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ALL TELEPHONES - 1100

FRIDAY, DEC. 14, 1945

AN EXPLANATION NEEDED

Announcement is made this week that the huge hospital at Camp Butner is being closed and report has it that a number of other government owned and operated hospitals are being abandoned.

A new veterans' hospital has just been announced for Durham. Camp Butner is a few miles out from Durham and the hospital there is a brick building, sufficient to accommodate over a thousand service men.

Why the government will abandon a hospital, so new, so modern and spend the money to build another six miles away is more than taxpayers can understand.

This seems altogether too typical of what is going on in many places throughout the nation. There might be some justification for abandoning camp hospitals far removed from cities and placing new ones in more accessible centers.

The government may not feel required to give explanation for such procedure. To this we disagree. The government belongs to the people and when moves of such apparent waste are made, the taxpayers are entitled to some reasonable explanation if there be such.

WHERE IS THEIR CONSCIENCE?

While Americans will never cease to cringe in horror and tremble in rage when lurid accounts of nazi concentration camp atrocities are read, it will be noted that German people are indifferent to broadcasts of the big-wig trials at Nuernberg.

As long as such an attitude is maintained, what is the hope of stamping indelibly upon the German mind the crimes upon God and humanity that it had tolerated? True, we must suppose that among a civilized people there cannot be a bestial majority.

Yesterday, with the conviction of six war criminals, the Dauchau court heard and read undisputed testimony of whole villages burned in order to force its citizenry into slave labor and of babies, born on slave trains, being thrown out of train windows.

Dr. Luc Durtain, Parisian author and friend of Prof. Phillips Russell of U. N. C., tells of a German author-acquaintance who arrived in Paris and later became famous for his ability to make hundreds of Jewish children "disappear" from their families in a single day.

Of such was Germany made and somewhere there is a solution, a method by which the elephantine skin of the German conscience can be pierced.

BACK TO BURKE

One of the damning indictments brought by mankind against the nazi system was the contribution it has made and is making to prostitution and immorality.

What troubles us, however, is what is happening in our own land along this line. Close observation during the war years has proved that prostitution is on the rise all over the United States.

There, we think, is the answer. "War suspends the rules of moral obligation; and what is long suspended is in danger of being totally abrogated."

GIVE IT TOP BILLING



Merry-Go-Round

Jap Files Now Tell Story Of Douglas Deal

By DREW PEARSON Lt. Col. Robert S. Allen Now On Active Service With The Army

WASHINGTON - On July 10, 1938, this column sent out to its subscribing newspapers a sensational disclosure that the Douglas Aircraft company has recently sold its latest flying fortress, the DC-4, to Japan.

The column also pointed out that this sale was being made despite the Secretary of State Hull's appeal to American airplane manufacturers to cease selling planes to Japan.

Since then, like so many other denials, it has become a matter of official record that Douglas did sell the DC-4, plus blueprints, to Japan.

Since then, finally, Jap files in the USA have been seized and it is now possible to give more details of the cooperation between Douglas Aircraft and Japan during the years before Pearl Harbor.

ULTRA SECRECY WANTED

This writer now has before him the original bill of sale, the cablegram between Tokyo, New York and Los Angeles, and other correspondence regarding the shipment of the DC-4 by Douglas to Japan - despite Donald Douglas' earlier emphatic denial.

The deal was handled largely by V. E. Bertrandias, then vice-president of Douglas, later made a major general in the U. S. army.

Without doubt, Douglas didn't want to be in the public position of selling an important brand new bomber to a potential enemy of the USA, especially at a time when the Japs had been unmercifully bombing innocent civilians in China, and when Cordell Hull had appealed to American plant manufacturers not to sell to Japan.

Most tell-tale evidence of how anxious the Japs and Douglas were to camouflage the sale is illustrated by a letter addressed to Douglas Vice President Bertrandias from S. Akabane, New York representative of Nakajima Aircraft, which, with Mitsui, were interested in the deal.

The program will be financed through funds raised last May in a community campaign.

Lt. Walter C. Miller Presumed To Be Dead FOREST CITY - The War Department has notified Mrs. Ollie J. Miller that her son, 2nd Lt. Walter C. Miller, USAAF, is now assumed to be dead, since a full year has passed without proof of his survival.

W. C. George Dies In Greenville Hospital LOWELL - W. C. George died at 5:30 this afternoon in a hospital in Greenville. The funeral will be held Saturday at 3 o'clock at the First Baptist church in Lowell.

