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Whitney Pittman Fights Hun in Apennine Mts. Wins Bronze Star, Infantryman's Combat Badge

Jack Bell, famous Miami Herald War Correspondent recently devoted his entire column to a description of a fierce battle in which Major Whitney Pittman's battalion entered the Huns defending the road Bologna in the heart of Italy's rugged Apennine Mountains.

Major Pittman, whose wife and infant child reside in McCamey with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Harris, has been awarded the Infantryman's Combat Medal and the Bronze Star.

Jack Bell's account appears below:

With the Fifth Army in Northern Italy--The road to Bologna winds many a twisting up-and-down mile over the Apennines with Marshal Kesselring's best on every mountain top, their guns trained on every ridge and valley. It's country they left only recently and when we got them just short of the broad valley they had pulled in hundreds of big guns and big mortars, deadly S. P. 88 mm. guns that fire and run to cover, heavy and light machine guns fired from caves high in the perpendicular rock mountains.

In short, they knew every foot of the whole front better than we did, had observers on mountains that commanded every road and valley, and guns to match everything we could throw, shot for shot and a little more. It was the German on his very best, with terrain on his side.

I walked along the winding high road toward the O.P. (observation post) of Maj. John W. Pittman's battalion of infantry, a burly giant from McCamey, Texas, way and a former football star at Texas A & M. 'Twas a clear morning and pleasant to be walking in a smoke screen that hid me from the enemy.

I stopped to watch the Jerry ack ack guns shoot short at four places. One to the left rear an American occasionally rattled away with a deadly 50 calibre machine gun. Our tank 75 mm. guns snouted all around with an occasional deeper and more savage snarl from our three-inch T.D. (tank destroyer). Occasionally all would grow quiet and I could hear the brrr of Jerry "burp guns," the remarkable light machine gun that'll shoot 1200 rounds per minute and keeps every body on edge up front.

German Too Close
Around a bend the wind drifted the smoke the wrong way. Above, almost straight up was mountain. Below the road was a straight-down valley. And across that valley, close enough to see the color of my eyes (leastwise that's how it felt) were German gunners. High above them, on Mt. Adoni, which held up the whole American front for days seemingly with out end, German observers with high powered glasses watched every move of the enemy--and I was an enemy in their book.

Well, 'twas no place to be nonchalant, but I figured they'd not shoot at a lone guy walking along the road when they had Americans elsewhere trying to pot them. I got by o.k. Maj Pittman's O.P. was on a hill to the right of the road. I slipped up behind the hill, went down into a room almost dark.

A battalion O.P. is the center of war. The first room, not well protected, was full of first aid men--men who rate infinitely more credit than anyone has given them. On the hill crest in front of us, about 400 yards away, Americans were dug in, ready for anything. Just over the crest of the hill another 300 yards were the American front line troops.

On up route 65 half a mile were 20 daring Americans who had stormed the village at dawn, entrenched themselves in a house and were battling it out with the Jerries in houses all around them. To the right of them another group of Americans were in another tiny village, trying to establish company headquarters in a stone house.

High above us on the left, ever menacing and formidable, was Mt. Adoni with its observers watching us like cats watch a mouse hole, talking by radio phone or field telephone to every Jerry gun crew and small arms outfit.

Center of Activity
Maj. Pittman sat on the floor in the center of the small room. Telephone men manned two phones. Seated against the wall were Capt. George Jones, Irvin, Ky., heavy weapons officer; Capt. Frank Kep-

ler, Altoona, Pa., operations officer; Lt. Arthur Harris, Dargloss, Kan., intelligence officer, and Lt. John Pogar, Hazleton, Pa., former artillery observer--a fine cross-section of American line officer material.

There's no place in the world quite equal to a battalion O.P. for excitement during heavy action; and as I walked in the action began. Up over the hill and in the two villages the Americans were being attacked Back of us our observers tried to spot Jerry artillery and S. P. guns. Back further our artillery awaited orders from Maj. Pittman to fire where Jerries were seen, or at supposed positions.

The phones were humming constantly, messages plainly heard as men up front rushed frantic requests for artillery or mortars to knock out guns that were shooting down. I put the receiver to my ear and listened to a battle. The guns spoke, often louder than the voices of the soldiers talking into the transmitter. At times the need for support grew so great that two or three messages were going simultaneously, the men carefully picking out orders intended for them, from the wild conglomeration of conversation.

Seemingly it is confusion, nothing less. For map positions are all in code, changed often because the Jerries get our codes. So it's a lot of talk about "Gallahad 3, calling Red Fox 6. How about artillery on hill Mable?--Over." Then checking, double checking, smoke shells for position, calls for artillery when mortar's unavailable and vice versa machine gun concentrations to cover an advance, frantic repeated pleas for help...

Yes, Frantic calls for help--help that had to get there or else! For those 20 men in that house half a mile away were under S.P. fire. "We think he's at..." said the radio man in the house. "Get artillery on him quick." Maj Pittman rushed a request for artillery. "Will fire soon as we've finished mission at..." came the reply.

And during the exchange came a frantic message from the men in the other village. Jerries in another house had perfect observation on them, kept them down with a steady stream of small arms fire, "on they're poking around for us with tank guns," reported the radio man. "Fire on that house, at..." giving the map co-ordinates. "Please get us fire on..." begged the 20 men in the house up the road. "This S.P. has scored eight hits He's knocking the house down." "But we did fire at..." as you asked," said the major. "Our observer say try... then," came the plea. "Wherever he is he has us zeroed."

"Will do," said the major, and back to the artillery went the second message.

"Can you train machine guns on the righthand corner of the house farthest to the right in..." asked the company in the other village.

Try Another Spot
"S.P. still in action," cried the man calling for the 20 cornered men. "Fifteen hits on this house now. It won't stand many more. Please fire at..."

"We shelled that position," said the major. Could he be at...? I've been looking at the map and that would be a good spot for him."

"May be," said the besieged man, "try it."

So the major asked for artillery at the third point. The guns were busy. He called for two tank guns. "Both have been knocked out by 88's," was the reply. He called for mortars. They were busy firing a mission for the infantry directly in front of us, where three Jerry machine gun nests were getting out of hand.

Maj. Pittman hadn't slept for three days, for this sort of thing had been going on and on. Beaten in his frantic efforts to get artillery for his brave 20 men he sat there, head bowed, eyes closed, cursing bitterly. Suddenly he cried, "I'll be damned if I'm gonna let those men be shot to death. Get... for me."

"Listen, Scotty," he said when the call went through. "I know it's off your sector, and you've not much ammo left. But those men are pinned down and that S.P. is shootin' the hell out of them. Can you give me a few rounds on...?" He dropped the phone, a weary but

(Continued on the back page)

Rankin Teams To Play Friday Night In 8th Annual Tournament

The Eighth Annual Basketball-Volleyball Tournament, being held in the local gym this week-end, will open with Reagan County High boys playing Barnhart High at 1:00 p.m. Friday. At 2:00 o'clock Reagan County girls play the Barnhart girls in a volleyball game.

The Rankin girls play Iraan at 8:00 p.m. Friday night and the Rankin boys play McCamey at 9:00 p.m.

Fourteen boys teams, including Monahans, Marfa, Imperial, Crane, Sterling City, Iraan, Grand Falls, Alpine, Barnhart, Reagan County, Sanderson, Fort Stockton, McCamey and Rankin, will compete for honors in the tournament. Seven girls volleyball teams are entered including Sterling City, Sanderson, Iraan, Imperial, Reagan County, Barnhart and Rankin.

Those who contributed for the trophies to be presented Saturday night after the finals are as follows:

Alma Adams, S. H. Bean, Jr., Alvin Bushong, R. H. Daugherty, Jap Edwards, Otto Engle, E. C. Huiday, W. A. Hudson, D. D. Lowery, Aaron Maiz, Nettie B. Messick, J. P. Rankin, Mrs. J. E. Rasins, Laura Selman, R. C. Schlagal, C. Snell, J. D. Starnes, Clay Taylor, Ross Wheeler, Tom Workman, Bill Yates, and the City Cafe, Club Cafe, Eades Beauty Shop, First State Bank, Harris-Luckett Co., Rankin Food Market, Marathon Oil Co., McKelvy Grocery, S. E. Scott Grocery, and the Upton County Journal.

Mrs. R. O. White Is Principal Speaker at Parent-Teacher Program

The regular meeting of the Katherine Secret P.T. A. was held Tuesday, December 5th, in the high school auditorium with Mrs. Ross Wheeler leader of the program.

Invocation was given by Mrs. R. O. White. Three Christmas songs were sung by the First and Second Grades. A very interesting talk was given by Mrs. White on "Security in Spiritual Faith." Mrs. Tyson Midkiff gave an extended report on her recent trip to the State P.T. A. Convention at Fort Worth.

The room count was taken with the First and Sixth Grades winning.

Sgt. John Thomas West, Brother of Dorothy Kay West, Wounded in Action

The War Department notified Mr. and Mrs. C. K. West early this week that their son, Sergeant John Thomas West, 19, had been seriously wounded in action somewhere in Germany on November 13 Young West was a member of the 44th Infantry Division fighting with the Seventh Army.

Sgt. West is the brother of Miss Dorothy Kay West of Rankin.

The day following receipt of the War Department telegram, the West family received a V-Mail letter dated November 30 directly from their son. According to the letter, young West is recovering. The letter reads:

"I had a little tough luck the other day and got hit by a machine gun and am now in the hospital. I received the Purple Heart yesterday. I am doing fine now, so don't do any worrying about me. I sure will be glad when they get my mail to me. I lost my watch, wallet and everything when I came here. Had to leave all my stuff lay."

Sergeant West's best friend, S. T. Kropp of Wink, was killed in action four days after West was wounded, according to word received by C. K. (Red) West from Kropp's mother.

West, who attended the McCamey schools, entered military service on March 3, 1943. Trained at Ft. Lewis, Washington, and Camp Phillips, Kansas, he was sent overseas in September, 1944.

