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 Editor and Publisher

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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.

It is a tremendous task, to be sure, and for Holland Webster, who has been designated by the County War Finance Committee to lead the campaign, it presents a challenge that will take his enthusiasm, his energy, and his ingenuity. But it is not Mr. Webster's task, it is not his war loan—it belongs to all of us and Mr. Webster is our leader. It will take the lifting hands of all of us to bear the weight of this responsibility.

A full month intervenes between now and the formal opening of the campaign. It will give everybody time to get organized for it—not the organization of committees and the planning of strategies, but the organization of every individual of us, planning ahead toward the campaign when each one of us, with egg money and errand-tuning money, any sort of money that can be turned in for a bond when the time comes. This campaign comes out of our pockets and not out of the banks and the coffers of corporations.

Today it may look like a stupendous task—but when it is over and the quota is reached, it will not have seemed so difficult, provided we look now ahead and plan for something that must now touch all of us. This is, at last, our war.

National Whirligig
 By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON—Japanese tactics in recent engagements with American forces convince experts here that the war and navy parties in Tokyo are locked in a furious clash that will tend to shorten the Pacific conflict. Although such a disagreement in time of crisis seems incredible, the only other logical explanation appears to be the existence of a panic state of mind among trained and disciplined fighters.

The Jap military has been complaining for a long time that the navy has not given it proper support in the archipelago stage of the battling. Ground units have not received the necessary supplies because we commanded the surrounding waters. Naval carriers have afforded almost no umbrella against our aerial power.

Under pressure of this criticism, apparently, the navy decided to unveil a portion of its fleet, including the great and sacred battleship Yamato. Eut, for some reason, that dreadnaught was sent to sea without any plane protection, and became an easy target for our flyers. It seems unbelievable that any coordinated defense ministry could make such a mistake.

Schemes—Meanwhile, most of the fighting in the skies has been done by Japanese army groups, who have had the advantage of land bases ever since Pearl Harbor. They have suffered severely in engagements with our better trained and equipped aviators, but it is not believed that they have been destroyed utterly. So, the question that arises is whether they refused to provide cover for the Yamato and her escorting warships?

The Jap navy's execrable showing may also affect diplomatic and cabinet maneuvering behind the Tokyo scenes. In prewar days the generals were the moderates; it was the admirals who expressed confidence that Tokyo could defeat the United States. It may be that, as ultimate defeat approaches from the water and air, the military bigwigs are scheming to save their skins and survive in any domestic reorganization by sacrificing the sea-dogs.

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 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 was 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.

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 for the meat-raising states 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. Vinson produced figures showing that last year 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, N. 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 Delaware area—Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

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

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.

Capital 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 (AP)—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.

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 praise 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 is 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 paying 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, Apr. 13 (AP)—Turning back the calendar, Raleigh officials yesterday issued the first horse-drawn hack license request 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.

From Raleigh to Hyde Goes John D. Findlay
 Raleigh, N. C., April 13 (AP)—John D. Findlay, assistant commissioner of game and inland fisheries has resigned, effective April 30, to take the job with the federal fish and wildlife service.

Findlay, who has been with the state about eight years, will be located at Lake Mattamuskeet, in Hyde County, jointly operated by the State and Federal government.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Scripture: Genesis: Chapters 12 to 50; Acts 7:2-8; Hebrews 11:8-27
 By WILLIAM E. GILROY, D. D.

Here in our western world the pioneer is near to our life today. Great railroads cross the continent where the oxen-drawn covered wagon once toiled slowly, and broad splendid highways have now been added to the railroads. The automobile traveler can speed from coast to coast—or could when he could get gasoline—across the great plains and prairies, and through the passes, and even over the summits of the high mountains.

It was my privilege to make the coast-to-coast auto trip three times, there and back, in four years; and I know how difficult it is, even with the "best intentions, to visualize in the easy, and even luxurious conditions of today, the toils, and perils, and sacrifices, and hardships of the pioneers who went westward and conquered the west so recently as to be within the memory of many still living.

Now the point I wish to make is that we are apt also to take the heritage of our religious faith and freedom for granted, without adequately realizing that here, too, pioneers have blazed the way, enduring, suffering and sacrificing in obedience to that inner urge that drove them forward, and in conscious purpose to fulfill their destiny in preparing the way for the generations that would follow them.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews reminds us of what the pioneers of faith have endured, and of how much we owe to them. To that chapter might be added the records of pioneers throughout the ages, for generation after generation has added to the honor roll of those who have suffered to preserve the faith or to extend the spiritual boundaries. Just at present we have reason to think of those pioneer missionaries who went a century and half a century ago to the islands of the Pacific, facing dangers from cannibalistic tribes, and otherwise enduring great privations and hardships.

