



Washington, D. C.

GERMAN DEATH RATE

Diplomatic dispatches from Europe report that the German death rate is going up and the birth rate is going down.

Also the number of German soldiers killed or permanently disabled since the war began now totals 1,900,000. This estimate made before the Russian counteroffensive began, and before the British turned back Rommel in Egypt. Obviously, therefore, the total is now well above 2,000,000.

This does not include prisoners nor men suffering minor wounds. If these were included, the total casualty figure would be, according to accepted military ratios, more than twice the basic figure, or approximately 5,000,000.

Meanwhile, exact figures on the German birth rate have been received. These indicate the usual wartime downward trend of births, despite Hitler's frantic efforts to make procreation popular.

The birth rate was 20.5 in 1939 per thousand, 20.4 in 1940, 14.8 in 1941, but for the first three months of 1942 took a drop to only 15.8.

Neutral diplomatic sources report that business men in Germany are beginning to foresee defeat. But the people as a whole will not be aware of approaching defeat, and their morale will not crack, until the German army suffers a major military reverse. The heavy casualties, now comparable to the total suffered in the First World war, are not enough in themselves to cause popular revolt, as long as the German armies successfully dominate Europe.

But when Rommel is cleaned out of Africa, and when that news seeps into the German consciousness, we can look for popular discontent, plus burning distrust of the Nazi military machine.

ITALIAN UNREST

Those who expect the bombing of Italy to cause a revolt of the people are badly mistaken. The bombing may knock out her industrial productivity and cripple her fleet and shipping, but will not cause a popular revolt.

Reasons for this are two: 1. Nazi troops have such a stranglehold on Italy that no revolt could gain headway; 2. There are no leaders left to head a revolt.

Italo Balbo was an opponent of collaboration with Germany. He led a spectacular flight of planes to the United States, and was an admirer of this country. But he differed with Mussolini on African policy, contending that Libya could not be defended. Balbo died in what was officially reported as an airplane "accident."

Pietro Badoglio was skeptical about the Greek campaign, told Mussolini he wouldn't undertake it without ten divisions and four months preparation. Mussolini ordered him to take one month and four divisions. Badoglio is popular among the Italian people, but too old to lead.

Rodolfo Graziani was also skeptical about the defense of Libya, though largely responsible for preparing its defenses. Much younger, he has broken with Mussolini and is under surveillance, possibly under arrest.

People Hate Mussolini.

Yet the sentiment of the people, especially in southern Italy, is such that they would welcome deliverance from Mussolini and Hitler. U. S. diplomats, waiting for release from internment after Pearl Harbor were told secretly by Italians: "We will not forget!"

There are many things they will not forget, including the ludicrous behavior of Mussolini, who conceals his baldness and his wien by never removing his hat before a camera; the wild behavior of his daughter, Edda Ciano; and the lavish entertaining of Count Ciano, who serves soup-to-nuts banquets while the people eat a few ounces of rationed bread.

As yet there has been no bombing of Rome, but some indication of what might happen was given early in the war when the French sent planes over Rome for four nights. The people poured out of the city on everything that had wheels, including push carts, bicycles and baby carriages. Yet the French had dropped nothing more harmful than leaflets.

It is reported that when Allied bombers come over the city, the people kneel at the altar of their patron saint, San Gennaro, and with Mussolini in mind, say: "Dear San Gennaro, tell them he's not here—he's in Rome!"

LET THE NAZIS KNOW

Many an army official is over-cautious about speaking for publication these days, but not Lieut. Gen. "Hap" Arnold, commander of the army air forces.

Disclosing that U. S. fliers are being turned out of preflight schools at the rate of 40,000 a year, Arnold was asked if the figures could be quoted.

"Why not?" he chuckled. "It won't do any harm. Might do a lot of good. It'll show the Germans how many we've got!"

Rest in Desert After 60 Hours of Fighting



An American-made tank, serving with a New Zealand division in Libya, halts while its crew, exhausted by 60 hours of continuous fighting, rests. This picture, received by the New Zealand legation in Washington, was taken during the Egypt-Libyan offensive which has driven General Rommel and his men to El Aghella, Libya.

