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VOL. XVI—NO. 249 (AP)—Associated Press MIDLAND, TEXAS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1944 Telephotos and Best Features Price Five Cents

YANKS AT ST. VITH WIPED OUT

MacArthur Believes Leyte Campaign Is Closing Successfully

By LEONARD MILLIMAN
Associated Press War Editor

Enemy forces in the Philippines have "sustained perhaps the greatest defeat in the military annals of the Japanese army," Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced Tuesday, and Emperor Hirohito said the plight of Nippon in her "sacred war" is "becoming more critical."

In a double amphibious landing Christmas Day, coupled with two overland pushes, American divisions seized the only remaining Japanese escape ports and wrote a virtual end to the Leyte Island campaign.

The 67-day battle, MacArthur said, cost Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita 113,221 men, 2,748 planes, 41 transports and 27 warships.

"This destruction has seldom been paralleled in the history of warfare," MacArthur said.

American casualties totaled 11,217, including 2,623 killed, 8,422 wounded and 172 missing.

Palompon Captured

In Monday's smashing climax, the 77th Division captured the port of Palompon in a surprise amphibious landing under cover of a land-based artillery bombardment by long range guns; the 7th Division stormed ashore from landing barges to seize Puerto Bello to the southeast; and the 24th Division cleaned out Japanese around San Isidro, a port north Palompon. The 32nd Division and the First Dismounted Cavalry relentlessly pressed in from the east.

What Japanese survive are surrounded by these five divisions. The defending force has been "practically annihilated," MacArthur said, and only mopping up remains.

Even the Japanese aerial counter-offensive faded out. American air blows over the entire archipelago were intensified. Tokyo radio reported land-based American bombers and fighters attacked Clark Field again Tuesday in their fourth successive raid on airdromes near Manila. Twenty-one Japanese planes were shot down Monday as Yank squadrons blasted through more than 50 interceptors to attack Clark Field. Sixteen other aircraft were hit on six Negros Island airfields, pock-marked by 132 tons of bombs.

Bomb-carrying, China-based American fighters destroyed 40 enemy planes, sank a Japanese freighter and probably four other ships in Christmas Eve raids along the China coast.

Nanking Evacuated

Japanese have ordered all civil-

(Continued On Page 2)

Pacific Plan Will Continue Says Forrestal

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Navy Secretary Forrestal said Tuesday Japanese air attacks have failed to disrupt American plans for continued heavy offenses.

Acknowledging that naval forces in the Philippines area have suffered some damage, he said announcements are delayed because "we do not wish the Japanese to know what ships they have hit, nor to what extent vessels have been injured, nor how soon they may be back in action."

This "necessary silence," Forrestal continued in a statement, "has left the field clear for the Japanese to make fantastics claims, perhaps fishing for information.

"Perhaps the best way to assess the results of Japanese air attacks against our fleets since the second battle of the Philippines sea is to ask whether those attacks have disrupted our plans for future action. They have not. The fall of Leyte and our landing on Mindoro are a concrete demonstration that they have not."

British Discover Ton Of Dynamite Under Car Rails

ATHENS —(AP)— Prime Minister Churchill sought to end the bloody Greek civil war Tuesday as a British patrol reported discovering a ton of dynamite under street car lines opposite the main doors of the Hotel Grand Bretagne.

Officials of the Greek government and Lt. Gen. Ronald Scobie live at the hotel.

The dynamite, which the patrol said was in boxes bearing German markings, apparently was laid during the night as the area had been carefully searched Monday evening.

Armed Monday

Churchill arrived here Monday accompanied by British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden as the ancient capital echoed to the sound of street fighting between Leftwing ELAS partisans and Greek government forces supported by British troops.

The Prime Minister went into action immediately, communicating with Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Allied Mediterranean Commander; Harold MacMillan, British resident minister for the Central Mediterranean, and Greek Premier George Papandreou.

Father Of Six Shot At Christmas Dinner

COLUMBUS, GA.—(AP)—A quarrel flaring at the Christmas dinner table resulted in the fatal shooting of a father of six children and the arrest of his father-in-law, a 55-year-old preacher, on a warrant charging murder, County Police Chief C. H. Jones reported Tuesday.

The officer quoted the minister, the Rev. S. W. Noles, state superintendent of Assembly of God Churches, as saying he shot his son-in-law, Joseph E. Mayo, 42-year-old brick mason of Laurel, Miss., in self-defense.

Mayo was shot four times with a pistol, Jones said, while his wife, six children and mother-in-law looked on.

