

PERTINENT COMMENT

Pegler Adds To Mental Confusion

THE OBSERVER used some great editorial matter during the week backed by two of the best cartoons of the war. The Sunday cartoon showing "MANHATTANS HERE"; two joyous Americans drinking cocktails-and "MOLOTOFFS THERE," showing flesh and bone being crushed by armored steel monsters against the defense of Stalingrad-was particularly effective.

But for every two persons impressed by this fine editorial page, there must be at least one who "falls" for the line dished out by Mr. Westbrook Pegler in his syndicated column in the inside pages. Of course Mr. Pegler "is given wide latitude and his opinions are not necessarily the opinions of the paper," but there is nothing which warns the people that it may be part of a "line" dangerous to our war effort.

To deliver a very bad discourse on Communism, Mr. Pegler picked out the days on which Stalingrad was in its death throes and with a light left jab to our enemies, "The nazi and fascist are not different from the communist," he really let go with both barrels against our ally, "Red Russia." We could write a much better economic treatise showing how foreign Communism is to our American way of life, so it was not strictly as an economist that Pegler writes-he just adds to the confusion of the mind.

How many American boys will eventually come home because of the Russian slaughter of a million and a half Nazis in these two years, we'll have to leave to history—but right now, every sensible person knows that Russians are not fighting for eco-nomics or for the third internationale—they are fighting to protect their homes and their farms, and FORTUNATELY FOR US THOSE HOMES AND FARMS HAPPEN TO BE IN THE PATH OF THE AGGRESSION AGAINST US.

Without supplies no army is brave, and a great general who is hungry is not a hero for long.

Understand that the foundation of an army is the belly.

The greatest secret of and the masterpiece of a skillful general is to starve his enemy. Hunger exhausts men more surely than courage, and you will succeed with less risk than by fighting.

One should know one's enemies, their alliances, their resources, and the nature of their country in order to plan a campaign. One should know what to expect of one's friends, what resources one has, and see the future effects to determine what one has to fear or hope from political maneuvers.

Knowledge of the country is to a general what a rifle is to an infantryman and what the rules of arithmetic are to a geometrician. If he does not know the country he will do nothing but make gross mistakes. Without this knowledge, his projects, be they otherwise admirable, become ridiculous and often impractical. Therefore, study the country where you are going to act!



Plane Worker Gets

\$500 For Suggestion LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Howard F. Watkins, a leadman at the Con-solidated Aircraft plant, has received the highest prize yet given to employes for making suggestions that will speed up aircraft construction.

The prize was \$500 and the suggestion, quickly put in effect, was for increasing greatly the heat treat-

Help Fight The War With The Money You Save

Here's how your savings put into War Bonds and Stamps help our armed forces get the fighting eugipment they need!

10c will pay for 5 cartridges. 50c will buy enough fuel oil to run a destroyer one mile.

THE HOME FRONT

"We are not doing enough," said the President, and he added, "in this war it is kill or be killed." In this "toughest war of all time" we are going to have to get down to brass tacks—and turn the brass tacks into bombs and bullets.

To an extent we have been doing this, but now the need is terribly urgent and materials scarce. Now we must have war goods in greater volume than ever-and in a shorter time. Our enemies don't wait.

Steel mills, eating up almost five million tons of scrap material a month, are running on almost a day-to-day basis. We are dangerously short of copper, tin, and other non-ferrous metals.

That's why our school children-30 million of them-are being enlisted to comb our homes, backyards, and farmyards for scrap to feed the steel giants. That's why our kitchens must shower down old tin cans by the million so that we can reach our goal of 3,000 tons of household tin a year recovered in 17 new "detinning" plants. That's why we must save waste fats and greases, turn in the half billion pounds we have been asked to salvage. These fats would help make enough bombs to cripple the German war machine, or enough explosives to fire 1,250,000 anti-aircraft shells.

Last year our production of all-wire coat hangers, if made into military barbed wire, would have girdled the earth six and one-half times.

We shall not be making wire hangers this year.