For Shipyard Girls



You may like the costume worn by Dorothy Dahl (left) the better, but it's incorrect for factory workers, while that at the right, worn by Michele Magnin, is recommended by male members of a joint committee on health and safety, representing the navy and maritime commission. Lingerie was considered, but dispensed with, as were cuffs. But long underwear—the old red flannel kind—will be utilized.

Generals Meet for Attack on Japs in Buna



At an undisclosed base, General Blamey confers with Brig. Gen. Hanford MacNider (with pipe) during preparations for an attack on Jap-held Buna, in New Guinea. General MacNider received eight wounds in this attack when a Jap rifle grenade exploded.

Yum, Yum, 30,000 Pounds of Horsemeat!



Bostonians who never ate horse meat before will now have a chance to try out this delicacy. The first shipment of 30,000 pounds of horse meat has arrived, and the whole town is talking about it. Shown above Boston butchers are inspecting the new shipment. A taste for horse meat, like a taste for olives, has to be cultivated.

Praise the Lord and Pass the Nutrition



These regular guys from East Side, New York, are getting some practical instruction in nutrition (important during wartime rationing) in the junior chefs' class at Judson Health center. The instructor sits with her back to the camera.

Ice 'Ain't So Hot'



Babe Susie Mapes is unimpressed with her first set of ice skates. Her mother is the former Evelyn Chandler, Ice Follies star. Here we see Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Mapes putting on Susie's skates.

New Threat to Japs



At top the new aircraft carrier, Belleau Wood, takes to the waves at Camden, N. J. The ship was named after the famous battle in France during World War I. Below: Another great carrier, the Bunker Hill, is launched at Fore River, Mass., 15 months after laying of the keel.

Not So Sanitary



A British Tommy is shown wiping dishes with a swastika flag captured from General Rommel's Afrika Korps. Not so good, we say, as the swastika contaminates everything it touches.



Dilapidated Barn Easily Rejuvenated

Agriculture Engineer Tells How to Repair It

Even if the floor does sag, the walls bulge and the roof leak, think twice before making arrangements to build a new barn—maybe the old one can be fixed.

As pointed out by E. R. Gross, professor of agricultural engineering at Rutgers university, the vulnerable point of most old barns is the grade line where eave drip and ground moisture have rotted the sills and the lower ends of the studdings.

The remaining portion of the building is often structurally sound, although it may be wracked out of shape and have a leaky roof.

"The first step in repairing such a barn is to jack it up, raising one side of the building at a time," Professor Gross says. "This may be done by placing a temporary girder under the mow floor joist a short distance from the wall. Leave just room enough to work on the foundation and wall. Support the temporary girder, six by six inches or larger, according to the size of the building, by posts set upon jack-screws so that the side of the barn may be lifted a few inches above its normal level. While this is being done, it may be necessary to cross brace the structure to bring it back to normal shape and alignment.

"Now the bottom of the studdings may be sawed off at a point just high enough to remove most of the rotted lumber. Most of the studs will be sound to the point which will now rest on the new sill and a few that may have rotted higher up may be pieced out. Next, the foundation may be repaired or renewed.

"If a new foundation is needed, place a footing of concrete 16 to 18 inches wide in a trench which has been dug deep enough to be below the normal freezing line which is two to three feet below the grade line, depending on the section of the land. On the footing place an eight-inch wall of concrete blocks, bricks or stones. Fasten a new sill to the top of the foundation using bolts at eight or ten-foot intervals. The foundation will be made just



Pork products may become scarcer on the nation's dining tables during the war, but there'll be plenty of steaks, lamb chops, fowl, and other meats for Americans to enjoy. Here a lot of delicious steaks are en route to some lucky persons' dinner tables.

high enough to meet the point where the studdings have been cut off. Lower the wall onto the new sill and foundation, spiking each stud in place. The other side of the building may be treated in the same way.

The job is completed when the roof, walls, windows and doors have been repaired. For protection, painting should follow. And for all practical purposes, Gross concludes, a barn thus remodeled is as good as a new one.

Federal regulations permit farmers to spend up to \$1,000 a year for repairing or remodeling farm buildings exclusive of residences.