Hockley Wildcat Flows Some Oil, Plus Emulsion

By JAMES C. WATSON
Oil Editor

The Texas Company No. 1 Montgomery, Central Hockley County wildcat, in labor 19, league 70, Val Verde County School Land survey, five miles north of the Slaughter field, swabbed and flowed 22.08 barrels of fluid, in four hours, with a cut of 24 percent basic sediment and two percent water.

Following that testing the well was shutdown over Christmas and was due to resume investigation of producing possibilities Tuesday.

The oil is coming from a section at 4,744-4,864 feet, which had been treated with 2,000 gallons of acid. In the second 24-hour period following the injection the project reported swabbing and flowing 59.34 barrels of fluid, with a cut of 28 percent basic sediment and two percent water.

Total depth is at 4,890 feet, in the San Andres-Permian.

3-B Hobbs Flowed

Texaco No. 3-B Hobbs, southeast Crane County development, in section 33, block 35, H&TC survey, one and one-half miles northwest of the discovery for Devonian production in the Crossett area, flowed into pits for six hours to clean out, after being kicked-off following seven hours of swabbing.

After the flow the well was shutin over Christmas, and was to resume testing Tuesday. The section at 3,190-3,220 feet, in the lower Permian, had been treated with 1,000 gallons of mud acid, prior to flowing and swabbing.

1-D Unitex SDR

Stanolind Oil & Gas Company No.1-D University, section 8, block 11, University survey, wildcat trying to get production in the Ellenburger in Southwest Andrews Coun-

(Continued on Page 2)

A White Christmas In Krinkelter



By JAMES THRASHER
NEA Staff Writer

They had plenty of snow for a white Christmas in Krinkelter—snow that stung your face as the North Sea swept it across the Belgian lowlands; snow that made walking slow and heavy; snow in gray clouds that pinned air support to the ground and left things pretty much up to the infantry; snow that made you a sitting-duck target in your OD uniform; snow that melted and soaked and froze if you fell in it.

A white Christmas, and back home some luckier guys were having a hot turkey dinner, and a cigar afterwards, and dry clothes and a fire. But up here the Krauts had forgotten to take time off for the holiday. They were hellbent on going places and somebody had to stop them, Christmas or no Christmas.

So they walked across the fields ouside of Krinkelter on Christmas, with guns slung over their shoulders and cold feet in their boots.

And some of them thought, "Well, maybe next year."

Army Predicts 'Slimy' Details Will Be Revealed In Trial Of U. S. Servicemen's Black Market

By GEORGE TUCKER

PARIS — (AP) — A high-ranking American officer predicted Tuesday that many "slimy" details would be unfolded in February when the Army brings to trial another batch of U. S. servicemen accused of selling cigarettes, gasoline and other military supplies to the French black market.

"I know of tanks sitting empty without a drop of gasoline while soldiers behind the lines peddled it by the gallon," the officer said as he discussed thefts and hi-jacking activities for which scores of soldiers already have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from one year to life.

His statement indicated that new light might be shed upon the extent of American soldiers' participation in the black market, although many general officers have denied that the loss of supplies or gasoline — estimated at several hundred thousand gallons a week —has affected the current military situation.

They pointed out that the losses have occurred for the most part many miles behind the battle lines and that fuel supply levels in combat areas are high.

Ambush

Nevertheless details already unfolded have revealed fantastic incidents of Army truck drivers being ambushed on lonely roads and relieved of vehicles and cargoes at gunpoint, or of drivers delivering loaded trucks to black market operators at fees reportedly ranging up to $6,000.

Black market operations have been so extensive that they are said to have caused the recent breakdown of the cigarette supply for the Allied forces by funnelling millions of packages into French brothels, restaurants and private homes.

More than 90 per cent of the cigarettes reached the black market by way of the armed forces, it was disclosed.

Developing from operations that had a patriotic basis under German occupation, the French black market expanded in post-invasion days into a gigantic combine of dealers in stolen goods, counterfeiters, white slavers and speculators. It

(Continued On Page 2)

Guenther Prien In Arizona POW Camp Rebellion

PHOENIX, ARIZ.—(AP)— A Nazi celebration of Western Front victories was broken up with clubs at Papago Park war prisoner camp near here shortly before 25 Germans escaped, Col. William A. Holden, commandant, has disclosed.

Holden said army guards had to resort to force in ending a demonstration Saturday by a "couple hundred" prisoners in one of the camp's compounds.