LABOR PROBLEM STILL PARAMOUNT

To do all that we must do to stop the Axis hordes, merely to get enough skilled workers and fighting men for this gigantic job, is going to be a tough business for all of us. In 116 of 160 critical war production areas there are serious labor shortages, and in all these areas there are shortages of some kinds of skilled workers. Employment in the automotive industry, now making weapons, has passed the 800,000 mark-but not until it absorbs another 600,000 workers will the industry have reached peak production. There'll be almost five million women in war industries by the end of this year. More millions of them will be needed by 1943, not only in war plants but in the fields. Small towns and larger cities lacking war industries are losing their young men to the Armed forces, their boys, women, and older men to war work in nearby or distant industrial areas. These towns are short-handed, and yet it is just such communities that. are turning in thousands of pounds of scrap metals and rubber.

FARMERS RIDING HIGH

Farmers, on the whole, haven't found the going tough so far except for the shortage of labor. They're buying more goods and making more property improvements than at any time since the unlucky boom days of the last war. Yet that very fact should give them pause. Inflated war prices not only handicap the whole war program, but endanger post-war security. With tobacco, wool, and all meats bringing prices far above parity, prot well recal lthe tragic slump which followed the last ducers mig

Petty geniuses attempt to hold everything; wise men hold fast to the most important resort. They parry the great blows and scorn the little accidents. There is an ancient apothegm: he who would preserve everything preserves nothing. Therefore, always sacrifice the bagatelle and pursue the essential is to be found where the big bodies of the enemy are.

A perfect general, like Plato's Republic, is a figment of the imagination. Either would be admirable, but it is not characteristic of human nature to produce beings exempt from human weaknesses and defects. The finest medallions have a reverse side.

Skpticism is the mother of security. Even though only fools trust their enemies, prudent persons never do. The general is the principal sentinel of his army. He should always be careful of its preservation and that it is never exposed to misfortune.

If you wish to be loved by your soldiers, husband their blood and do not lead them to slaughter.

The ant of war is divided between force and stratagem. What cannot be done by force, must be done by stratagem

The Moore Drydock Company, San Francisco, Calif., employs 2000 Negroes and it employed less than 100 a year ago.

Two copper door hinges yield enough metal for an anti-tank gun's ground mount.

In Canada no one enjoys a net income of more than \$30,000, taxes take the rest.

Nazi Germany fixes women's pay at from 20 to 25 per cent less than men's

The Rheem ship yard, Providence, R. I., already employs 300 Negro employees and will take others for any occupations.

British Workers Have Been Magnificent

The annual conference of the British trades union congress was held recently in Blackpool and was attended by 700 delegates representing 5,500,00 trade union members.

The president of the TUC, Frank Wolstencroft, began his address with a warm tribute to Churchill's leadership. "Well played, Churchill." He said, "Well played, in spite of hard knocks from some of our so-called home supporters as well as from our opponents." "On our industrial front" Wolstencroft said, "the response of the work-

ers has been magnificent. They have carried the country on their backs and complaints that they are not pulling their weight is a poor reward for all they are doing."

Wolstencroft hoped that when the war was over or even before, the trades Union Conference would find it possible to work in closer touch with the trade union movements of Australia, Canada, South Africa, India and hte U. S. He said the General Council of the TUC was already seeing what could be done to convene a conference of the trade unions of the British commonwealth.

Looking to the post-war, Wolstencroft insisted that the peace terms should make it impossible for Germany or any other power ever again to

attempt the conquest of Europe. "It is far, far better for the world," he declared, "that 80,000,000 or 90,000,000 people should be held under bond, if necessary, then that countless millions yet unborn should be called upon to undergo what so many of us have gone through twice in our lifetime.""

USE THE PAYROLL PLAN-**10% EACH WEEK FOR WAR BONDS**

capacity of rivet furnaces

Cramerton Mills Earns Award The Cramerton Mills of Cramerton, N. C. is the first in the combed yarn industry to win the ARMY-NAVY E award for excellence in the production of essential materials for our armed forces. The award will be made in a special ceremony on September 18th at the mill. It will be accepted on behalf of the company by MAJOR S. W. CRAM-ER, JR.