Increase Milk Sales

One of the measures dairymen can use to increase milk sales is to substitute meal wholly or in part for the skim milk ordinarily used to feed calves. Dairy husbandry specialists at Ohio State university say calves can be raised successfully on meal, and the choice between meal and skim milk for feeding should depend upon comparative costs.

General Stores Going

Approximately 40,000 country general stores still remain in the United States, as compared with 104,000 only 10 years ago, fast travel and specialization cutting down the number.

Chlorine Is Provided

Necessary amounts of chlorine for water purification will be provided throughout the nation despite the general chlorine shortage, according to the War Production board.



Red Tape ... Enemy

By Lieut.-Gen. Brehon Somervell

(WNU Feature—Through special arrangement with American Magazine)

Red Tape is slowing down our war effort, and if we don't cut and burn every shred of it, we may yet lose this war.

Men and women sit smugly at home and are shocked by newspaper reports that red tape is delaying deliveries of vital war material. But in their own homes, and in millions of similar homes, red tape is getting in its dastardly work.

The housewife's red tape may be in her housekeeping methods. She finds it "impossible" to alter her menus to fit food shortages, so she becomes a hoarder. She must dust the guest room every Wednesday, so if the Red Cross meets on Wednesday, she can't possibly go.

Habit binds her husband to golf or poker dates, so he continues to buy luxuries he thinks are necessities and can't spare money for war bonds.

In nearly every store and office old methods of procedure are wasting man hours. Many a business could release men and women for war work, if unnecessary forms, reports, letters and conferences were eliminated.

There is too much paper work in government, but government isn't the only horrible example.

No matter where you live, you would hotly resent it if you were told that your state, and perhaps your city, was holding up the war effort. Yet dozens of states and hundreds of cities, are tangled in red tape that prevents them from changing peacetime laws to fit wartime conditions.

State Laws Hamper. State taxes on war contracts definitely cramp our war effort. Different sets of state laws on truck loads, length of trucks, drivers licenses, weight and gasoline taxes, delay truck shipments. Truck drivers have been sent to jail for technical violations, and munitions of war have been held up because local authorities weren't big enough to cut red tape.

There are state and local regulations on building, excellent in normal times, but hindrances in war. Building codes force extravagant use of strategic materials. State laws require long-drawn hearings by public utility commissions before new bus lines can start hauling workers to plants.

Most states boast food public health laws applying to milk, but they were written before hundreds of thousands of soldiers moved into these states. In some of them, all the milk legally obtainable is not enough for the army.

Few persons who are tangled in red tape realize their dilemma even when their best friends tell them. They protest: "You've got to do it this way. We've got a system. We have to use it."

To such persons, I like to relate an old story about a man who sold an elaborate system of forms and files to a manufacturer. After a few months the salesman returned and asked: "How's the system working?"

"Wonderful," said the manufacturer. "How's business?" asked the salesman.

"Business?" the manufacturer repeated. "Oh, there isn't any. We've all been too busy running the system to bother with business."

Red tape generally is defined as customs, rules, and procedures that cause unnecessary delay. It is everywhere—for it is a state of mind as well as a method of procedure. Red tape is the act of postponing decisions, taking your time, playing safe, following routine, stifling initiative, quitting when the whistle blows, business as usual, politics, picnics and golf as usual.

This war is total war. That means that every ounce of muscle and brain in every able-bodied man and woman must be used. It means that we must discard everything that doesn't help win the war.

We have only one objective, and we must evade, ignore, erase and knock out all rules, restrictions and habits that get in our way.

The army's Service of Supply this year will spend approximately 32 billion dollars.

Sometimes we have bungled details, sometimes we've been too slow to make up our minds, sometimes red tape has bound us so tight that we've found ourselves running as though we were in a three-legged race. But we're doing a job. We're delivering machinery, food and weapons in ever-mounting quantities.

The other government departments are doing a job, too. So are labor, management and industry. But all of us have more red tape to cut. When it no longer binds America's hands, the speed of our war production will be increased.

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Kidneys Must Work Well

For You To Feel Well
 24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood.
 If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.
 Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling.
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