Mrs. A. W. Cade of Dallas has accepted a position with the Rankin schools as math and science instructor. She fills the place left vacant by the resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Seth Hughes. Mrs. Cade holds a major in math and a minor in science.

Junior Canteen Expected To Be Ready for Use By Christmas Holidays

The Parent Teacher Association sponsored Junior Canteen is expected to be finished sufficiently for use during the Christmas holidays. The need for such a place has been felt over a period of time and this year the local P.T. A. made this work their year project. The upstairs of the old school building is being remodeled and refurnished for this purpose.

Mrs. Tyson Midkiff, president of the association, stated that every effort was being made toward having the recreation center completed by the holidays Two new rest rooms have already been installed and window lights have been replaced where needed. It is expected that the floors will be sanded and other interior work completed at an early date.

Mrs. George Stephenson has charge of finding furniture which may be used in this connection and Mrs. Tommy Stephenson has charge of providing table games and the like. Anyone who has any old furniture which they would like to be used in this project or any games is asked to get in touch with either of the Mrs. Stephensons or Mrs. Midkiff.

Jake Cockrum's Brother, Shot Down over Germany Last Year, Declared Dead

Staff Sergeant Alfred E. Cockrum, brother of Jake Cockrum of McCamey, was declared officially dead on October 14, according to word received here this week by Jake Cockrum.

Sergeant Cockrum, a crew member of a B-17 Flying Fortress, was shot down on October 14, 1943, while on a bombing mission to Schweinfurt, Germany.

According to the War Department, Cockrum's plane was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and went down about 25 miles southeast of the target.

Cockrum, prior to being shot down, had received letters of commendation from some of the greatest men of our day. A communication addressed to Cockrum from his commanding officer and referring to the commendations appears below:

"Attached hereto are commendations from Prime Minister Winston Churchill; Air Chief Marshal Portal, Chief of Air Staff, Royal Air Force; General Marshall, Chief of Staff, United States Army; General Arnold, Commanding General, Army Air Forces; Lieutenant General Eaker, Commanding General, Eighth Air Force; Brigadier General Anderson, Commanding General, Eighth Bomber Command, and Brigadier General Williams, Commanding General, First Bombardment Division.

"I am proud to give you these commendations as I realize more than anyone else what you went through to earn them and that they were honestly earned and earned the hard way," the communication concluded.

Banquet Honors Football Team Friday Night

Former Coach Seth Hughes of the Rankin Red Devils treated the team to a banquet last Friday evening at the Harlan Hotel. During the evening, the boys presented Coach Hughes with a nice gift as a token of their appreciation for his coaching.

At the banquet were the following: Roy Lee Bell, Gordon Holder, Jesse Farris, Ralph Daugherty, Jr., Travis Taylor, Pfc. Johnny Rankin, Dolly Rankin, R. C. Schlagal, Glenn Hill, W. C. McDonald, Jack Garner, Arlo L. Cleaver, John Robert Prude, Tommy Hall, Bobby Bell, Robert C. Schlagal and Coach Seth Hughes.

W. M. Bloomer of Richland Springs was the guest of his daughter, Mrs. Preston Patton, here the first of last week.

Mrs. J. W. O'Bryan spent Thanks giving in Big Lake with relatives and remained for this week there.

Mrs. Callie Johnson of Weatherford arrived Thursday for a visit with her sister, Mrs. J. T. Langford.



Lt. David Workman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Workman of Rankin, reported missing in action over Germany since November 11th.

Sgt. Doc Adams Receives Third Presidential Unit Citation

Members of the 4th Mar. Div. and various attached units, which includes Sgt. Doc Adams of the 2nd Amphtrac Bn., have been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for "outstanding performance in combat during the seizure of the islands of Saipan and Tinian," it was announced in Washington recently.

This is the third citation which Sgt. Adams with the 2nd Bn. has received. The first came after Guadalcanal, the second after Tarawa and now this present one for Saipan and Tinian.

The citation reads:

"For outstanding performance in combat during the seizure of the Japanese-held islands of Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas from June 15 to Aug. 1, 1944.

"Valiantly storming the mighty fortifications of Saipan on June 15, the 4th Div., reinforced, blasted the stubborn defenses of the enemy in unrelenting advance over the perilously rugged terrain.

"Unflinching, despite heavy casualties, this gallant group pursued the Japanese relentlessly across the entire length of the island, pressing on against bitter opposition for 25 days to crush all resistance in the zone of action.

"With but a brief rest period in which to reorganize and re-equip, the division hurled its full fighting power against the dangerously narrow beaches of Tinian on July 24 and rapidly expanded the beachheads for the continued landing of troops, supplies and artillery unchecked by either natural obstacles or hostile fire, these indomitable men spearheaded a merciless attack which swept the Japanese forces before it and ravaged all opposition within eight days to add Tinian to our record of conquest in these strategically vital islands."

The unit citation ribbon with star may be worn permanently by personnel of the units engaged.

Mrs. Alma Adams, wife of Sgt. Adams lives here where she is employed at the First State Bank.

PUBLIC INVITED TO SPANISH PROGRAM

The Spanish Club will present a program next Tuesday evening, December 12, at the Methodist Church to which the public is cordially invited to attend. The program will begin at 8 o'clock and will consist of organ solos, vocal numbers, and discussions on how Christmas is celebrated in Mexico.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank each of you, our friends, for your hopes and your prayers for David. Your words of encouragement and all your kindnesses in this trying time of uncertainty are appreciated more than you will ever know.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Workman and Family

Cpl. Winston Holcomb of Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, is visiting his mother, Mrs. C. J. Holcomb while on a fifteen day furlough. He arrived here Saturday and will leave Monday, Dec. 11, for Houston where he will visit his sister, Mrs. Claude Clark, before returning to Camp Chaffee.

Tom Workman and Bob Schlagal attended the pre-convention committee meetings of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association in San Angelo Sunday and Monday morning.

Upton County Lags in Series E Bond Sales

Upton County, as late as Thursday noon, was far below the quota set for the Sixth War Loan Drive, according to figures received from Postmaster Guyton, the Security State Bank and the Grand Theatre in McCamey, and the First State Bank in Rankin.

County-wide sales of Series E bonds totalled \$30,206, falling short of the \$60,000 quota. Sales of all other bonds totalled \$126,819.50, as compared with the quota of \$105,000 set for the county.

Series E bond sales in McCamey totalled \$17,661 and all other series \$32,949.50 as of Thursday.

In Rankin, series E bond sales amounted to \$12,523, and other series \$93,870.

It is hoped that a considerable portion of this deficit will be made up during the coming week. The Grand Theatre's smash-hit War Bond show at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday evening, December 12, is expected to draw a capacity crowd. The War Bond feature presentation, "Mrs. Parkinson," starring Walter Pidgeon and Greer Garson, is said to be one of the outstanding pictures of the current season. Admission is by purchase of a War Bond.

Also to spur sales, Mrs. Gertrude Hall of the City Cafe in Rankin has agreed to give a free chicken or steak dinner to those buying a \$500.00 bond through her establishment between Dec. 10th and 16th.

Shell 1 Hobbs Flows 85 Bbls. Oil in 15 Hours

Shell Oil Co., Inc., No. 1-A Charles W. Hobbs estate Wednesday had become the second producer on the Upton County side of the Crosssett field, Texas' first Devonian lime pool.

Bottomed at 5,385 feet in lime, it flowed naturally 84.56 barrels of oil and 12.73 barrels of wash water in 15 hours, and continued testing. Location is 665 feet from the northeast, 2,009 feet from the northwest line of section 46-35-H&TC, quarter mile southeast of The Texas Co. No. 1-A Hobbs in southeastern Crane County, the discovery.

Humble No. 1 J. M. Parrott, eastern Upton wildcat, C SE SE 3-EL& RR, awaited a casing perforator after swabbing fluid down 4,700 feet from the top, with total depth 7,750 in shale. Some free oil was reported unofficially to have been recovered but the amount was not given.

The section just tested through 240 gun perforations in 7 5/8-inch casing between 7,250 and 7,310 feet indicated promise on a Schlumberger survey. It is above the zone from which 200 feet of oil and gas-cut mud, 500 feet of foamy amber colored free oil and 20 feet of water were recovered on a 65-minute drillstem test from 7,537-99 feet early in October.

Magnolia No. 1 American Republics Corp. wildcat C NW NW 8-40-5s-T&P, had reached 7,728 feet, reported unofficially in shale. Standard No. 1 McElroy, wildcat C SE NE 135-E-CCSD&RGNG, was drilling at 6,962 feet in lime and shale.

Used Tires Removed From Rationing Dec. 5

Because of their poor quality and spotty distribution, the few used passenger car tires still in the hands of tire dealers were removed from rationing, effective December 5th, in accordance with a directive from the Office of Price Administration issued December 1st.

Used truck tires will continue under rationing, according to the directive, and all tires--both new and used--are under price control. Purchasers should check to see that dealers have the maximum prices of tires posted and note the ceiling price of any tires that they intend to buy.

Grade 1 tires now include factory seconds and tires made from reclaimed rubber. Both of these types as well as new and undamaged synthetic rubber tires, continue under rationing and may be purchased only upon presentation of a valid rationing certificate.

W. C. McDonald and Jack Whitaker have been on a deer hunt in London vicinity this week.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Relentless Pressure by the Allies Forces a Steady German Retreat; Weather Is Slowing Russian Drive

Released by Western Newspaper Union. (Editor's Note: Where opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

EUROPE:

Rhine the Prize

Stiffening Nazi resistance, plus the mud, mists and snows of a fast-approaching European winter had made the road to Berlin a bruising, bloody highway of battle. Yet with relentless pressure, Allied armies were pushing the Nazis steadily back to the Rhine on the front stretching northward from the Vosges mountains of Alsace to the river-studded stretches of Holland.

