

WITH THE AEF

# Bitter Harvest

By Kenneth L. Dixon

IN GERMANY.—(AP)—It isn't new or original to say that history's greatest harvest of human "grapes of wrath" is moving slowly in endless streams along every road in central western Europe.

American doubters have said it so often that perhaps it should be put on record for that reason alone. But until you've seen it, you find it impossible to believe.

Like the chief characters of John Steinbeck's famous book, these literal millions of homeless waifs of war are wandering in hopes of finding some place where they will have a chance for food, shelter and livelihood.

They are slave laborers, freed prisoners of war, political convicts and homeless civilians of many countries. Some are returning to their homes after years of war and imprisonment. Many are well acquainted with Nazi concentration camps and internment stations.

They differ from Steinbeck's characters in that they do not have even decrepit wheezing cars or trucks on which to pile their belongings — and their belongings are so meager most of them can carry them on their backs or pull them along in small carts and wagons.

They're all walking. At first you don't think so much about it as you ride eastward in a jeep, meeting the endless streams flowing westward. But after you ride hundreds of miles for hours, and even days, you begin to realize the extent of the footsore journey ahead of these people.

It would be bad enough if they were healthy and if this were warm summertime. Unfortunately, neither is true.

They're weak and emaciated. Many were half-starved for months or years. They're terrifically hungry—which is an immediate pain. Many are sick or wounded. Their clothing is tattered patchwork, the remnants of uniforms of a dozen different armies.

It becomes painfully cold at nights. You can sleep under two or three blankets inside a building and still shiver. These people not only have no buildings and no blankets, most of them have insufficient clothing for normal daytime temperatures.

How they survive the nights only they can tell. Of course there are some "DP" — displaced personnel — camps along the roads, but there aren't enough. Many times drifters purposely avoid them because they get involved in disorganized red tape which delays their drifting.

As you drive along they often hail you with victorious smiles and signals which leave you with a strange feeling of humility.

There's pride among many of them, too—French, Polish, Russian, Greek and Hungarian — so much pride that they refuse to beg.

Once we stopped for a noon time K-ration snack. K-rations seem not so good to men in or with the Army, but obviously they looked wonderful to these wanderers. Yet not one asked for a bite.

### Warsaw High School Heads Entertain Rotary Members

WARSAW, April 3.—Mrs. Cecil Winstead and R. F. Wadkins, heads of the home economics and agriculture departments of Warsaw High school entertained the Rotary club at its regular weekly meeting last week, at the Community Cannery building on College street. H. F. Lee, president of the club, presided.

The Rev. A. M. Williams, pastor of the Methodist Church, was the speaker. A chicken stew was served.

to eat or paused long enough to make his presence embarrassing — and it's hard for a hungry man not to do that.

After you've seen them by the thousands along every road you wonder how there can be more, but always there seem to be. You wonder how many actually have homes somewhere and how many are just drifting aimlessly.

Nobody seems to be able to tell you how they are to be transported to their various countries or what will be done with them in the meantime.

They keep filling along the roads in never-ending thousands. This generation's grapes of wrath—sown in five years bloody warfare — has made its grim futile crop and the harvest is rolling along every highway.

## Thanks!

To all my friends for the vote and support given me in the city council primary.

GARLAND S. CURRIN



"Come now, Culpoper—there's a Bond Drive on!"

THE NICE THING is that we don't have to do this with our employees whenever the community needs their help—in War Bond or War Chest drives, Red Cross affairs, salvage collections and other civic problems. The men who handle Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer are proud of their stake in the community, and of their contributions to its welfare.

You see, keeping folks supplied with wonderful Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer is only one of the things we try to do for our neighbors! And if you can't always find Pabst—ask again next time, won't you?

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# Mother's Day

May 13th

Mother's Day is time for the sincerest of sentiment! Let your giving of quality gifts express all the sweet thoughts you may be too timid to put into words! Mother has given you years of loving kindness and thoughtfulness — don't forget to give "Her" an appropriate gift on Sunday, May 13th.

Order Your Mother's Day Flowers NOW!



A Sentimental GIFT for Mother

... and one she'll enjoy

As beautiful as all her tender thoughts of you—are nature's own floral creations—for Mother's Day giving. Enhanced by our artistic selections of colors and kinds for bouquet and corsage, flowers best tell your sentiments for May 13th! Place your order now!

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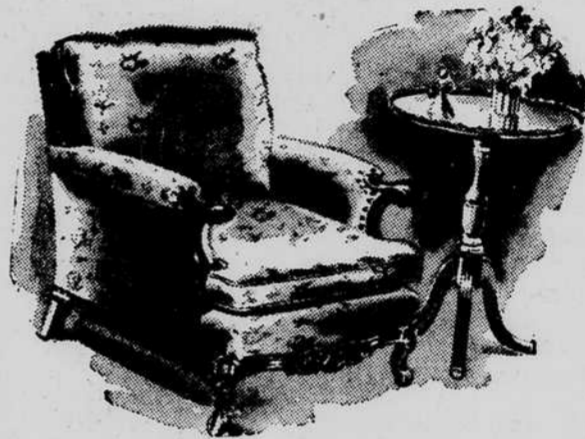


You Couldn't Choose a Better Gift

For MOTHER

THAN A FINE Chair

No... you couldn't choose a better gift than the handsome chair pictured at the left. It is a superb example of fine furniture craftsmanship and is of quality materials in every detail.



MANY OTHER TYPES OF COMFORTABLE CHAIRS TO CHOOSE FROM

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May 13th

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21 SOUTH FRONT ST.

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Remember-



Sunday, May 13, is

MOTHER'S DAY

Nothing is too good for mother and the sort of a gift that she will treasure most from you will be something that will give her more comfort.

A Fine Felt MATTRESS

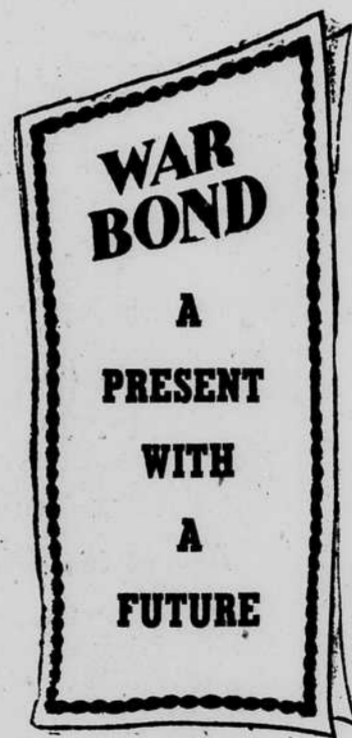
Felt Mattress, complete with matching box spring.



OTHER GIFT SUGGESTIONS

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The Wilmington Furniture Company "The Old Reliable"



May 13th is MOTHER'S DAY

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The ONLY crackers with the DISTINCTIVE FLAVOR!