Only six of the escapees, all submarine officers and men, have been apprehended. The ranking member of the group is Lt. Col. Jurgen Wattenberg, 43. Many of those at large speak several languages.

Preliminary investigation, Holden reported, indicated the sailors escaped by scaling an eight-foot double-wire barbed fence.

Some of the prisoners may have fled during the demonstration but Holden said probably most of them got away during a severe rainstorm Sunday evening.

Saturday's display by the prisoners, Holden declared, "obstensibly was a combination celebration of Von Rundstedt's success and Christmas." The activity was mainly singing and shouting.

The escape served to make public a war rumor long current in Phoenix that Guenther Prien, Germany's famed U-boat commander, was prisoner here.

Prien, decorated by Hitler for sinking the British battleship Royal Oat at Scapa Flow in 1939, did not escape, said Maj. Eugene Tays, in answering a newspaper inquiry.

Nazis Capture Gasoline Dump

WITH U. S. FORCES IN BELGIUM —(AP)— The Germans have captured one substantial American gasoline dump—a total of 85,000 gallons, or about enough to run one armored division for two days.

It is evident that the Germans are short of gasoline. Thirteen Nazi self-propelled guns were captured west of Bastogne when they ran out of fuel.

Weather
Rain.

WAR AT A GLANCE

By The Associated Press

WESTERN FRONT — Germans pinch out American salient at St. Vith, joining forces in massive bulge spreading toward Meuse River.

EASTERN FRONT — Russians virtually complete encirclement of Budapest.

ITALIAN FRONT — Canadian troops capture Rossetta.

PACIFIC FRONT— Japanese suffer worst army defeat in history as Americans win Leyte.

AERIAL — U. S. bombers again hit Nazi supply lines in force.

Admiral Fraser Plans Close Cooperation With American Navy

BRISBANE, AUST.—(AP)—Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander of the British Eastern Fleet, upon his return from a conference with U. S. Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz Jr., said there will be no difficulty about ammunition and supplies in coordinating the British Pacific Fleet wth the American Navy in the Pacific.

"It will be a great pleasure," he said, "to command a British Fleet to serve with Adm. Nimitz, who is a great commander."

War Bulletins

LONDON —(AP)— Johan Nygaardsvold, prime minister of Norway, disclosed Tuesday night that his government had urged the Allies to launch an immediate invasion of Norway from the west.

KUNMING, CHINA —(AP)— Japanese planes made an ineffectual attack Sunday night on the Kunming Air Base and a field at Chanyo, eight miles northeast of here. Probably the greatest effect of the raid was to force many persons to spend Christmas Eve in slit-trenches.

ROME —(AP)— Canadian troops, striking out from their bridgehead over the Canale Naviglio on the Adriatic flank of the Italian Front, have captured Rossetta, 10 miles northwest of Allied-held Ravenna, headquarters announced.

LONDON—(AP)—U. S. Eighth Air Force bombers returned to Germany this morning in the fourth day of continuing Allied air assaults aimed at helping check Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive.

Nation's Deaths Reach 332 In Three-Day Period

By The Associated Press

The Nation's toll of violent deaths over the three-day Christmas holiday was at least 332, an Associated Press survey disclosed Tuesday. The number was approximately the same as recorded over a similar period in 1943.

Accidents on the highways, as predicted by safety experts, claimed the most lives. The survey showed 198 persons were killed in automobile smashups. The National Safety Council's estimate for the period from midnight Friday to Tuesday was about 275 motor vehicle fatalities. In 1943, the Christmas holiday traffic toll was 216 of 339 violent deaths.

Everything Happened

Plane crashes, fires, falls, shootins, drownings and other violent throughout the country as the nation observed the long week-end rest period.

Three separate plane smashups cost the lives of 20 persons, including 10 soldiers in an Army transport

(Continued On Page 2)

Christmas Parcels Continue To Swamp Postoffice Workers

Christmas may be over for most of Midlanders, but not for employes of the Midland post office, as late arriving parcels and cards continue to flood the post office.

Tuesday morning more Christmas parcels were on hand at the post office than at any time since the Christmas rush began, N. G. Oates, acting postmaster, said.

The basement was filled with parcels, as well as the main floor. In addition to the hundreds of parcels clerks started working the thousands of Christmas cards which had accumulated so they could be delivered. Oates said he thought all of the cards could be delivered within three days.

Ceiling Prices Set On Surplus Goods

WASHINGTON—(AP)—If you can not find a rain hat on the market, how about trying an army gas hood?