\$8 will buy two steel heimets. \$150 will buy one parachute. \$370 will buy 17 surgical beds. \$5400 will buy one barrage

balloon \$15,000 will buy one pontoon bridge.

\$50,000 will buy one fighter plane.

> **INVENTED BAYONET** The bayonet is said to have been invented at Bayonne, France, in the

Seventeenth Century.

war-created "prosperity."

DRIVE FOR SUBSTITUTES GOES ON

In 12 Western states critical labor shortages in mining and lumbering have led to a regulation requiring certificates of separation from workers who want to change jobs . . . The International Red Cross in Japan will try to deliver messages from friends and relatives to U.S. soldiers and sailors reported missing in action but not yet officially reported by the enemy as prisoners of war . . . Our allies are returning Lend-Lease aid in a multitude of ways, supplying squadrons of protective spitfiresand new fan belts for U.S. trucks, building airdromes and naval bases-and giving our troops chocolate bars, bananas, and other delicacies, providing convoy protection-and filling gas tanks for

U. S. ferry planes . . . Since the President told us where we stand in the war, the Japs and Nazis—evidently worried—have bom-barded this country by short-wave radio with misquotations and false versions of his speech.

Hershey Predicts Long War-Unless

DETROIT, Sept. 15.—Members of Pacific Local 190, U. A. W., read that HERSHEY, Pa., Sept. 15 .- Milton S. Hershey, philanthropist, today pre-Mrs. Marguerite Scott, an expectant mother, had been robbed of \$47 which dicted on the eve of his eighty-fifth she had been saving for hospital exbirthday, a lengthy war "unless and penses until the people back are impressed They read also that her husband, with the importance and necessity of Harry, is in the Army and stationed at a Pacific post. And they could see that the loss was a real hardwinning."

Unemployment At All-Time Low

ship. So they passed the hat and col-lected \$106.50, which they arranged to have given to the woman. Unemployment declined by 600,000 persons between July and August to a wartime low of 2,200,00 persons, Di-

rector J. C. Capt of the Bureau of Census announced last week. August employment remained unchained at all-time high level of 54,000,000 persons and the civilian labor force de-clined to 600,000 persons.

Sister, Brother Have Same Rank FULTON, N. Y .- Enola and Floyd Thornber would run into an impasse if they started ordering each other around. Both sister and brother are second lieutenants in the Army.

Helpful

Expectant Mother Gets

Quick Aid

"Absence Makes The War Last Longer"

In dealing with the problem of absenteeism in war production plants, Canadian Minister of Labor Humphrey Mitchell placed the responsibility on employers, stating that it is their responsibility to provide their workers

with plant conditions conducive to day-in, day-out work without loss of time. In this connection, Mitchell spoke of a Toronto plant employing several thousand women as well as men that was "experiencing a turnover and absentee problem." The company took steps to discover and correct the cause of their difficulties. As a result, "arrangements have been made for such facilities as a swimming pool and gymnasium to be made available to the workers at a club fee of 15c a week. A roller skating rink and a recreation when we have been made a second a state of the state of club will also be provided."

Mitchell stressed that "everyone must concentrate on eliminating this problem." He concluded with: "Absence makes the war last longer."

WISDOM

Temples have their images; and we see what influence they have always had over a great part of mankind. But, in truth, the ideas and images in men's minds are the invisible powers that constantly govern them; and to these they all pay universally a ready submis Jonathan Edwards.

J. A. SCOGGINS President of the Charlotte Central Labor Union, received the

appointment this week of MECKLENBURG COUNTY RATIONING ADMINISTRATOR.

The appointment was made by Chairman Martin L. Cannon, of the MECKLENBURG CIVILIAN DEFENSE COM-MITTEE, to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Mr. George O. Fulenwider who had acted in this capacity since last June.

Mr. Scoggins had been a member of the original three-man rationing board and recently he had been in charge of the sugar rationing. His devotion to his country and his passion for fair play on all sides, will stand Mr. Scoggins in good stead in this highly important work for our community.