It might have looked at times as if the labors of these pioneer missionaries were in vain. But what a heritage there has been in these war years! American boys escaping from Jap savagery to the jungle, or cast up on island beaches, have found friendly natives, speaking the language of Christianity, and acting like Christians in the ministry of

helpfulness and kindness. Abraham, father of the Jewish people, is the true type of the pioneer. He was a pioneer in the physical sense, going out not knowing whether he was going, to find a new home and to establish a new lineage. But he was a spiritual pioneer as well, and undoubtedly the story of Abraham has inspired pioneers of later days. They have felt their kinship with him, and the finest type of pioneer in our immediate history has carried the Bible with him along with the plow. As he has cast new furrows for his country, he has cast new furrows for God.

God grant that we might all be such pioneers! For though the physical frontiers are closed there are great spiritual frontiers to challenge the faith and courage of those who would follow the pioneer way.

Liberty Ship Explosion In Bari Harbor Monday Listed Major Disaster

Rome, April 12 (AP)—Hundreds of Italian civilians and a number of American and British servicemen were killed in Bari harbor Monday by the explosion of an American liberty ship loaded with munitions, an Italian spokesman announced. More than 1,000 other persons were injured.

The cause of the explosion, one of the major disasters of the war in the Mediterranean theater, was not yet known, the spokesman said. The number of military personnel casualties also was not known.

Authorities did not disclose the identity of the ship.

Earlier the government spokesman had placed the toll of Italian dead at 267 and the injured at about 1,600.

Plymouth Pastor Moves Into New Parsonage

Plymouth, Apr. 13 (AP)—The pastor of the Plymouth Methodist Church the Rev. T. R. Jenkins and family recently moved into the new brick parsonage which was newly furnished.

On Easter Sunday morning the largest crowd on record attended the service. Twenty new members were received into the church. The Sunday prior to Easter several infants were baptized.

The Crusade for Christ quota for the church has been substantially

RED RYDER
 BY HARLAN

STRUBBERRIES TODAY MRS. BUMSTEAD? I'M SO BUSY—RUN IN AND ASK MY HUSBAND IF HE'D LIKE STRAWBERRIES FOR SUPPER

STRUBBERRIES?

CHARACTERS—ALWAYS CHARACTERS—NEVER JUST NICE PLAIN PEOPLE

RED RYDER
 BY HARLAN

I'VE WAITED FOR YEARS TO GET EVEN WITH RED RYDER AND I'M NOT STOPPING NOW ON ACCOUNT OF ANY GAL!

AT LEAST I KNOW RED RYDER DIDN'T ROSE MY BAWBY YOU DID!

SUDDENLY!

RED RYDER!

BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES
 BY MASCIN

"BACK HOME BOOTS, ALL THE BABES CALL ME MR. AMERICA!"

REALLY?

YES! WOMEN DEFINITELY ARE ATTRACTED BY MEN! YOU ARE NOT DECEIVING ME FOR A MINUTE WITH YOUR INDIFFERENCE

WHY, WALDO?

MOST GENTS WITH A PHYSIQUE LIKE MINE WOULD BE CONCEITED

I JUST CANT UNDERSTAND WHY I'M NOT!

OUT OUR WAY
 BY WILLIAMSOOR BOARDING HOUSE

WOT? PUT ME ON A THING LIKE THIS WITH GEAR'S HOUSED IN TO KEEP THE BABY FROM GITTIN' ITS FINGERS PINCHED? WHY I WORKED ON MACHINES FER THUTTY YEARS WITHOUT LOSIN' A FINGERNAIL! TO WORK ON THIS IS A DISGRACE—I'M NO CHANCE, EVEN IF I AM ON MY LAST LEGS!

OL' DAVE NEVER GOT HURT ON THEM OLD MACHINES WHICH NEVER HAD ANY GEARS COVERED—BUT I'LL BET HE GETS HURT ON THIS ONE—THAT'S TH' WAY THINGS WORK OUT!

IN TRYIN' TO PROVE THIS MODERN STUFF IS ALL BOSH, THEY'LL HAVE A HARD TIME PICKIN' HIS PARTS OUT OF TH' MACHINE'S PARTS!

GAY MAJOR, THAT BOUT WON'T DRAW FLIES IF WORD GETS AROUND THAT BURKE AND CHUNG ARE BOTH LIVIN' AT YOUR HOUSE! WHO WANTS TO SEE A BALLET NUMBER?

ARE THEY COUSINS OR JUST GOOD FRIENDS? WHEN THEY START THEIR ACT YOU OUGHT TO HAVE A BAND PLAY THE BLUE DANUBE WALTZ!

UM-KAFF'AWK! EGAD, BOYS! YOU AND YOUR SPOUSES DWELL IN THE SAME ABODE—IS THERE NEVER A VIOLENT JOUST BETWEEN YOU?

STOPPED THEM WITH THAT ONE!

Jap Troop Train Exploded by Airmen
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