McPherson Named To Journalism Schools Committee By SNPA Holt McPherson, managing editor of The Star who teaches the journalism course at Gardner-Webb Junior College, has been named North Carolina representative to the Schools of Journalism committee of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association.

Earl B. Ruth New Recreation Head In Kings Mountain KINGS MOUNTAIN - Earl B. Ruth, of Charlotte, former basketball star at the University of North Carolina, and recently released from active duty in the navy, has been employed as city recreation supervisor and will assume his duties on January 1.

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IF CLEVELAND COUNTY'S COURT HOUSE CAN BE EXTENDED 40 to 50 feet north and south without detracting materially from symmetry and charm of that presently well-integrated structure, as the architect says can be done, it seems to point a clear course for our county commissioners to undertake it and gather therein county functions now scattered less satisfactorily in various rented quarters over the city.

The need for additional space for county offices has been evident for years; repeated insistence of grand juries that public toilets be provided has accentuated need for more adequate building. The courthouse has been outgrown and the makeshift arrangements which thus far have served that growth are so outgrown and expensive that they direct action looking toward effective relief.

The commissioners have diligently canvassed other alternatives and find it unlikely they can purchase and build sufficiently close by the square to effect as economical and satisfactory correction of the quarters shortage as would result from adding the two wings proposed.

TOO, IT SEEMS THAT THE COUNTY WOULD BE SERVED WELL by engaging now borrowing authorized under the hospital bond issues so that advantage may be taken of present favorable money markets.

WITH 10 DAYS TO GO TILL CHRISTMAS EVE, A WHITE Christmas has plenty of snow at the present writing but white shirts won't be a sign of it—the stores report them as scarce as new automobiles.

THE ONLY COVERED BRIDGE TURNED UP IN THAT RECENT quest is one pictured on a Christmas card from Hughlan Smith, for which I am duly appreciative.

BILL PENDLETON SENDS ME LAWSON WOOD'S HILARIOUS "Marking Time with Gran'pop" calendar for 1946. Wood draws upon a broad experience, keen insight into human nature and animal nature and an inborn genius for invention, to turn out his monkeyshines that delight millions.

DR. FRANCIS BRADSHAW'S DECISION TO QUIT HIS 25-YEAR post as dean of students at the University of North Carolina to engage in private work in industrial psychology in New York takes one of Carolina's devoted faculty members at a crucial time in life of that institution moving into post-war problems where his experience and steady influence will be needed.

CORP. M. B. RUPPE, HOMESICK IN ITALY, SO STRAINS EVERY rule of verification to pack such pathos and humor into his lines on low-point score that I think you'll feel me justified in writing a standing rule against printing such to let you know his feeling:

God made man and man made war And here I am with a low point score. On December the seventh of forty-one This war of ours had first begun. It happened so fast that it shocked us all And left us behind the old eight ball. Draftees here and draftees there, They combed the cities everywhere. Four months of basic, one week at home And then they shipped us to parts unknown Where far from what I used to know I didn't care, I didn't mind. For it was peace I sought to find. It finally came, they ended the war And here I am with that low-point score. I wait and wait, I feel so blue But what is there for me to do. While sweating the shells, I couldn't tell That sweating the ship is more like hell. Replacements are coming, I'm glad to hear, But so is Santa and a brand New Year!

army pressure was too strong. He was made a major general anyway. This columnist's disclosure of July 10, '38, made one error. The price which the Japs were supposed to have paid for the DC-4 was given as \$1,000,000. This was a mistake. Douglas gave them a much better bargain, namely \$706,720, F.A.S. San Pedro. (This later was increased by the addition of spare parts.)

JAPS EXULT OVER BARGAIN The Japs boasted gleefully about this bargain price. A Jap paper of Nov. 14, 1939, carries a picture of the DC-4 under the caption "formerly America's biggest, now Japan's."

Mrs. Dan Moore Suffers Broken Leg In Accident An odd family co-incidence resulted in an auto accident near Bolling Springs late yesterday afternoon, leaving Mrs. Dan Moore with a broken leg.

Another Japanese newspaper account significantly stated: "Japan Airways has not yet decided what to do with its flying bargain." However, it didn't take them long to decide. It was converted to one of the most useful planes the Japs had in the entire war.

The newspaper also stated: "Transactions for purchase of the plane were completed last summer before the 'moral embargo' on aircraft shipments to Japan was announced by Secretary of State Hull."

TO-NIGHT TOMORROW ALRIGHT 2 TABLETS ALL-VEGETABLE LAXATIVE Nature's Remedy

USE 666 COLD PREPARATIONS Liquid, Tablets, Salva, Nose Drops Use Only As Directed Caution use only as directed.