At the northern end of the front, soldiers of Lieut. Gen. William H. Simpson's U. S. Ninth army had broken into the German Roer river defense line, the best natural barrier before the Rhine. Cologne was the ultimate target of this drive.

Lieut. Gen. George H. Patton's Third army infantry meanwhile had made a new crossing into the Saar basin—second only to the Ruhr as a source of Germany's war might—capturing villages close to Saarbrücken.

On the southern flank, Nazi forces south of the Rhine-Rhine canal in Alsace were virtually wiped out with the capture of Dannemarie and several nearby villages. The Seventh U. S. army continued to press forward in the Vosges through snow and mud, thrusting aside scattered resistance. French forces operating with this army had reported an actual crossing of the Rhine north of Strasbourg by their patrols.

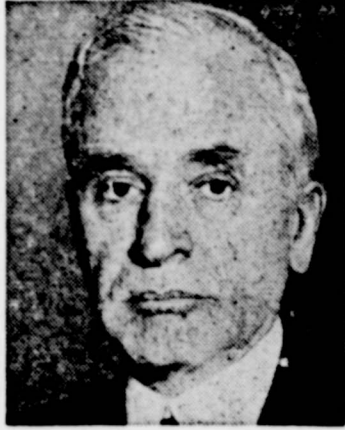
The bulk of the German forces and precious mobile reserves had been deployed on the Cologne plain where many observers believed the final showdown of the war would take place. With General Eisen-

STETTINIUS:

Keeps Hull's Policies

Favorable reactions at home and abroad to President Roosevelt's appointment of Edward R. Stettinius as successor to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, made it clear that there would be no break in the continuity of the administration's post-war peace and international co-operation program.

While Secretary Hull's resignation came suddenly, it was not unexpected. Continued ill-health had prevented his active direction of the state department's operations. In accepting the 73-year-old statesman's resignation, the president projected for him the future role of elder statesman, advising on foreign policy and taking as active a part in shaping a world peace organization as his health would permit. Specifically, Hull was slated to



CORDELL HULL
"Stett" would follow his lead.

be presiding officer of the United Nations' first peace conference.

Observers viewed the Stettinius appointment as a highly satisfactory solution. As under secretary of state, 44-year-old Stettinius was closely familiar with department procedure. He had two other prime assets. His former experience as lend-lease administrator had won him the respect and friendship of congress. His dealings with Britain and Russia had demonstrated that he could work in successful cooperation with other leaders of the United Nations. Above all, Stettinius has seen eye-to-eye with Secretary Hull on world problems and worked closely with him.

PACIFIC:

Air Warfare Increases

Attacks by two big fleets of B-29 Superfortresses on Tokyo's waterfront and on rail yards and repair facilities in Bangkok on the southwestern fringe of the Japanese war empire, underscored the fact that air warfare against Nippon would increase in intensity. The American planes returned to their bases in the Marianas islands and India without combat losses.

Revised estimates of damage in the latest U. S. carrier raid on Luzon in the Philippines showed 20 Japanese ships sunk, 28 damaged and 119 planes either destroyed or damaged. While heavy rains had brought ground operations on Leyte to a virtual standstill, American bombers based on the island struck at Jap targets over a wide area of the southwest Pacific, attacking air-dromes at Cebu and Negros.

The continued bombings of Tokyo and favorable progress elsewhere helped balance the grim news that continued to flow from China. Here the Jap armies continued their victorious operations, forcing abandonment of effective U. S. air bases on the Chinese mainland.

Hope for a strengthening of Chiang Kai-shek's forces was seen in the appointment of Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Hurley to be U. S. ambassador to China. Hurley was already in China, having gone there last summer with Donald M. Nelson, former war production chief, to help revamp the Chinese war effort.

DRAFT TROUBLE:

In Canada

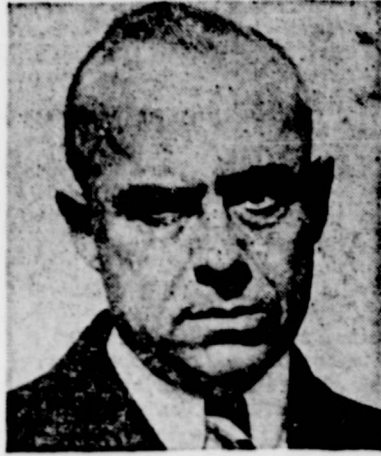
As the Canadian parliament moved toward its decision on a previous government order to conscript home defense forces for overseas duty trouble broke out among troops in the Pacific Coast area. Heavily armed, a group of troops prevented another regiment from boarding a train scheduled to take them to a new post. This trouble was quickly dealt with but other demonstrations by troops against the new ruling were reported.

LAND:

War Demands Big

Chester C. Davis, president of the Federal Reserve bank of St. Louis and former head of the Agricultural Adjustment administration, bluntly warned that present world needs for foodstuffs from American farms may cause permanent damage to our soil unless conservation practices are started on more farm acreage.

Speaking before the Friends of the Land in Chicago, Davis said that high pressure wartime production of



CHESTER C. DAVIS
A blunt warning on land.

corn, wheat, oats, timber and other farm crops must be tempered by intelligent farm planning to prevent erosion. Among farm practices which he said must be encouraged are contour plowing, terracing, fertilization, subsurface tillage, growing rye and other crops after the summer grain harvests, and reforestation of farm woodlots.

"There are two ways that we can lose our land," he pointed out. "We can lose it if conquered by a foreign military power, or by erosion, which steals the all-important farm topsoil and washes it down the flooded rivers."

SHIPS:

More Building, Less Sinking

Steadily dwindling shipping losses of the Allies due to enemy action and the phenomenal merchant ship construction record of the United States were highlighted in a British government report released through the office of war information. Total losses from the war's beginning through 1943 were 5,758 vessels aggregating 22,121,000 gross tons. During this time the United States constructed about 30,000,000 dead-weight tons.

While no 1944 figures on losses were disclosed, the ratio of construction to sinkings is known to be overwhelmingly favorable. Losses were severest during 1942, and 1,859 ships totaling 8,338,000 tons were sunk. These losses far outstripped American construction. The picture changed in 1943, with losses aggregating 3,646,000 tons and new construction totaling 19,238,000 tons.

CIGARETTES:

Worse Shortage?

Even as Pres. Eric Calamia of the National Retail Tobacco Merchants association predicted that the cigarette shortage would be worse in the next six months than in the past two, house and senate committees began investigations of the scarcity.

Chairman Flanagan of the House agriculture committee branded as "untrue propaganda" the charge that the shortage stems back to a shortage in leaf tobacco. Senator Ferguson of the senate committee said there probably are a number of explanations for the shortage, including increased consumption here and abroad, "but until we find the causes, it will be difficult to find a remedy."

Meanwhile match manufacturers were also predicting a severe shortage of their product in the coming months. Industry sources revealed that raw material supplies had been materially reduced in the past two years and thus the usual amounts of book matches would be limited.

WAR WORKERS:

Face Job Problem

America's chief job problem will be concerned with war workers rather than war veterans immediately after Germany's collapse, according to William Muirhead, president of the Associated General Contractors of America.

Speaking before the association's governing and advisory boards in Chicago, Muirhead said that if the war ends in two stages, with a year or more between the collapse of Germany and the defeat of Japan, "it has been estimated 2,500,000 men will be released from the armed forces during the year."

"War production is expected to be cut from 30 to 50 per cent. An estimate of the number of war workers to be thrown onto the labor market during the interval is between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000."

HOMES:

Britons Lose Third

One out of every three houses in Britain has been destroyed or damaged in five years of World War II, a statistical White Paper revealed. War casualties have totaled 733,030.

The White Paper disclosed that 35 per cent of all British males between the ages of 14 and 64 are in the armed forces and that nearly half of the country's women between the ages of 14 and 59 are in uniform or industry.

Ernie Pyle's Slant on the War:

How War Is Conducted From Forward Command Post

Informal and Unexcited Officers and Men Carry On Under Heavy Fire

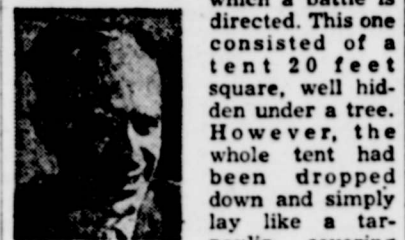
By Ernie Pyle

(Editor's Note: Pyle retells some of his experiences while he was with the GIs during the Tunisian campaign. He is now taking a long-needed rest in New Mexico.)

AT THE FRONT LINE IN TUNISIA.—We drove our jeep under a tree, camouflaged it by covering it with limbs, and then walked up the side of a hill for about 500 yards.

Half a mile to the south of us the battle for Ousseltia Pass in central Tunisia was going on.

We stopped in what is known as a forward command post, from



Ernie Pyle

which a battle is directed. This one consisted of a tent 20 feet square, well hidden under a tree. However, the whole tent had been dropped down and simply lay like a tarpaulin covering the officers' bedrolls and bags.

All the work was being done around two field telephones lying in their leather cases on the ground ten feet from the tent.

The rocky hillside was covered with little bushes and small fir trees. The sun was out and the day was rather warm. There were no papers or desks or anything—just three or four officers standing and sitting on a hillside near two telephones on the ground. One officer had a large map case. That's all the paraphernalia there was for directing the battle.

Our troops were on top of a ridge about a quarter of a mile above us. The enemy was in the valley beyond, and on a parallel ridge a mile farther on. We could walk up and look over, but we couldn't see anything. Both sides were well hidden in the brush.

Every minute or two our nearby artillery would fire, and then half a minute or so later we could hear faintly the explosion of the shells far away.

"Nobody's doing much damage right now," an officer said, "but at least we're getting in ten shots to their one."

Now and then a louder and much nearer blast interrupted us. When I asked what size gun this was, an officer said it wasn't a gun—it was enemy mortar shells exploding. I supposed they were three or four miles away, but he said they were falling only 800 yards from us.