The Office of Price Administration, while declining to put price ceilings on the surplus gas hoods, said the prices asked would "not be unreasonable for inflationary."

About 100,000 of the hoods purchased by the Chemical Warfare Service are available. They are made of chemically treated cloth to make them water and gas repellent. Olive drab in color, they have elastic draw strings and metal snap clasps.

OPA did put dollars and cents ceilings on an undisclosed number of beds, cots, and mattresses now being sold by the government for civilian use. They include:

For used double deck bunk beds, including springs, $11.25; new mattress, size 30 by 78 inches, $8.25; new folding canvas cot with wood frame, $5.95; used folding canvas cot, $3; new metal folding hospital bed, $19.50.

Nazis Close Prongs Of Two Main Drives To Form Solid Front

PARIS—(AP)—Two German armored columns Sunday night had plunged 50 miles into Belgium, reaching within four miles of the Meuse River. The enemy wiped out the American St. Vith salient and formed a solid front 35 miles wide.

Supreme Headquarters disclosed this information Tuesday afternoon.

Two and possibly three Nazi armies have been flung into the battering counteroffensive, believed at Supreme Headquarters to have been planned by Hitler himself in an effort to shatter Allied forces in the west.

Backed up by infantry, the twin German tank pushes had careened 11 more miles into Belgium since the last previous headquarters report.

They had pinched out the American stand west of St. Vith—a jutting salient that had split the German offensive prongs—and formed a single bulge 35 miles wide and now 50 miler or more deep.

In the heart of this bulge a surrounded American force several thousand strong fought doggedly to hold the important Belgian road hub of Bastogne after rejecting a surrender ultimatum. It is under incessant Nazi armor and infantry attacks.

The whole hope of this isolated force focused to the south where General Eisenhower's counterassault had beaten back up the Arlon road within five miles of Bastogne—and still was gaining ground.

The American wedge west of St. Vith had kept Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's drives split.

Veered North

German stabs had veered north of Laroche through to Grandmenil and Lierneux, threatening to cut off Americans dug in on ridges west of St. Vith and keeping von Rundstedt's assault prongs from merging. These forces had to be pulled out in rearguard fighting the last two or three days, Supreme Headquarters said, and the German junction had been formed by Christmas morning.

There were no reports whether this withdrawal was completely successful or if some armor and infantry that had held the pocket for almost a week had been left behind.

The northern line of the German bulge now runs from north of Rochefort northeast through Marche, Hotton and Grandmenil, then northwest of Lierneux to near

(Continued On Page 2)

Bitter Cold Wave Covers All Midwest

By The Associated Press

A new cold wave with bitter zero temperatures hit the Midwest Tuesday. The mercury plunged far below the zero reading in the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Northern and Central Illinois, Northern Indiana, Upper Michigan and portions of Ohio.

Rockford, Ill., 75 miles northwest of Chicago, reported 22 below as the coldest on the Chicago Weather Bureau's map. Chicago had a 7 below minimum, coldest of the season, at the 8 a.m. rush hour.

Sub-Zero General

Fifteen below zero was general in Northern and Eastern Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Forecasters said the cold wave would spread to the Eastern and Northeastern States by Wednesday morning but would diminish in intensity.

The sky was clear for the most part in the Midwest. Snowfall in Ohio ranged from 2 to 9 inches. It was raining in Texas, the Central Gulf States and in the Southern Appalachian Mountain region.

Virtually the entire northern half of the nation had a white Christmas, the Weather Bureau said.

Russians Report Budapest Nazis Almost Trapped

MOSCOW—(AP)—Eight to 10 divisions of Germans and Hungarians were reported trapped in Budapest Tuesday—cut off from escape except by air or possibly one road usable only by night—as the Red Army drove to the western city limits in a 15-mile advance.

The encirclement of the Hungarian capital was virtually completed and front dispatches said Soviet guns had begun a systematic shelling of two airports still held by the enemy, while Stormoviks and medium bombers flew incessant sorties over the strife-torn capital.

Narrow Corridor

The last narrow escape corridor that appeared still open to them on the basis of frontline dispatches extended 19 miles northwest from the capital to Esztergom, on the Southern bank of the big Danube Bend.

The ring around the capital was completed in all other directions—at distances ranging from less than two miles on the west to about nine miles on the east.

Tuesday's communique also disclosed a continuing Red Army surge westward in Southern Czechelovikia along the Hron (Garam) River in the vicinity of Leva (Levice) in a drive along the routes to Vienna and Bratislava, now less than 98 miles and 65 miles distant, respectively.

