

RANGER TIMES

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Any erroneous reflections upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of this paper will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

It Is No Longer Ours to Decide

It would be fine indeed if the United States faced the simple decision of whether or not it wished to go to war. But it does not. That momentous decision now rests largely with others, with circumstance and developments, not all of which we can foresee.

Our key decision has been made—all aid to Britain short of actually going to war. In line with carrying out that policy, we shall face a series of more concrete decisions in detail. Every new phase of the aid-to-Britain campaign, every new means and kind of aid extended, means a separate problem, a new decision.

It is along the line of that series of concrete proposals for further aid that the battle of public opinion must now be fought. Anyone of these new steps may lead to a declaration of war against the United States by Germany, Italy, Japan, or all three. We might as well face that. The United States is not going to declare war against any of them. But it has decided on its own course in the light of reason, justice, and right. It will steer that course. If there is any war-declaring, somebody else must do it. We face the fact that they may.

It is very hard to see how the United States course can be interpreted as war. By whom? By nations which dumped seasoned troops, trained pilots and bombers, as well as unlimited material into a civil war in Spain—and said it was not war? By a country which has had vast armies conquering half of a neighbor country for three years—and says it is not war? By countries which receive a constant and quite similar stream of war supplies from Sweden and Russia—and back up those countries' claim to neutrality?

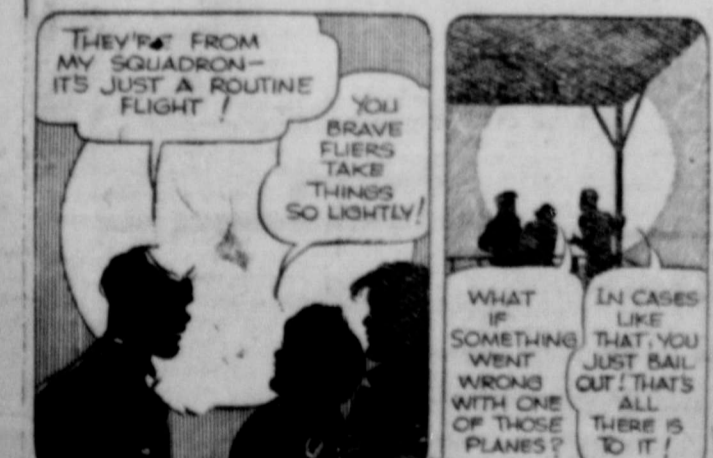
It is indeed difficult to see how countries in those positions could claim that the sending of war supplies to Britain is an act of war. But they might. To that extent the decision is no longer our own. The key decision of general policy has been made. We will not be turned from that. The only room left for argument is in details of what shall be furnished, and how.

We wish war with no nation. But the threat of war is not going to turn us from the path we consider wise and right.

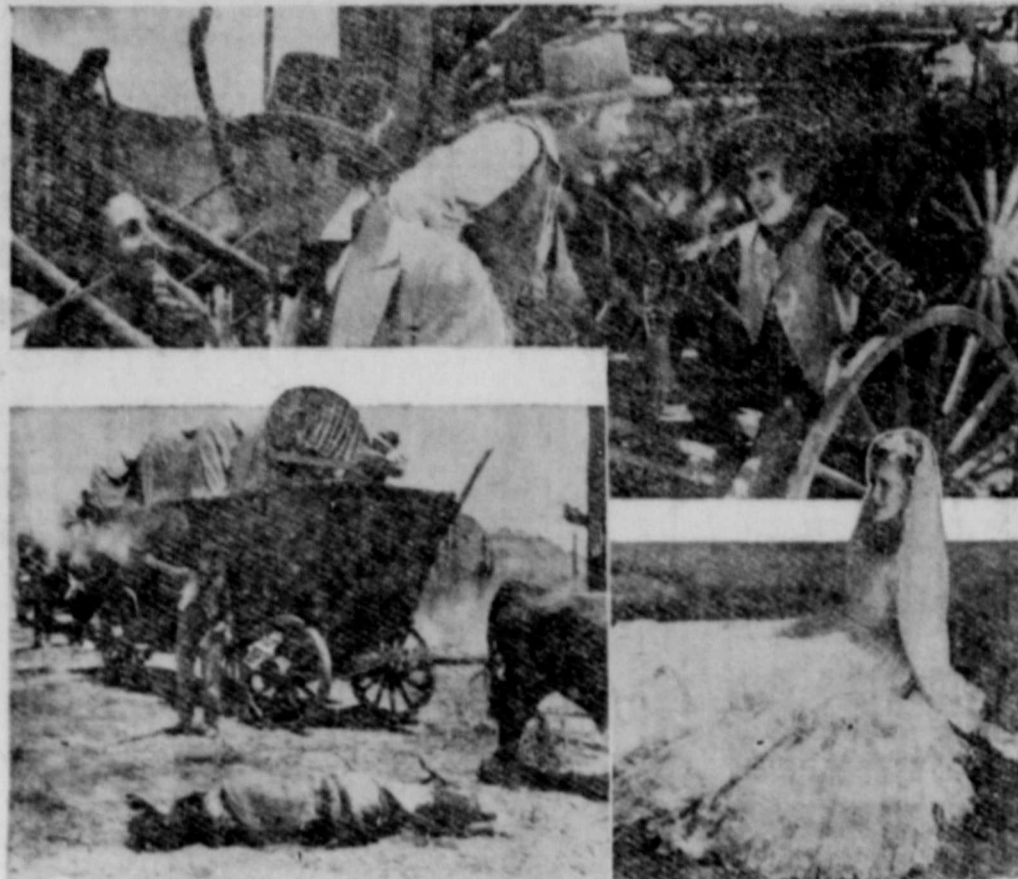
We have put our hand to the plow. We must meet the test which Jesus set for the hesitant follower in the Gospel According to St. Luke:

"No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Freckles and His Friends—By Blosser



A Cast of Thousands Appear In Thundering Film, "Arizona"



Above are scenes from "Arizona," a Wesley Ruggles production for Columbia Pictures, starring Jean Arthur and based on Clarence Budington Kelland's Saturday Evening Post story which will be the attraction at the Arcadia theatre starting today. In addition to Jean Arthur, the cast includes William Holden, Warren Williams and a host of others.

RED RYDER

By Harman



ALLEY OOP

By Hamlin



Postal Receipts Show An Upturn Postmaster Says

Ranger post office receipts for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1940, were ahead of receipts for the same quarter of 1939, A. E. Crawley, postmaster, reported Saturday, after completing a tabulation of business done in the office. Receipts for the entire year were but slightly ahead of 1939, Crawley stated, while the quarter are being dyed black.

ending in December showed a decided upturn. Post office receipts for the quarter amounted to \$5,679.35; bond sales totalled \$1,537.59; postal savings transactions amounted to \$31,995 and the total in savings accounts was \$163,276.00. All these figures represented an increase over the like period of 1939, Crawley stated.

It's getting harder and harder to respect gray hairs—as many Crawley stated, while the quarter are being dyed black.

MARRIAGE LICENSE Ray Armstrong and Miss Mary Ruth Schroeder, Scranton. Matthew Allan Smith, Ranger, and Miss Jaunita Fay Murray, Ranger. Kenneth Garland Tomlinson and Miss Estelle Cora Johnson, Cisco.

Sale of new passenger cars in 1940 jumped far above 1939 and the people not in them are still jumping.

SERIAL STORY

CONSCRIPT'S WIFE

BY BETTY WALLACE

YESTERDAY! Martha cannot forget the neighbors' gossip. She decides to see Paul less frequently. On her first night at home alone, she finds time dragging. Suzanne calls, wants to come over. When Martha questions her about the cause of the quarrel with Paul, Suzanne admits: "We quarreled over you."

"PAUL LOVES YOU!"

"ABOUT ME?" Martha echoed in bewilderment. "But, Suzanne, what in the world—how could you and Paul quarrel about me? I don't understand." "Don't you?" Suzanne's eyes were narrowed, her face was pale under the rouge. "That's just what I'd like to know. Don't you really understand?"

Martha stirred uneasily. "No, really." The other girl touched her hand. Her fingers were icy. "Listen, Martha. Every time Paul asked me for a date, it was to come up here. Wait! I'm not talking about now, since Bill's gone. That is, not entirely. I'm talking about before, when we four always used to go out. Sometimes, you know, I didn't feel like a foursome. Sometimes I wanted to be alone with Paul, have him come to the house for dinner, or just to talk."

Her voice trailed off. She tightened her hold on Martha's fingers and suddenly she was saying passionately, "There's no use denying it. I'm in love with Paul! I always have been! Even before he met you—years ago. I was so happy when you married Bill, I wanted to get down on my knees and pray!"

A host of half-forgotten memories came back to Martha. The time she and Paul met Suzanne and some man at a country club dance, and Suzanne had looked her over with a veiled hostility. Then, after they were engaged, Suzanne went on that trip to Honolulu. Was gone for months and when she returned, the society pages were busy with the dinners, dances, and the sensational New Year's Eve party she gave.