Once in a while we could hear machine gun fire in the distance. A young second lieutenant stood near the phones and did all the talking over them. In fact he appeared to be making all the decisions. And he impressed me as knowing his business remarkably well.

Lieutenant Gives Orders.

The highest officer around was a lieutenant colonel, but he seemed to leave everything to the lieutenant, and at every signal of approaching planes he ran to a nearby foxhole and stayed there till the planes had gone.

The phone rang every few minutes. Other command posts would be calling in to report or to ask instructions. Now and then the chief post, some 15 miles back, would call and ask how things were going.

Officers and enlisted men kept appearing from down below or over the hill asking about things. One sergeant came to inquire where a certain post was, saying he had two jeep tires and a tire for an anti-tank gun that he was supposed to deliver.

Another sergeant, wearing an overcoat, came up the hill, saluted formally, and reported that a certain battery setup was ready to fire. They told him to go ahead.

A phone rang. The captain of an ack-ack battery said the enemy had his range and asked permission to move. He was told to go ahead. All the conversation was informal and unexcited.

A phone rang again. An officer at another command post was asking for a decision on whether to move forward. The young lieutenant, apparently not wishing to give direct orders to a higher officer, solved the problem by putting his words in the form of advice, sprinkling two or three "sirs" in every sentence. I thought he handled it beautifully.

Now and then the lieutenant would phone some other post. All the posts have code terms such as "hat-rack" and "Moonson" and "Chicago." I've just made those up as ex-

amples, since naturally I can't print the real code names.

Once the lieutenant phoned to a rear command post and told them to send some trucks to a town where two tanks had been disabled that morning. Several times he phoned other posts to check up on a colonel who was wandering around the battle area in a jeep. You could tell they were very fond of the colonel, and that he apparently paid little attention to danger.

There were no planes in the sky when we arrived, but that morning the Germans had been over and bombed and strafed our troops badly. The command post had called for air support, but somebody at the other end said the planes were busy on other missions and "You'll just have to grin and bear it."

The men around our post spoke cynically about that remark all afternoon.

"Grin and bear it, eh?" they would say. "Well, we'll bear it but we won't guarantee to grin."

But in the late afternoon our planes did come. First we didn't know they were ours, so we all took to the foxholes. Finally, after they had flown overhead a couple of times without doing anything, somebody yelled: "They are definitely ours!"

So we came out. The planes circled for about ten minutes hunting for the correct spot in the bush-covered mountainside. They seemed to take their time at it, to make sure, and then finally they started peeling off one at a time and came diving down at a hillside a mile away.

They'd dive and then wheel back high into the sky and dive again.

Apparently there was no enemy attack, for there were no black puffs around the planes. We could hear their machine guns, and their cannon shells bursting.

They kept on diving and shooting for about 15 minutes. Pretty soon an officer came running up the hill and said:

"Do you see that? Those damned Germans are mixed up and strafing hell out of the Italians!"

When we told him they were our planes he said "Oh!" and went back down the hill.

The afternoon sun went over the hill and the evening chill began to come down. We were sitting on a bushy hillside—just a small bunch of American officers forming what is called a forward command post.

Officers who had been in the battle for Ousseltia Pass all day began wandering in through the brush on foot, to report. They were dirty, and tired. But the day had gone well, and they were cheerful in a quiet and unexpressed way.

Hit Red Cross Truck.

A medical corps major came up the hill and said:

"Those blankety-blanks! They have knocked out two of my ambulances that were trying to get the wounded back. A hell of a lot of red cross means to them!"

Nobody said anything. He went back down the hill, as mad as a hornet.

The officers kept talking about three fellow officers who had been killed during the day, and a fourth one who was missing. One of the lead men apparently had been a special favorite. An officer who had been beside him when it happened came up with blood on his clothes.

"We hit the ground together," he said. "But when I got up, he couldn't. It took him right in the head. He felt no pain."

"Raise up that tent and pack his stuff," an officer told an enlisted man.

Another one said: "The hell of it is his wife's due to have a baby any time now."

Just then a sergeant walked up. He had left the post that morning with the officer who was now missing.

"Where's Captain So - and - so?" they all asked.



Musicians Are the Finniest People:

Adelina Patti asked \$100,000 for a certain three-month tour. "But," objected an impresario, "that's more than the President gets!" . . . "Well," shrugged the diva, "then get the President." . . . Liszt was a character who wore the same kind of clothes whether the weather was rainy or fair. . . . "I never," he declared, "take notice of that which takes no notice of me." . . . Handel composed so fast, they say, that the ink on the top of the page of his manuscript had not dried by the time he reached the bottom. . . . Another gag of the day: "Do you like Brahms?" . . . "I don't know. What are they?" . . . "After Strauss—what?" an English journalist once queried. "For one thing," music oracle Leonard Leibling noted, "the critics."

A journalist objected to the 7 a. m. piano playing in the room next to his in a Milan hotel. "Do you always allow that?" he asked. . . . "Not as a rule," they told him, "but we make an exception with Mr. Verdi." . . . It was the late Alexander Woolcott who deflated a famous soprano boasting of her execution of an aria she described as "difficult." . . . "Difficult!" groaned Woolcott. "I wish it had been impossible!" . . . At a Peabody concert President Grant once observed: "I know only two tunes. One is 'Yankee Doodle' and the other isn't."

When Rossini heard Wagner's "Lohengrin" for the first time, he said: "One cannot judge a work upon a single hearing—and I have no intention of hearing this a second time." . . . A German critic once wrote that "Wagner was a good musician, but he left behind the Wagnerites, which was most unkind of him." . . . "In order to compose," said Schumann, "it is just enough to remember a tune which nobody else has thought of." . . . When Albert Spaulding toured through the West one winter, he told a theater manager that his violin was 200 years old. . . . "Don't say anything about it," replied the impresario, "and maybe the audience won't know the difference."

Paderewski, when still quite unknown, went to London armed with letters of introduction to influential Britishers. "Dear Prince," one said, "the bearer, Ignace Paderewski, is a fiery young Pole and rather charming when he doesn't play the piano, for which he has little talent." . . . Paderewski, unless a press agent of the day is fooling us, once accosted a polo player with the question: "What is the difference between us?" The other shrugged. "You," grinned Ignace, "are a good solo who plays solo. I am a good solo who plays solo." . . . Grunfeld was caught by the father of one of his pupils kissing the girl. "Is this," stormed the parent, "what I am paying for?" . . . "No," replied the famous tutor, "I do this free."

A young man approached Mozart and asked him how to write a symphony. "You're a very young fellow," the composer told him, "why not begin with a ballad?" . . . "But," pouted the youth, "you composed symphonies when you were ten." . . . "Yes," smiled Mozart, "but I didn't ask how." . . . Dr. Samuel Johnson admitted once he did not care for music. "But of all noises," he added, "I think music is the least disagreeable." . . . A young lady auditioned on the piano for Rubinstein. "What," she asked him at the end of the selection, "should I do now?" Snapped Rubinstein: "Get married!"

Chopin, whose life Columbia brings to the screen in "A Song to Remember," could give more than the piano "the finger." He was a dinner guest in a Parisian home one night and, after the meal, was asked by the hostess to play some of his compositions. "But, madame," said Chopin, "I have eaten so little!" He once cracked to Liszt: "I prefer not to play in public; it unnerves me. You, if you cannot charm the audience, can at least astonish them." . . . When DePachman mislaid his false teeth someone appropriately observed: "His Bach is better than his bite." . . . To a young pianist, Nellie Melba remarked: "You have talent, presence, charm. All you need now to make a success is a nice hot scandal."

Mascagni heard an organ grinder murdering an aria from his famous "Cavalleria Rusticana" and ran out of his house to show him the proper speed to crank out the melody. Next day the organ grinder carried a sign on the organ: "Pupil of Mascagni" . . . Liszt paid women 25 francs to faint at an appointed time (a swoonster!). He would promptly and gallantly dash from his keyboard and pick up the swooner. Once, a hired fainter forgot her cue and Liszt, very upset, swooned himself.

HIGHLIGHTS . . . in the week's news

Rear Adm. John H. Cassady, assistant deputy chief of naval operations for air, predicted that in the not too distant future American carriers would be sending 2,000 planes in one strike against the Japs. "Today, 1,000-plane attacks from our carriers are not uncommon," he said, "I can foresee the day when we will be sending 1,500—yes, 2,000—planes."

Farm machinery has been distributed in liberated areas in France and Belgium which have already started to produce a portion of their food needs. Serge G. Troubetzkoy of the United States Foreign Economic Administration reported. He said that the supply of machinery made through a combined Allied board would be extended to other areas as they were freed.

One out of every three houses in Britain has been destroyed or damaged in five years of World War II, a statistical White Paper revealed. War casualties have totaled 733,030. The White Paper disclosed that 35 per cent of all British males between the ages of 14 and 64 are in the armed forces and that nearly half of the country's women between the ages of 14 and 59 are in uniform or industry.

Sergeant Captured and Escapes

The sergeant said he didn't know. Then he said he himself had been captured. "Captured?" the officers asked. "Yes," he said. "The Italians captured me and then turned me loose." The sergeant was Vernon Gery of South Bend, Ind. He is a married man, and was a lawyer before the war. He is a young and husky fel-

low. He didn't appear to be very much shaken by his experience, but he said he never was so scared. Sitting there on the ground he told me his experience. He and the missing captain and a jeep driver had gone forward at 9:30 in the morning to hunt for the body of a popular officer who had been killed. They parked the jeep and the captain told them to stay there till he returned.

Humble Baytown Refinery to Celebrate One-Billionth Gallon 100 Octane Aviation Gasoline

Houston, Texas—In a fitting ceremony at Baytown Texas, employing 100,000 men, the Humble Oil & Refining Company on December 14 will complete a feat unparalleled in the petroleum industry—the production of one billion gallons of finished 100 octane aviation gasoline at the Company's Baytown refinery.