But the war bulletin emphasized the squeeze on Budapest, declaring that in the last five days of fighting west and southwest of the capital the Russians had slain 14,000 German and Hungarian soldiers, captured 5,463 and destroyed or seized vast quantities of war material, including 101 self-propelled guns.

Robert L. Filson Visits In Midland

Lt. Robert L. Filson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Filson of Midland, and four of his B-29 crew members spent Christmas in Midland visiting with his parents and wife.

Lieutenant Filson is stationed at McCook, Neb. He expects to be going overseas soon, he said.

Texas Holiday Death Roster Now Nineteen

By The Associated Press

Violence took a toll of at least nineteen lives in Texas during the Christmas holidays.

Traffic accidents took thirteen lives; four burned to death; one man apparently was slain; and another died in a plane crash.

The body of Jose Gonzales, 60, employe of a ranch 20 miles south of Laredo, was found about noon Christmas Day partially hidden in brush a short distance from his home. His head was split open, apparently by an axe blow. A suspect was arrested Tuesday.

Mrs. Pearl Childress of Gainesville died there Saturday of burns. W. A. Barley, 57, of Huntsville, was killed in an auto collision near Fairfield.

Four of the dead were children.

Three of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Mauldin of Borger were fatally burned when fire destroyed the family's residence Sunday. Dead were Barbara Mauldin, 3; Glenda Mauldin, 5, and Vernon L. Mauldin, 6. The parents suffered shock, exposure and burns when an oil heater exploded, blocking the entrance to a room occupied by the children. The youngest child of the couple, who was sleeping in the same room with the parents, escaped unhurt.

Fell From Car Window

Douglas Schmitt, 2, was killed Sunday when he fell from the window of a car in which he was riding with his parents, Lt. and Mrs. Clarence F. Schmitt, on Highway 158, four miles southwest of Abilene. The same day, Sandra Sheets, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Sheets of Sweetwater, was gravely hurt when a car door opened and she fell to the pavement on Highway 1,

(Continued On Page 2)

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But now the Lord saith, them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.—I Samuel 2:30.

'Backstairs Gossip'

That was quite a polite quiz session that the new State Department "team" had with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Many splendid sentiments were expressed. But the session just wasn't very informative.

For instance, Senator Murray of Montana asked James C. Dunn, one of the nominees for assistant secretary of state, whether Prime Minister Churchill was "forcing the American State Department to play second fiddle in this Greek thing."

Whereupon Chairman Tom Connally of the Foreign Relations Committee chided Murray for asking the witness to "disclose backstairs gossip about Churchill."

It dosen't seem to us that Murray's question was in the gossip category at all. Rather it was in the category of things that the American people want to know. Maybe it wasn't expressed in proper diplomatic terminology, but it was a frank and understandable question of a sort that many of us would like to ask.

During the session Archibald MacLeish, another nominee, quoted Cordell Hull's definition of our foreign policy as "the task of focusing and giving effect in the world outside our borders to the will of 135 million people." Mr. MacLeish also stated such information on foreign policy as they require.

* * *

In his statement to the committee, Dunn said that "in our democracy the basic determination of foreign policy rests with the people."

Well, the people have clearly demonstrated their wishes for a foreign policy that will lead to our membership in an international organization to secure and maintain peace, and that will combat fascism and foster democratic freedom for all the world's peoples.

But having done so, they would also like to keep a check on the way this policy is being carried out. Many of us have been disturbed by the apparent trend of British and Russian foreign policy, though we have had little fault to find with our own State Department's actions and have applauded Stettinius' recent clarification of our policy in Italy.

* * *

But many of us have also wondered if our hands-off attitude might not be construed by our Allies as implying approval of a course in liberated countries which most Americans dislike and fear. And we have wondered if our government's tender and unrequited solicitude for the feelings of the Allied governments is the only way to military unity.

Unwise foreign policy here or in Europe can again mean suffering and destitution and death for millions of ordinary people, just as it has in this war. That is why foreign policy should not be a private, secret affair in which pertinent questions by a representative of the people are dismissed as "backstairs gossip."

———BUY WAR BONDS AND SAVINGS STAMPS———

Ogdensburg's Good Idea

The end of the Sixth War Loan drive obviously does not end the need or desirability of buying War Bonds, nor should it end regional and national efforts to stimulate such buying. And in the latter connection, it seems to us that the people of Ogdensburg, N. Y., have hit upon a scheme worth copying elsewhere.

