you accept her readily.

This is not to say that he doesn't get close to the facts, which concern Capt. Steve Kilbride's cavalry and its tough assignment in covering the retreat. March notes a cavalryman swinging his mess kit to dry it, another tightening a girth with the saddle skirt flapped down on his head, a third giving his pack animal a kiss on the side of the jaw. He compares the heads of Japanese bobbing in a moving truck to brown apples in a carton.

But principally his novel readers because it seems so true. The heroic without heroes. Killed men were green. They'd heard guns go off on maneuvers, but not enemy guns. We see them substitute actual battle know-how for book learning.

They were short on sleep, food, grain and sometimes ammunition. They were the expendables but didn't know it; they kept wondering when they would be made a stand, and why American planes didn't come to their support. They didn't dream Manila was in danger.

The novel is, in total effect, a sort of over-all view of the immediate experiences of a set of men sorely tried for the first time. The cavalry's fate holds your interest from first to last, from the town of Concepcion to the town of Moron. . . . and maybe there's some symbolism hidden in those two placed names.

Interpreting The War

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR. Associated Press War Analyst. Hitler's war of fang and claw now has been formally proclaimed.

Goebbels tells the German people to throw away the rules of war. Hitler says "we are now starting a battle as fanatical as that which we had to fight for our ascent to power."

American Doughboys capturing an ammunition dump at Leipzig containing 27,000 poison gas shells. The Canadians, fired upon by snipers, evacuate a village's population and burn it as a lesson.

Hitler once promised that, if he went down, all Europe would go with him. He wasn't quite able to do the job outside Germany, although the swathe he cut has been terrible enough, but within the Reich he is making progress.

Although some rural areas near the Rhine escaped the worst ravages of war, the Germans are more and more forcing us to a policy of complete annihilation in a guerrilla war, with whole armies involved.

Hostages are being taken on both sides. The Germans, as witness the special care taken with Lt. John C. Winant, Jr., and the prisoner of war relatives of important British personages, will try to hide behind the lives of their prisoners.

Whether they will use poison gas in their final throes seems to depend on practicality rather than morality. And even practicality may be cast aside.

Allied experts feel sure that the Germans would have used gas already if they had one which would penetrate Allied masks; that they would do anything commensurate with the risk of retaliation.

Now, with proclamation of suicidal "defense zones," with suicide taking the place of surrender after last ditch stands, that risk doesn't matter. Gas or anything else can be expected.

The desperate Nazis care no more for the non-combatant Germans than they did for non-combatant Londoners in 1940. Even less, for then there was a real military objective. Now there is only a beaten Nazidom thrashing about senselessly like a beheaded monster, neither knowing nor caring where the blood spatters.

Daily Prayer

FOR CONFERENCES

As from all quarters of the earth national representatives gather to shape plans for a new world of peace, we pray that Thy wisdom may rest upon them, O All-Wise Ruler of the Universe. As they hold in their hands the fate of peoples yet unborn, so do Thou hold them in Thy shaping, guiding hand. Overwhelm any personal deficiency in them by Thy infinite power. Strengthen their loyalty to the men who have died, and to those who are yet to live. Give great patience and forbearance, and understanding to their counsels. Make clear to their vision the anxious millions who await their decisions. Lift them up to the level of their great task. Touch them with the spirit of greatness and of responsibility. Forbid that any pettiness or selfishness or fear, or other base motive, should impair their deliberations. And we even pray that these counsels may be endured with a special outpouring of the Spirit of Christ, for the fulfillment of a task for which He gave His life. Amen.—W.T.E.

Stimson Seeks Report On Death of Gen. Rose

WASHINGTON, April 20.—(AP)—War Secretary Stimson has asked for a full report on the death of Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose who was killed in action, reportedly after he had surrendered.

In a letter to Senators Johnson (D-Colo.) and Millikin (R-Colo.) made public today, Stimson said that facts so far known by the War Department indicate that General Rose was killed while holding his hands above his head.