This achievement climaxes a century research and development program which has made uniform progress in every phase of its operations.

The production record of the Company's refineries in the three years since Pearl Harbor is an achievement, and the December 14 production serves to spotlight the leadership in all of its operations and to pay tribute to the 100,000 employees. Here are some of the accomplishments:

Attainment of the billion gallon record in the manufacture of finished 100 octane gasoline gives Bay-

town refinery the distinction of being the first and only individual refinery to have produced this much.

Baytown Ordnance Works, the first plant in the nation to manufacture toluene from petroleum by chemical synthesis, has supplied the toluene for at least one out of every two bombs used by the United Nations since Pearl Harbor. For this achievement it has been awarded the War Production Administration award five times.

The refinery has also supplied very large quantities of other aviation and military gasolines, aviation engine and heavy duty lubricating oils, Navy special fuel oil, and other essential products. They are supplying about one-sixth of the materials being manufactured from petroleum for the critical synthetic rubber program.

Humble is producing more crude oil than any other Company in the U. S. One-fourth of the additional crude oil needed for war is being produced by Humble, making its current production amount to one barrel in every 12 of the domestic

Predicts Increased Investment By American Farmers During Sixth War Bond Campaign

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A prediction that American farmers will invest more money in bonds during the Sixth War Loan than in any previous drive was made today by the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury.

Farmers bought \$1,250,000,000 worth of War Bonds during 1943, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In 1944 it is believed they can and should purchase a total of \$2,000,000,000, said Ted R. Gamble, national Director of the War Finance Division, said.

Income at Peak

The Sixth War Loan, starting November 29, comes at an ideal time for agriculture, he pointed out.

This is not only the time when farm income is at a seasonal peak, but 1944 marks three years of record breaking farm income, he said.

Based on information obtained from the B. E. A., the Agricultural Section of the War Finance Division estimates the 1944 cash farm income at \$29,600,000,000, compared with \$20,000,000,000 in 1943.

Although net farm income, due to higher operating costs, may not be greater than in 1943, most farmers now have reduced their debts and consequently will have more money to put into War Bonds, the division reports.

In the twelve months ending January 1, 1944, farmers reduced real estate mortgages alone by \$650,000,000.

War Bond purchasers will provide a farm financial reserve to protect against damage by drought, flood and livestock disease, will assure cash to replace and repair buildings and machinery as well as to build back soil fertility depleted by wartime food production, and will provide funds for education, vacations and old age security.

The high farm income this year is the result of the huge increase in farm production to meet wartime food needs rather than a rise in prices, which have been held down by the OPA it was explained.



Ted R. Gamble

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Buy 10 or More Sections of Land In Upton, Pecos or Reagan Counties. Write Tom Vance, care of Hotel Scarborough Midland Texas

BOOKS ARE TREASURED

AS CHRISTMAS GIFTS

CHILDREN'S STORIES OF LONG AGO AND TODAY

AND A WIDE SELECTION OF POPULAR CURRENT FICTION AND NON-FICTION FOR ADULTS

AT THE Studio Book Store

there will be set up a number of Army-Navy displays of war equipment, each of which will emphasize how dependent modern mobile armies and navies are on petroleum.

Additional exhibits and motion pictures will portray the Humble Company's operations and will serve to orient visitors before they inspect Baytown refinery. Special tours will be conducted through the refinery and its associate war plants from December 14 through December 17.

The entire program for the celebration is being arranged in such a manner that employees and their families may participate as much as possible.

A bronze medal commemorating the event will be presented to the 14,000 active employees, and more

THE FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM Prints More War News

Yes, every day you will find more war news and pictures in the FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM than in any other Texas State Daily. This is a bold statement but a true one.

IN ADDITION TO ITS OWN TRAINED CORRESPONDENTS WHO WRITE ABOUT TEXAS BOYS AND GIRLS AT THE FRONT, IT PUBLISHES NEWS FROM THE . . .

Associated Press (four wires) International News Service *New York Times Wire Service *Chicago Tribune Wire Service *Chicago Daily News Wire Service American Newspaper Alliance

UNEXCELLED—UNEQUALED IN THE SOUTH

*Exclusive in this area to the Star-Telegram.

NOTICE

The Annual Bargain Days Mail Reduced Rates are now in effect. The same low price prevails; there has been no increase. However, this year on account of the print paper shortage, the Offer is open ONLY to OLD subscribers.

*We are distressed that we can not accept new subscriptions.

To renew, bring your label to this newspaper office. This newspaper is an Authorized Home Town Agency.

A FINE GIFT FOR SOME ONE

A SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS NEWSPAPER

supply.

Humble Pipe Line Company is transporting more oil than any other system. Its daily load of approximately 700 thousand barrels amounts to one in every seven barrels of the nation's supply.

Highlight of the December 14 celebration will be the formal presentation of the one-billionth gallon of 100 octane gasoline to a high ranking military official by H. C. Wiess, Humble president. In addition to military officials there will be in attendance also state and national government officials and leaders in industry.

To interest visitors to Baytown

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: 2 wool rugs 9x12 with horse hair pads for each, 1 bed room suite consisting of bedstead, springs and mattress of best quality, 1 high boy, 1 beveled glass mirror, 1 wardrobe, 1 medicine cabinet, 1 living room set, 3 pieces, settee and 2 easy chairs; 4 sets curtains and rods. Price \$350. Will not separate. Can be seen at John Holmes residence, Rankin.

Tires Need Recapping?

We have complete equipment for recapping and repairing tires. 24-hour service. Also good supply of Grade 3 tires.

O. K. Tire Shop
Fort Stockton, Texas

J. R. Bilderback, representative, Western Mattress Company. In Rankin twice monthly. Leave names at Western Mattress Company, San Angelo.

For White, Clean, Clothes Send to Ozona Laundry

Please save your hangers and the pieces of cardboard that are used in shirts and return to the local representative.

Ozona Laundry
And Dry Cleaners

Subscription Rate, per Year \$2.00

Mrs. C. L. Burrell, Managing Editor

Entered as second-class mail matter December 15, 1927, at the post office at Rankin, Texas, under the act of March 3, 1879

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person or 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. The policy of this publication is expressed only in the editorial columns and we wish it understood that any advertisements or signed articles appearing in this paper do not necessarily reflect its policy.

than 3,000 in the armed forces in a special book which contains a message from the Company's management expressing appreciation for the contribution each employee has made toward the establishment of war production records. Another booklet, telling in pictures and story the accomplishments of the several departments of the Company, will be mailed to each employee.

Here's a curious critter



If you met this longhorn out on the plains, you'd yell for Mr. Ripley! When one horn curves up, you just naturally expect the other to turn up, too.

Same way, when war sent prices sweeping up, people expected all prices to follow suit. But at least one price didn't—the price of electricity.

In fact, like this longhorn, the price of electricity actually curved down the other way. The same government statistics which measure the increased cost-of-living also show that the average price of electricity has declined 3.2% since war began!

That's news—even more than a steer with two-way horns! . . . You can be sure that the far-sighted planning and sound business management which kept electricity dependable and cheap in wartime, will supply even better service to your electric post-war home.

West Texas Utilities Company

Take a little time to have your oil changed!

A FEW minutes here now may save several hours in a repair shop later and save a whopping repair bill, too. The wear and tear of steady driving at varying temperatures thins out even the best oils. Let us drain out this worn-out motor oil and replace it with full-bodied Marathon Motor Oil—the cream of the crude.

"BEST IN THE LONG RUN"
PHONE 10
Marathon Oil Company
Rankin, Texas

BUY A DEFENSE BOND TODAY!

Soothe UGLY COLD SORES AND FEVER BLISTERS

FOR BEST RESULTS

Apply liquid then Campho-Phenique

CAMPHO-PHENIQUE
ANTISEPTIC DRESSING
Inferior to the Original

SNAPPY FACTS ABOUT RUBBER

Check your tire pressure before inflating and save tire mileage and troublesome flats. Urges the Office of Defense Transportation. A passenger car tire that is 2 pounds below the lowest of its running mates can be suspected of having an undisclosed puncture. Five pounds' variance is allowed in truck tires.

Ordinarily statistics are dull, but here are some that are significant when you consider that a 6.00 x 16 passenger car tire weighs about 22 pounds; there are 60,000 pounds of rubber in a battleship; 55,154 pounds in an aircraft carrier; about 100,000 pounds in a destroyer; 65,000 pounds in a submarine.

Foray Shaw

In war or peace

B.F. Goodrich

FIRST IN RUBBER

Quality Made Guaranteed Satisfaction

"Dogie Brand"

FARM AND RANCH PRODUCTS

U. S. D. A. Formula No. 62—Wormicide—Phosphazene Drench—Ear Tick Smear—Fly Smear & Wound Dressing—Anti-Itch—Roost Paint & Poultry House Spray—Stock Spray—Plant Spray—Household Insect Spray.

Ask Your Dealer or Write

Great State Chemical Co.
San Marcos, Texas

AT FIRST SIGN OF A

COLD

USE **666**

Cold Preparations as directed

WOMEN IN '40'S

Do You Hate HOT FLASHES?

If you suffer from hot flashes, feel weak, nervous, a bit blue at times—all due to the functional "middle-age" period peculiar to women—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms.

Take regularly—Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such annoying symptoms. Pinkham's Compound is made especially for women—it helps nature and gives the kind of medicine to buy! Follow label directions.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

WNU-L 44-44

Kidneys Must Work Well

For You To Feel Well

24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood.

If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.

Burning, stinging or too frequent urination sometimes means that something is wrong. You may suffer sagging back-ache, headache, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling.

Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulates the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS



Notes of an Innocent Bystander:

This reporter couldn't believe his nose while reading a Variety report about the latest odious articles of blue-pencillers. But it happened in America, 1944. . . . Nonsensorship acts as if it were a candidate for the booby hatch. . . . Example: NBCensors nixed a March of Time dramatization of M. Halsey's tome, "Some of My Best Friends Are Soldiers." The book's theme blasts intolerance. . . . The censor claimed the dramatization violated censorship policies (his own?), especially on the controversial subject angle, and was quoted: "You can say nothing about intolerance!" . . . That remark must make the Constitution shiver. The Bill of Rights has been stabbed with censorial scissors. . . . You can't say anything about intolerance in Germany. Opposing intolerance would only lead to a controversy with Hitler and his swastika-skunks here. Does the censor fear offending them? . . . Our soldiers are shedding their blood while fighting intolerance—but an American can't oppose it with words. . . . It seems a censor in America desires to erect a concentration camp with a foundation of blue-pencils. Could anything be more arrogant and dangerous?

Wendell Willkie wrote these words a few years ago. They should be memorized by every American: "My creed, if I were asked to define it, would run something like this: I believe in America because in it we are free—free to choose our government, to speak our minds, to observe our different religions. . . . Because we are generous with our freedom—we share our rights with those who disagree with us. . . . Because we hate no people and covet no man's land. . . . Because we are blessed with a natural and varied abundance. . . . Because we set no limit to a man's achievement; in mine, factory, field, or service in business or the arts, an able man, regardless of class or creed, can realize his ambition. . . . Because we have great dreams—and because we have the opportunity to make those dreams come true."

In Fewer Words: It was easy for Willkie's enemies to hurt his heart—it was such a big target. . . . When we heard that Willkie passed away in his sleep it recalled the tribute that was once paid to another famed American: "Death had to take him in his sleep—it didn't have the courage to approach him while he was looking."

A short time ago this reporter made public evidence revealing the coddling of Axis war prisoners here. Our exposures were confirmed by many newspapers and magazines. . . . Now the House Military Affairs Committee announces that Axis war prisoners have not been coddled. . . . Eeeeeekkkk!

A Federal Grand Jury's report on Philly's recent hate strike reveals that 1776 bigots refused to work with eight Negro workers. . . . In short: The 1776 Americans—didn't have its spirit.

Lovely Paulette Goddard told an interviewer: "You can always make money, and if you can't, it doesn't make any difference." . . . Paulette means it doesn't make any difference if you're rich.

Faces About Town: Donald Nelson, whose latest and best offer to return to private industry is \$200,000. . . . Henry Kaiser building postwar world on a tablecloth at Henri's. . . . Myrna Loy stealing the show at the Stork. . . . Mrs. Roosevelt entering the enemy's battlements (the News Bldg), where her syndicate is.

Manhattan Mural: He is a well-known star from Hollywood, recently here on an alcohol holiday. . . . After a long day and night of making the joints some pals defied the 4 a. m. curfew and took him to a speakeasy which never closes. . . . The pals introduced the star as "a police official." . . . On the way out the proprietor vigorously shook hands with the very drunk actor—and slipped \$20 into his paw!

Sounds in the Night: At the Zanzibar: "He's the fair-haired boy of the foul-ball set." . . . At Versailles: "Her definition of a bachelor is a selfish, undeserving guy who has cheated some woman out of a divorce." . . . At the Onyx: "Hmf. They argue about what kind of a peace to give Germany, which has given the world no peace!"

Midtown Vignette: He had just been hired as new headwater at Reuben's. To show Arnold, the boss, that he was on the hustle, he suggested: "You should get different waiters. These men haven't much energy." . . . Reuben gave him the fishy eye and then said: "These men have been with me for 20 years. They know they can stay here as long as they live." . . . "Okay," said the newcomer, "that's your responsibility. But don't forget I tried to help." . . . Three weeks later he died from a stroke.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS
Magic Moulding of the Waistline
Jumper Costume With a Future



Changeable!

WEAR this jumper costume with contrasting blouses, sweaters, and bright belts, and you'll have many different-looking ensembles. Wools, flannels, jerseys, and velvets will make up beautifully into this smart and versatile style.

Barbara Bell Pattern No. 1221 is designed for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 14 ensemble, long sleeves, requires 4 1/2 yards of 36-inch material.

For this pattern send 25 cents in coins, your name, address, pattern number and size wanted.

Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

Send your order to:

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERN DEPT.
539 South Wells St. Chicago

Enclose 25 cents in coins for each pattern desired.

Pattern No. Size

Name

Address

Relieve COLDS' miseries...

At bedtime rub throat, chest and back with Vicks VapoRub to ease coughing, loosen up the phlegm, help relieve congestion in upper bronchial tubes, invite restful sleep. Relief comes as VapoRub PENETRATES to upper bronchial tubes with its special medicinal vapors, STIMULATES chest and back surfaces like a warming poultice.

Often by morning most of the misery of the cold is gone! Remember—ONLY VAPORUB Gives You this special double action. It's time-tested, home-proved, . . . the best-known home remedy for relieving miseries of children's colds.

VICKS VAPORUB

—Buy War Savings Bonds—

Here's The Simple Easy Way That COLORS HAIR JET BLACK

YOU CAN DO IT at home . . . no waiting for results. . . . only 60¢

BLACK STRAND Hair Coloring imparts natural-like jet black beauty to hair that is streaked, gray, faded, burnt and off-color. And once your hair is jet black and evenly colored, you will be delighted to see how easy it is to keep your hair always looking its youngest, blackest, best with a Black Strand application or touch-up as necessary. Full directions are with the Black Strand package. The price is only 60¢. Get Black Strand Hair Coloring from your drugstore, and know the joy of smooth, evenly-colored jet black hair "by tonight." Satisfaction or money back guaranteed.

CAUTION—Black Strand is to be used only as directed on the label.

JET BLACK HAIR COLORING

BLACK STRAND
JET BLACK HAIR COLORING
Black Strand Co., 305 W. Adams, Chicago 6, Ill.

Enclose 15 cents for book "Make Your Own Curtains" and 15 cents for Pattern No. 255.

Name

Address

Household Hints

When ribbons need pressing, remove the lid from a hot tea-kettle, and draw the ribbon back and forth over the steam, holding the ends firmly.

A bag of salt may be used in place of a hot water bottle in a pinch. Heat the salt on a skillet, then pour it back into the bag and use.

Once food has started to boil, turn down the flame. It does not need a large flame to keep it boiling.

A pair of tweezers is a wonderful help in ripping seams in garments. They will pull the shortest threads without hurting the fingers and the job can be done much more quickly.

When hanging up the wash, hang one pillow slip with the open end up. When taking down wash put all small pieces in that pillow slip, then when sprinkling clothes you will not need to sort out small pieces.

Splendid Cough Relief Is Easily Mixed at Home

No Cooking. Makes Big Saving.

To get quick and satisfying relief from coughs due to colds, mix this recipe in your kitchen. Once tried, you'll never be without it.

First, make a syrup by stirring 3 cups granulated sugar and one cup of water a few moments, until dissolved. A child could do it. No cooking needed. Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup.

Then get 2 1/2 ounces of Finex from any drugstore. This is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, well-known for its prompt action on throat and bronchial membranes.

Put the Finex into a pint bottle, and add your syrup. This makes a full pint of splendid medicine and you get about four times as much for your money. It never spoils, and tastes fine.

And for quick, blessed relief, it is amazing. You can feel it take hold in a way that means business. It loosens the phlegm, soothes the irritated membranes, and eases the soreness. Thus it makes breathing easy, and lets you sleep. Money refunded if not pleased in every way.



HINTS FOR HOME BAKERS

Yeast Raised Muffins Are Extra Tender!

Make them with Fleischmann's yellow label Yeast—the only yeast with these EXTRA vitamins

RAISED MUFFINS

1 cup milk
2 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons shortening

1 cake Fleischmann's Yeast
1 cup lukewarm water
2 eggs, well beaten
2 1/2 cups sifted flour

Scald milk, add sugar, salt and shortening. Cool to lukewarm. Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water and add to lukewarm milk. Add eggs and flour to make a moderately stiff batter. Beat until smooth, cover and let rise in warm place, free from draft, until light, about 1 hour. Fill well-greased muffin pans half full. Cover and let rise again, about 1/2 hour. Bake in moderate oven at 375° F. about 30 minutes. Makes 16.

FREE! FLEISCHMANN'S FAMOUS RECIPE BOOK NEWLY REVISED FOR WARTIME!

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Modern life with its hurry and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking—its risk of exposure and infection—lowers heavy strains on the work of the kidneys. They are apt to become over-taxed and fail to filter excess acid and other impurities from the life-giving blood.
You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, getting up slightly, leg aches, swelling—feel constantly tired, nervous, all worn out. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.
Try Doan's Pills. Doan's help the kidneys to pass off harmful excess body wastes. They have had more than half a century of public approval. Are recommended by grateful users everywhere. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

HOUSEHOLD MEMOS
by Lynn Chambers



Bake Your Christmas Goodies Now!

(See Recipes Below)

Homemade Gifts

Christmas can put a strain on your sugar budget especially if you are baking lots of goodies for your friends. But today I'm giving recipes that will keep the dents out of the sugar ration and still give plenty of good holiday eating.



Sugar savers or substitutes are plentiful in most localities now and answer the need for sweets without sugar. The homemaker can use light and dark corn syrups, honey, dried fruits, etc.

If you are giving cookies as gifts, wrap them prettily in small boxes well lined with waxed paper. Cover them in gay Christmas wrappings, and anyone will be happy to get a homemade present from you!

Honey, though expensive, will not bring up the price of these cookies which are crispy and well spiced:

Honey Crispies.

- (Makes 3 dozen)
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 1/2 cups sifted flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

Boil shortening and honey together 1 minute. Cool. Add sifted dry ingredients. Roll to 1/4 inch thickness and cut in desired shape with cookie cutter. Sprinkle with colored sugar and bake on a greased baking sheet in a moderate (350-degree) oven.



Candied fruit or nuts may also be pressed into the center of the cookies.

