

# The Daily Advance

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1945.

## "Unto the Mountain of Nebo"

*And the Lord said unto him, this is the land . . . I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither—So Moses the Servant of the Lord died there . . . and He buried him in the land of Moab . . . Deuteronomy, 34: 4-6.*

Thus simply did the historian of old chronicle the death of one who had led the Children of Abraham out of the bondage of Egypt, and as simply might we set down the death of President Roosevelt and without any laboring of the analogy. But yesterday he stood on the mountain top of history, looking backward across events that have not any parallel in the history of the world.

Behind him lay the most eventful years, the most terrible and the most magnificent through which the human race has come in its long journeying. Beyond him, in the dawning tomorrows, lay a fairer world, lighted by the sun of peace and security of all peoples, a world of his own fashioning, in a very real sense, as the Promised Land was the dream and the labor of Moses, who went up into a quiet mountain to look back and beyond . . .

Tomorrow may bring the crumbling of the last bastion against which President Roosevelt marshalled the forces of decency in the world. Even now armies that called him Commander move implacably against Berlin and across the world other armies that went at his bidding move nearer the victory. And, nearer at hand, a table on the western shores of this land is made ready for men of good will to sit down and fashion a world that men may live in without fear and without want, little people and big people, white and yellow and black and red . . .

These things Mr. Roosevelt could see as he rested on the hilltop in Georgia yesterday, girding his strength for this final testing of the vision that was his, the vision he had made real to the world. Weariness was upon him, weariness of the flesh, but his spirit was as eager yesterday, on the hill top, as ever it had been. His shoulders had borne burdens that had not before weighted the shoulders of a man. He had led the world out of bondage.

"And the Lord said unto him, this is the land . . . I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes . . . So Moses, the servant of the Lord died there . . . and He buried him in a valley . . ."

## No Dividing Line

Infrequent and too little emphasis is accorded such items as our little piece about the mobile crane from the Naval Air Station, completely managed by Chief Boatman's Mate Anderson when it rumbled the length of the county to lend a colossal hand at salvaging a truck and its cargo of gasoline which had happened upon disaster at the crossing of the upper Pasquotank River.

It is important, of course, that owners of property involved were saved a great many thousands of dollars. It is more important that a potential menace was speedily removed from the roadside. The exposure of some 3,200 gallons of inflammable matter beside the highway might have caused a major tragedy, and we would have been reporting a conflagration that fortunately this region has been spared the like of.

But there is an even more inviting consideration, and that is the spirit of neighborly helpfulness shown between the civil and service people. Here was a situation that was quite beyond the rectifying reach of any of the facilities available from civil sources. Recourse was had to the neighboring Air Station, which is equipped especially to deal with ponderous salvage matters. We recall, too, that from this same

source came speedy help some months ago when one of the dredges on the Camden causeway was foundering.

This spirit of willing helpfulness on the part of the services based here in the Albemarle may not be too readily appreciated. They happen more often, very likely, than we hear about and perhaps we don't hear about them because of the unnatural reticence of authority to divulge anything about service operations . . . Surely it could be no comfort to any enemy to discover that civilian and service communities in America live together in mutually helpful neighborliness. Anyhow, thanks are due to Chief Anderson for this healthy reminder that after all there is no dividing line between civilian and service communities.

## At Last—Our War

In its first impact it may appear that Pasquotank County has been given a colossal task, an insurmountable task, in the quota of E bonds allocated to the county in the coming Seventh War Loan campaign. The county is asked to invest \$621,000 of money out of its own personal pocket which is twice the amount that has ever been asked of them before. It amounts to about \$30 per person, taking the population as you come to it.

To most of us \$30 is not a great deal of money, perhaps, but there are a lot of people in the county who have never had, and have not now, thirty dollars that they can call their very own. It means that it will have to be averaged up, in a measure, but it means, too, that now the weight of the war has become a personal thing for every man, every woman, every boy, every girl in the county.

## Relaxed Meat Inspection

One proposal to ease the meat shortage is to abolish federal inspection in small local slaughter houses. These slaughterers have to pass State inspection anyway, and most of them are thoroughly reputable. But to sell inter-state they must pass federal inspection, so many now sell only within state limits. This is one reason why the raising states are experiencing no meat shortage today.

General Hardigg, however, sat on the idea of relaxing federal inspection. He argued that federal inspection must continue. War Food Chief Jones and War Mobilizer Vinson were not impressed with Hardigg's argument, produced figures showing that last fed meat until I was in my twenties," scoffed Texas-bred Jones.

"Out in Kentucky we did all right without federally inspected meat," Vinson agreed. "I never had it until I was out of my 'teens."

Representative Anderson of Albuquerque, New Mex., Chairman of the Committee, then took General Hardigg to task for the Army's system of poultry buying.

"Out my way, where we've got plenty of meat," Anderson said. "The Army isn't interested in buying poultry. Here in the East, where meat is scarce, you're taking all the poultry. Why not spread your poultry buying so that in areas where the public has a hard time getting meat it can at least get a little poultry?"

He pointed out that Army is taking 100 per cent of the poultry in the Delmarva area—Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

Vinson supported Anderson, telling Hardigg: "Try to work that out with the War Food Administration."