Because Paul had drifted away from the country club set—because Martha had never been one of the Sugar Hill Colony, she hadn't noticed how seldom they came in contact with his old friends. And yet, they ran across Suzanne every now and then. In a restaurant where they were dining. In the lobby of a theater. Once Suzanne came to the plant with some friends from out of town, asked Paul to show them around...

SO many things, now that she knew Suzanne had always been in love with Paul. Even before Martha wore his ring.

"Martha," Suzanne was saying huskily, "when you were engaged to him, I played it square. I tried to keep out of his way. I didn't do a lot of things I could have done. Oh, it wasn't easy. Sometimes I couldn't help wanting to see him, just for a little while. But I didn't run after him, I didn't play any tricks, I told myself it was over and I tried to get along without him."

"Yes," said Martha faintly. "It was all right to begin again when you married Bill. I was wildly happy when Paul began to call me again, ask to see me. But, Martha, it didn't take long before I realized that he—well, we were always a foursome."

"I don't understand." "Yes, you do. You must! Surely you weren't that blind! We'd sit right here in this apartment, and Paul's eyes never left you. He'd look at you so hungrily—and all the while he never heard a word I said..."

"You're crazy, Sue," Martha whispered. "Crazy." Her brain was spinning dizzily. "You imagined it." "Did I imagine it when they took you to the hospital, that time when you almost had pneumonia, and Paul almost lost his mind—stayed there all night—?"

"He was with Bill! They sat up together, smoking, until I came out of it..." "Bill! His best friend! Do you think that was easy to take? Don't you see he had to pretend to be friends with him? And then, instead of dropping you both, letting it wear out, Paul kept on seeing you. As if he couldn't live without seeing you!"

"No, Suzanne. You're wrong. It wasn't like that at all! Martha got up, began to pace up and down the living room. Thoughts flashed in and out of her mind, memories of all the times she and Bill and Paul had been together. "But never once did he do anything—say anything..."

"He wouldn't have told you! He—" Suzanne choked. "He prides himself on being honorable! Honorable! And what about me?" She leaped to her feet. She came and grabbed Martha's shoulders and looked straight into her eyes. "Listen, that's why I stopped coming here so much before Bill left. That's exactly why. Oh, I couldn't stay away altogether. I— I'm the same way about Paul, he—"

"To Be Continued"

LOTS of EGGS from PURINA LAYENA THE COMPLETE FEED

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SERIAL STORY

CONSCRIPT'S WIFE

BY BETTY WALLACE

Paul. He had had a raw deal from his first marriage. But her heart was his. It wasn't her fault that Bill Marshall's blue eyes had stared depths in her she had never dreamed were there. It wasn't her fault that the camaraderie the serene content she had accepted as love with Paul, had turned out not to be love at all. Not after she tasted the heady wine, the magic ecstasy of the touch of Bill's hand, the sound of his voice, the feel of his lips on hers.

THE next morning in the office, it was as if everything had changed. The sunny room was bleak, the shadows cast by the Venetian blinds seemed like bars. When Paul came in, she couldn't help the little faintness that veiled her face. She couldn't help looking at him in a way she had never looked at him before.

As always, there was a pipe in his mouth. As always, he had her a cheerful good morning. She answered almost inaudibly, and bent her head low over the typewriter as he went into the private office. Through the long morning, she couldn't seem to stop looking at him. With that awful fascination, that suddenly clear and penetrating gaze. As if she had never seen him before, exactly as he was.

OUT OUR WAY By Williams



THE FLEECY CLOUDS

Featured in U. S. Freckles and His Friends—By Blosser



Second Helping Coming Up



Second helping coming up . . . Fritz Zivic and Henry Armstrong in their first fight, in which Zivic lifted welterweight crown.

BRUCE CATTON IN WASHINGTON

PROPOSED CHANGES IN SOCIAL SECURITY LAW DUE TO COME BEFORE CONGRESS' NEW SESSION

Third of four articles highlighting major issues before the new Congress. NEA Service Staff Correspondent WASHINGTON—Although defense, aid for Britain and taxes rank as the most important items on the new Congress' agenda.

President Roosevelt this year allocated \$1,000,000 for preliminary surveys looking toward additional power facilities on the St. Lawrence. A revival of the old proposal for a combined ship canal and power project is due, and indications at the moment are that such a proposal will have a good chance of being approved by Congress.



Catton

One of the most important has to do with proposed changes in the social security law. President Roosevelt in the campaign went on record for increased old age benefit payments. Right now the administration is inclining in the direction of making pensions available to all persons of 65 or over, with a minimum rate of around \$25.