Oatmeal has long been a favorite ingredient of cookies. Here the dryness of the cereal is balanced by the moistness of apricots:

*Apricot Oatmeal Cookies.

(Makes 70 cookies)

- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon soda
- 1 1/4 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup dark corn syrup
- 1 egg
- 1 cup mashed, cooked apricots
- 1 1/4 cups rolled oats (uncooked)
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts

Cream shortening and sugar. Add syrup, beat well. Add egg and beat until light and fluffy. Add apricots, oats and nuts; mix thoroughly. Sift

LYNN SAYS:

A Bit of Dressing: Varying the dressing in salads helps add interest to this course. These simple tips will help:

Use lemon juice and sugar for plain lettuce. Or, mix mayonnaise with shredded cooked beets, chopped hard-boiled egg and pickle relish.

For lettuce, cabbage or fruit salads, you'll like peanut butter blended with rich milk, honey or sugar and salt to taste.

To use French dressing for fruit salads, sweeten with honey and add a dash of lemon juice for taste.

Sour cream is an ideal dressing for mixed fresh fruit salads. Add vinegar or lemon juice to sour cream and season with salt and pepper. Chopped apples and sliced bananas may also be added to the dressing. Pour this mixture over the fruit salad, sprinkle with finely chopped nuts and top with marshmallow cherries that have the stems left on. Very pretty, indeed!

Christmas Gift Box Suggestions

- *Apricot Oatmeal Cookies
- Whole Nuts
- Candied Fruit
- *Slices of Regal Pudding
- Assorted Jellies
- *Recipes given.

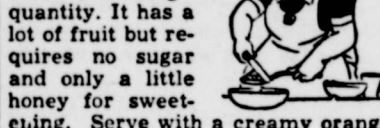
flour with other dry ingredients and add, beating well. Drop by half spoonfuls on greased cookie sheet about 1 1/2 inches apart. Bake for 15 to 18 minutes in a 375-degree oven.

If you frost these ginger cookies with a simple powdered sugar icing, you will have a very dressed up cookie:

- Soft Ginger Cookies.
- (Makes 3 dozen)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup molasses
- 1/2 cup sour milk
- 3 1/4 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Cream sugar and shortening and add molasses. Beat well. Sift dry ingredients together and add alternately to creamed mixture with milk. Let stand several hours in refrigerator. Roll on floured board and cut into desired shapes with cookie cutter. Place on a greased baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes in a pre-heated oven (375 degrees).

Thinking about an appropriate pudding for the festivities? Here is an inexpensive one which will serve a large quantity. It has a lot of fruit but requires no sugar and only a little honey for sweetening. Serve with a creamy orange sauce, hot.



*Regal Pudding.

(Serves 10 to 12)

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 beaten eggs
- 2 cups chopped dried figs
- 1/2 cup chopped dried apricots
- 1/2 cup white raisins
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon rind
- 1 cup grated carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped walnut meats
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon soda
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 cup milk

Cream shortening; add honey; blend; add eggs. Beat thoroughly. Add fruits, rind, carrot and nutmeats. Sift dry ingredients and add alternately with milk. Pour into a greased and floured 8-inch tube pan and bake in a moderate (350-degree) oven 1 hour and 15 minutes. Serve with the following:

Orange Sauce.

- 3 tablespoons flour
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 tablespoon grated orange rind
- 3 tablespoons butter

Mix flour with sugar. Add orange juice and hot water. Cook until thick, stirring constantly. Add grated orange rind and butter and serve warm over pudding.

Oven Tip.

When baking fruit puddings or fruit cakes, place a pan containing 2 cups water on the bottom of the oven. This will help give greater volume and shiny, glistening top to either pudding or cake.

Making Sauces.

Sauces for puddings are best made in double boiler to prevent them from scorching. It will also help keep them warm until time to serve.

Get the most from your meat! Get your meat roasting chart from Miss Lynn Chambers by writing to her in care of Western Newspaper Union, 210 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 6, Ill. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your reply.
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IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D., Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for December 10

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CHRIST IN THE HOME

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 19:4-6; Luke 10:38-42; II Timothy 1:3-6.
GOLDEN TEXT—These things I command you, that ye may love one another.—John 15:17.

The American home faces many enemies and powerful destructive influences in our day. At times one wonders whether this most important of all institutions has not so far departed from what God intended it to be that it has lost its place and power.

In such a time, it is important that the Christian church keep before the people, and especially our young people, the Scripture teaching about the home. We need to revive the old-fashioned home, with its piety, purity and high purpose in the plan of God. We begin right when we note:

I. The Plan of God for the Home

(Matt. 19:4-6).
When Jesus was challenged by the Pharisees, who claimed that a man had a right to divorce his wife, He appealed to Scripture. That is the sure foundation for right thinking.

He referred them to the story of the creation of man and woman in Genesis 2:18-24. There it is revealed that in all the animal kingdom there was no creature suited for fellowship with man. The one who finds full satisfaction in the company of a cat, a dog, or horse, is just not up to normal.

Adam must have a "help meet" for him, that is, one suited by personality and gifts to be his companion. God made woman for that purpose and gave her to man. Thus He established the home and ordained that all through man's history there should be the coming together of one man and one woman in that indissoluble union of love (v. 6) which makes the home.

We have forgotten God's law, or have deliberately violated it, and have broken down the home in its very foundation. We had better begin to think seriously about the divorce problem if we are not to go the way of other nations.

II. The Presence of Christ in the Home

(Luke 10:38-42).
Christ repeatedly honored the home by His blessed presence. He came to the wedding feast at Cana of Galilee, and there He performed His first miracle (John 2). He should be the unseen guest at every Christian marriage. Invite Him, expect Him, honor Him, and He will bless you.

One home in particular was a place of rest and refuge for our Lord when He was here on earth, that of His friends, Lazarus, Martha and Mary, in Bethany. He was a welcome guest, always at home in that household. Shall we do less in our households? We see mottoes in homes, "Christ is the unseen guest in this home." How appropriate!

But note that His presence in the home gives Him opportunity to teach and to direct the life of the home. Mary and Martha had both been busy about the work of the household, but Mary knew when it was time to stop being busy and sit at Jesus' feet to learn and to be blessed by His presence. She not only worked, but "also sat at the Lord's feet" (v. 39). Martha went right on working until she was distracted, and came to censure her sister.

The answer of Jesus is significant. He did not rebuke Martha. He only told her to get her life into balance. There must be work in a home, but those who make home only a workshop miss its greatest blessing. Home should be a place of sweet fellowship between the members of the family, and especially between them and the Lord.

III. The Power of Faith in the Home

(II Tim. 1:3-6).
Family religion really pays. The home with the family altar, where God's Word is read as a natural and proper part of daily living, where prayer is made, and God's goodness is remembered in thanksgiving and praise, that home will send forth children who know the grace of God, and are prepared to heed His call for service.

Timothy had a grandmother and a mother (one wonders where papa and grandpa were) with unfeigned faith. What a precious heritage! That was far more valuable than silver or gold, or farms or corner lots. What heritage are you giving your children?

Note the reference to Timothy's work as a minister of God in verse 6. It was by the Holy Spirit's call, and was recognized by the church in ordination, the "laying on of hands." But it is evidently closely connected with that which is spoken of in the verse before—the faith of his home. There is power in that faith to send a boy forth to valiant service for God and to keep him faithful in the day of trial. Give your boy and girl something really worthwhile to remember when they think of home. Put the power of faith in the home back of their lives in public for God.

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLECRAFT Gay Accessories Made of Felt

706



MAKE this season the gayest ever—for accessories! Get out those old felt hats... cut 'em up into beanies, belts, lapel ornaments, slippers.

You'll have lots of fun making felt "go-gaws." Instructions 706 contain patterns of all pieces; directions for articles shown.

ASK ME ANOTHER? A General Quiz

The Questions

1. When a battleship fires a broadside of nine 16-inch guns, how much does it cost?
2. What was the Bastille?
3. What poet was claimed by seven cities?
4. Are any of the bones of the human body fully grown at birth?
5. Sir Walter Raleigh's death was caused by what?
6. What name is given to the green coloring matter in leaves?
7. What is a charivari?
8. The Golden Rule is found in what book of the Bible?
9. What was linsey-woolsey in the American colonies?
10. When an enlisted man receives the medal of honor, his pay per month is increased by what?

The Answers

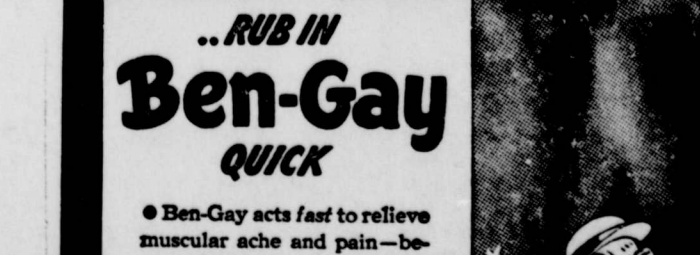
1. It costs \$13,500 a broadside.
2. A state prison in Paris, destroyed during the revolution.
3. Homer.
4. Yes, the auditory ossicles, the three tiny bones in the middle ear.
5. Beheading.
6. Chlorophyll.
7. A medley of incongruous noises.
8. Matthew 7:12.
9. A home-spun cloth.
10. Increased by \$2.

Oh, Success!

The corpulent, self-complacent Irishman sank into his most comfortable chair and remarked to his wife, "Well, Kate, my dear, life to me seems to have been one long run of prosperity. First I was plain Hooley, then I married you and became Mr. Hooley; then I was made Committeeman Hooley, and later Alderman Hooley."
"To cap the lot, as I went into church yesterday, all the congregation with one accord rose and sang, 'Hooley, Hooley, Hooley.'"