## Alarm Clock Hannegan

Democratic Chairman Bob Hannegan, tired of listening to stuffy shirt speakers at late Democratic dinners, sent his secretary out to buy an alarm clock before tonight's Jefferson Day dinner.

He has allotted every speaker a certain amount of time, and will set off the alarm when they exceed their quota. Hannegan bets that the dinner will be over by 11 p.m. or else.

Note—At the Electors dinner in January, Senator Tom Connally got up at 11 p.m. delivered a 30-minute major foreign policy address, while 1,000 people twisted in their seats waiting to hear Bob Hope.

## Captial Chaff

Censorship of newspaper comment on the possibility of war between Russia and Japan was ordered by the State Department. Byron Price's Office of Censorship had nothing to do with it except carry out instructions. This is the first time news comment has been barred on the relations between two countries . . . Loy Henderson, able U. S. Minister to Iraq, is returning to Washington to head the State Department's Near Eastern Division . . . Shortly before returning to China, Ambassador Pat Hurley got Roosevelt's OK on arming several divisions of Chiang Kai-Shek's troops. U. S. British trouble with Russia over Romania appears in a new light when you learn the hitherto hushed-up fact that U. S.-British oil men secured highly important technical documents regarding the Romanian oil wells and removed them from the country. It was only after this that the Russians barred U. S.-British oil men from the oil fields.

## Jap Troop Train Exploded by Airmen

Manila, Apr. 13—(P)—Fifth Air Force Liberators ranging far from their Philippine base over Indo-China exploded a 14-car Japanese troop train with direct bomb hits Monday, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced Thursday.

Fellow pilots bombed Hong Kong's Victoria docks, two radio stations and rail installations on Hainan Island and sank six small freighters on the China Sea.

## Spring and Transfusions

The best sign of spring—sign up for a blood donation to the Red Cross!

## Daily Washington Merry-Go-Round

Washington—It happened behind closed doors, but a lot of housewives would have relished being present when Congressman Clinton Anderson's special food committee quizzed an array of Washington bigwigs.

A lot of star witnesses were present, but the Army, represented by Maj. Gen. Carl Hardigg of the Quartermaster Corps, chiefly took it on the chin.

War Food Chief Marvin Jones started the ball rolling when he produced figures showing that last year, when meat was plentiful, the Army gobbled up the works by failing to take anywhere near the quantity allocated to it. In the fourth quarter of 1944, the Army had asked for one and a quarter billion pounds of meat. Actually, the Army took half a billion pounds less.

That, according to the closed-door testimony, was the chief reason why ration points on meat were dropped last year and the housewives got a windfall. The public then got back to the habit of eating meat. But today, with meat far less plentiful, the Army has ordered even more than allocated to it last year.

General Hardigg was unable to satisfy the Congressmen as to why the Army failed to take up its meat last year, or at least failed to put it in cold storage for later use. Had this been done, Army demands would now be much smaller. General Hardigg also was asked to report to Congress on meat consumption per soldier in the British Army, also in the Russian Army. Congressmen also asked Hardigg to report on how much meat was consumed by U. S. troops overseas, as compared with that consumed by troops in the United States.

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## A SLANT ON BOOKS

By JOHN PEELE

William Saroyan, The Human Comedy. Published by World Publishing Co., 12231 West 110th St., Cleveland, Ohio, by arrangement with Harcourt, Brace & Co. Price \$1. Forum Books Edition.

It was in 1943 that The Human Comedy was first published and appeared as a Book-of-the-Month Club selection. Now it is reprinted at a much lower price.

It has the same illustrations by Don Freeman that so helped to make the book enjoyable when it first appeared, and the same delightful outside cover.

"Perceptive, humorous, imaginative, original," said the critic, Henry Seidel Canby, of the book when it first appeared. "I should vote for this story of an Armenian boyhood as the most truly American book of the year."

And Christopher Morley said: "Mr. Saroyan justifies all the promise we predicted for him and shows himself the grown and many-colored artist, the genuine poet in prose, and spokesman for the youth of the world."

There is comedy in this book, and there is pathos, there is the war and its effect on the home front, there's youth and age, and life in an every day world. It is so neighborly, so real, that it appeals to the reader instantly and also lastingly.

At such a low price, The Human Comedy is certainly worth buying for one's own library or as a gift to a friend.

The World Publishing Company made an excellent selection when it chose The Human Comedy to present as a reprint.

Two Bays Save Gas

For Raleigh Cabdriver

Raleigh, N. C., April 13—(P)—Turning back the calendar, Raleigh officials yesterday issued the first horse-drawn hack license requested of them in 20 years.

Grady H. Norton obtained the license for a refurbished four-passenger surrey and a pair of bay horses, saying he would use the vehicle to transport persons to suburban golf courses.

Although the trip is official, the governor is not using the big No. 1 car. Bill Sharpe, State News Bureau Director, will join the party at Asheville, after a couple of days travel and picture taking along the way, accumulating additional evidence that North Carolina is the best State in the Union. (If you don't hear much from your Capitol Square reporter the rest of this week, it will be because I'm going along with Bill, to gather for my readers some material different from purely capitol political news.)

CHARACTERS—ALWAYS CHARACTERS! NEVER JUST NICE PLAIN PEOPLE

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