Another power project also likely to be a good deal of Congress' time is the Central Valley project in California. Governor Olson of California has suggested that the huge power and flood control development now being put through by the Reclamation Bureau be set up as a regional authority along the lines of TVA. Legislation to that end is being drafted, with New Deal approval, but its ultimate fate is in doubt.

Next: Investigations.

Bank Treasure Market Still Works Many Victims

By United Press WORTH, Tex.—A Mexican treasure racket that must be several years old still gets a boost in the Southwest. Reports of arrests are received frequently by U. S. postal inspectors and other business bureaus in the well-worn scheme is worth thousands, but it never loses its costly charm. There are variations, but the scheme is this: A victim receives a letter from a mysterious source, sometimes accompanied by authentic-looking green and spurious newspaper clippings telling of the arrest of a prominent Mexican, usually a banker. The "banker" authors the letter in which he states that he is in jail in default of his bail.

The "banker" describes himself as the victim of political enemies and tells the American that he (the banker) has a large sum of money in a suitcase that is checked at some border city in Mexico. If the American will come to Mexico, or send the amount of the bail (or fine) he and the "banker" will go together to the border city, redeem the suitcase full of money and divide the contents. The release-from-jail negotiations, and the victim's money, would be handled by a third man in Mexico City.

After the middle man receives the money to release his accomplice from jail, of course, he disappears. The American "sucker" is out his money and the price of a trip to Mexico also if he heeds the invitation to bring the funds personally. Because of the racket's international character, apprehension is almost impossible. The scheme is well-known, but during the last year, 50 fraud orders have been issued by U. S. postal inspectors in Fort Worth alone because of it.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

The "Sermon" is the subject of the Lesson-Sermon which will be read in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, January 12. The Golden Text is: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all" (II Corinthians 13:14). Among the citations which comprise the Lesson-Sermon is the following from the Bible: "Let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (I Corinthians 5:8).

The Lesson-Sermon also includes the following passage from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy: "We worship spiritually, only as we cease to worship materially. Spiritual devoutness is the soul of Christianity" (page 140). Cheer up! Spring is dashing our way at the rate of 24 hours a day. The question arises, isn't there anything we can do about the new income tax? Sure! Pay it!

HEY OOP By Hamlin



RED RYDER By Harman



MODERN MENUS

BY MRS. GAYNOR MADDOX NEA Service Staff Writer THERE'S nothing like a good meat and vegetable stew to feed hungry folks well and inexpensively on cold winter days. If turnipings or some other starches, food is to go into the stew, it's a hearty meal all in one dish. Most stews start with low-priced meats. Less tender cuts, cooked long and slowly, make tender and savory stews and are just as nutritious as expensive cuts. Brown the stew meat in hot fat. That's what gives the stew its rich flavor and deep brown color.

MONDAY'S MENU BREAKFAST: Tangerine, scrambled eggs, half-brown muffins, coffee, milk. LUNCHEON: Lentil soup, whole-wheat toast, sliced oranges and bananas, tea, milk. DINNER: Veal riblets stewed with vegetables, sour cream gravy, potato pancakes, chopped lettuce and celery salad, baked apples, nut cup cakes, coffee, milk.

SELECT CAREFULLY WHEN choosing vegetables, think of the color and flavor combinations. Carrots, potatoes, and onions are a favorite combination. Lima beans, tomatoes and corn are used in Brunswick stews, a typically American dish named after a county in Virginia. Turnips, rutabagas, or parsnips are starch vegetables that double for potatoes. To add a green color, choose Brussels sprouts, cabbage, peas, green pepper or snap beans.

and irregularly-shaped pieces of veal, lamb or pork are good for stews. Meat organs make stew meats. Low in price, they add vitamins and minerals to the meal. Beef kidneys take precedence wherever there's an Englishman; but calf, lamb, and pork kidneys will do as well. Heart, tongue, and liver can also be stewed.

SEASONING SALT and pepper, celery, parsley, and onion are standard-stew seasonings. Try bay leaves and whole cloves, as the Hungarians do in making goulash. Paprika gives the stew a rich dark color. Thyme, marjoram, celery salt and curry powder are other important seasonings. Dumplings give a stew distinction. Cook them in the covered kettle right along with the meat and vegetables the last 15 minutes before serving time. Don't be inquisitive while the dumplings are steaming. They get along better if you leave the kettle covered. Pancakes and sour cream gravy go with the stew, if you want to do it the Russian way.

ONE-ARMED GOLFER SHOOTS 69 DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.—Loss of an arm is no handicap to Ralph Ebling, owner of the Daytona Beach Highlands golf course. He recently shot a 69 over his course—5 under par. The course record—67—was set years ago by Walter Hagen.