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CALOX TOOTH POWDER

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Remember that Constipation can make any problems look hard! Constipation can undermine energy and confidence. Take Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets). Contains no chemicals, no minerals, no phenol derivatives. NR Tablets are different—act different. Purely vegetable—a combination of 10 vegetable ingredients formulated over 50 years ago. Uncoated or candy coated, their action is dependable, thorough, yet gentle, as millions of NR's have proved. Get a 25¢ Convincer Box. Caution: Take only as directed. **NE TONIGHT, TOMORROW ALRIGHT**

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All Star Musical Cast Including Eddie Quinlan, Leon Errol and Vivian Austin

SUNDAY and MONDAY DECEMBER 10 - 11

"Greenwich Village"

- With -

DON AMECHE and

CARMEN MIRANDA

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"The Great Moment"

- With -

Joel McCrea and Betty Field

WAHOO - 9 P. M.

Plus BOND PREMIERE 10:30 p.m.

"Mrs. Parkington"

With

Greer Garson - Walter Pidgeon

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 - 14

EDWARD G. ROBINSON AND RUTH WARRICK

- In -

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War"

Triple A Committeemen To be Elected at Rankin on Dec. 15

Selection of County A.A.A. Committeemen will be held at the Rankin Courthouse on December 15, according to Altie E. Nolen, secretary of the Upton County Agricultural Adjustment Agency. Upton County ranchers will be eligible to vote, Nolen said, and emphasized that the meeting was being held for the purpose of voting alone.

The committeemen elected at this meeting will be responsible for insuring maximum benefits to ranchers in the county for the many problems and activities of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. The work includes explaining AAA practices, certifying applications for payment, and assisting with the disposition of surplus war property.

More important than anything else the Upton County AAA secretary points out, the organized effort made possible by the elected farmer and rancher committeemen puts American agriculture in a position to act quickly and without interference in the reconversion to peace, just as it made agriculture the first in effectively adjusting to the needs of war.

Mrs. Tyson Midkiff was a visitor in Midland Wednesday.

Cpl. and Mrs. Henderson Scarborough of San Angelo are spending the week here with relatives.

Mrs. John Christy was in San Angelo Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Faires of Los Angeles are visiting friends and relatives in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. R. O. White and Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Boyd and daughter, Helen Ruth, attended the Passion Play in San Angelo last Thursday evening.

Mrs. Kenneth Fowler and baby of Big Lake visited Mr. Fowler and another son Billy, here Tuesday.

(Continued from the front page)

happy smile on his face. "He's gonna try," he said. Such Grammar!

The Major leaned over the candle. He had smoked a full pack of cigarettes during the last half hour. His eyes closed and his head dropped on his chest as he leaned against the wall. Lt. Pogar, the artillery observer, was on one phone giving a careful order for fire to help the company hemmed down on the right. "And listen," he added in menacing voice, "you tell that so-and-so that he never did get us no chow, and I never did get them mail, and if he don't get that peep driver to hell up here with them goods I'm startin' a private war."

"Such grammar!" I said. "It's the only language he understands," he said grinning. "Did he say he'd send chow?" asked the major. "Cause we got to eat some time. He can make it after dark—if he's lucky."

The phone again, from the company in the house on the right. "This is..." (the most dramatic message I ever hope to hear. Every word came in clearly.) "...a Jerry tank is coming into the room, through the wall. We're evacuating—if we can."

We sat silent. Every man picturing the scene a few hundred yards ahead—Americans driven into the open with machine gun fire pouring from the house we hadn't been able to hit with artillery. I felt sick at heart, and how much more did it hit these men, whose comrades were up there taking it!

Then "Scotty" called. "I dropped 10 rounds on..." he said. Almost the same instant came a call from the besieged 20. "Guess you got that S.P.," they said. "No shells for 10 minutes. We're in fair shape now, if we get some help early tonight. They'll counter, sure."

Smoke Shell First On the other phone: "It's important," came the message. "We need mortars on these machine guns in front of us at..."

"Have you checked your co-ordinates?" cautioned Maj. Pittman.

"You're drawing a fine line. Be sure." Soon the call came back, with the location checked—fire pretty close to American lines.

"We'll toss you a smoke shell first," the major said, "can you observe it?"

"Will observe."

"All right. Observe in five minutes."

The day was getting old. All through the frantic front line fighting, the Germans had been pound-

ing the whole area with heavy mortars and artillery. Later reports told us that 1,500 rounds came into our area during a three-hour period.

The shelling slackened, so I decided to go back. It's no place to be after dark. I slipped out, hurried along that exposed portion of the road and stood behind a huge friendly rock cliff. Just below was the hillside where the German pill boxes sat, pouring fire into our

men below. The wind was blowing toward me and their zipper guns cracked whip-like in the late afternoon.

Get Exact Range

Then, directly in the center of that small triangular hillside a smoke bomb burst. Our mortar battery had the exact range. The Germans saw it too—and half a mile back two of their smokemaking machines loosed great clouds of white.

A minute after the smoke shell, that hillside literally went up in cloud as 30 big mortar shells dropped into the machine gun lair of the tenacious Germans. I watched the black dust and smoke float off the devastated hill; then the white Jerry smoke screen floated down over it. Obviously they expected us to follow up the mortars with an attack.

I looked at my watch as I entered the battered town. It was

4:45, so I stepped into a building that had stood up under even the bombs of our fliers. There I waited 10 minutes while the Jerries sent in their routine artillery barrage, supposedly to worry us at mess, and then went on back to jeepable territory.

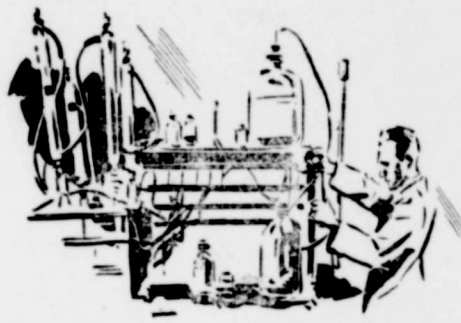
The Germans staged a fierce counter-attack that night. I couldn't drive those 20 brave soldiers—those who were left—back down the hill.

A story that hasn't been told

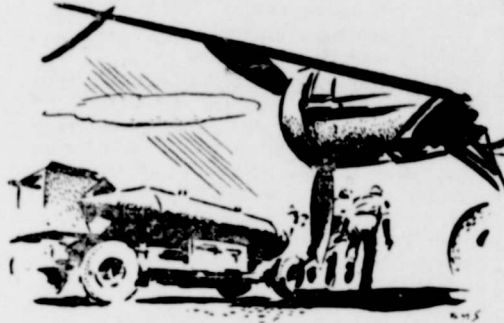
AN AMERICAN WAR PRODUCTION RECORD THAT DESERVES TELLING . . .

On December 14, at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon, the men and women of Humble Oil & Refining Company will pause in their work to commemorate, in appropriate ceremony, a feat unparalleled in the petroleum industry: The production of ONE BILLION GALLONS of finished 100-octane aviation gasoline at the Baytown refinery.

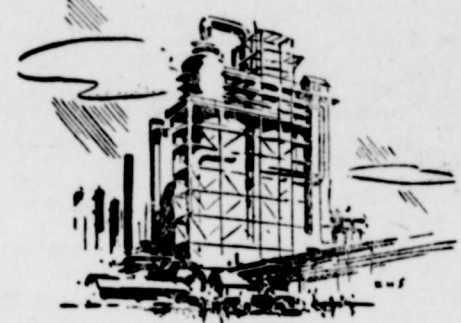
This accomplishment merits special commendation, because it climaxes 25 years of development, planning, and teamwork of a great organization. The cooperative effort of Humble employees has brought about a uniform progress in all phases of the Company's operations which has enabled them to establish remarkable records in finding, producing, transporting and refining petroleum during a critical period in the history of our nation.



Humble research and development, in progress for many years before Pearl Harbor, made possible these accomplishments and contributed greatly to the total production of toluene, and the tremendous quantities of finished 100-octane aviation gasoline required by our Armed Forces.



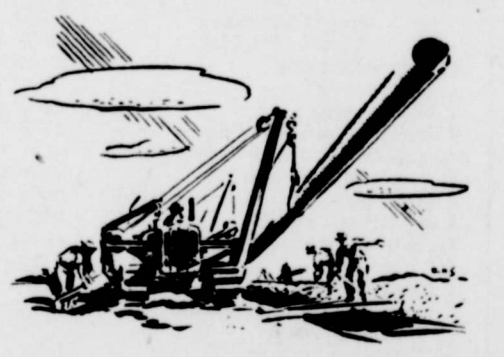
Baytown Ordnance Works, first synthetic toluene plant in the world, has supplied toluene for at least one out of every two bombs used by the United Nations since Pearl Harbor. For this production feat, Baytown Ordnance Works has five times been awarded the Army-Navy "E".



Baytown Refinery has made one billion gallons of finished 100-octane aviation gasoline—more than has been produced by any other plant in the world. The world's first commercial alkylation plant was built at Baytown in 1938. The alkylation process is the very backbone of 100-octane aviation gasoline production by the entire petroleum industry.



Humble Oil & Refining Company is the nation's largest producer of crude oil, and is currently supplying about one-fourth of the increased production required for war, as measured by the gain since 1941.



Through the facilities of Humble Pipe Line Company, there is being transported more oil than is being carried by any other system in the country. Nearly 700,000 barrels move daily through Humble pipe lines—one-seventh of all the oil production in the United States.



United in a great singleness of purpose, 14,000 Humble men and women are devoting themselves to the task of providing vital petroleum products for war, looking to the day when their 3,000 fellow employees and all their comrades in arms will return.

OPEN HOUSE AT BAYTOWN REFINERY—DECEMBER 14-17

So that one of America's great war plants may be seen in action, Baytown Refinery is holding open house from Thursday, December 14, through Sunday, December 17. The story of the refinery at war will be told by dramatic

exhibits of petroleum war products and a great Army and Navy show of war machines and materials. Specially conducted tours will take Humble's friends and neighbors into the heart of the refinery itself.

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY

HOUSTON, TEXAS