It is a sponsor system in which a citizen selects a service man or woman and undertakes the purchase of $500 worth of War Bonds through his own buying and through solicitation of others.

When the Bonds are bought the sponsor secures a "Win-the-War Certificate," an engraved document issued in honor of the sponsored person in service, which lists the names of purchasers on the back. The certificate is then sent to the sponsored person.

The merit of the scheme is evident in the letters from recipients which Ogdensburg sponsors have received. The certificate, a small but tangible evidence of home-front appreciation, is welcomed by fighting men, the sponsors report. And certainly the sincerity and good taste of this plan takes it out of the "promotion stunt" class.

———BUY WAR BONDS AND SAVINGS STAMPS———

All Aboard

The Interior Department has informed the forward-looking president of the U. S. Rocket Society that it will be quite legal to file a claim for some real estate on the moon under our Homestead Law. All the flier need do is to prove that he is acquainted with the land in question, and be ready to move onto it six months after his entry is approved.

Maybe we might turn over some of the top Axis war criminals to the enterprising rocket man and the versatile Ickes.

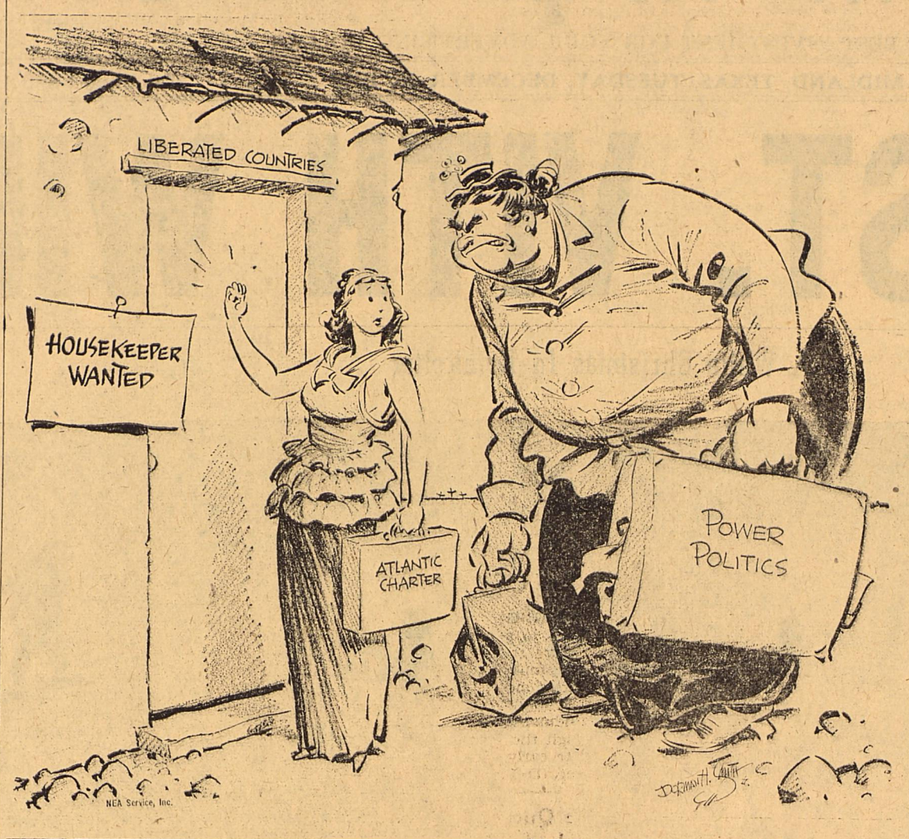
Triple-A priority might be given to construction of moon-bound rockets, with reserved seats for Hitler and his inner circle and the Jap war cabinet on the first one completed.

After that, a few trips by the Nippon Express, the Gauleiter Limited, and the Gestapo Special and this might be quite a pleasant world again. Only we should probably first check on the other side of the moon to see that there are no inhabitants. For the company of those rocket passengers shouldn't happen to a dog.

To maintain your library intact buy three copies of every book; one to show, one to loan and one to read.

Betcha some folks brag about their ancestors because they have nothing of their own to boast about.

Competition



Yank –

(Continued from Page 1)

Stavelot, then 14 miles east to Bullingen and on to Monschau in Germany.

Changed Course

A field dispatch declared von Rundstedt apparently now was seeking a breakthrough toward Namur rather than Liege, 34 miles northeast of Namur. The Germans were more than 30 miles from Namur by Sunday.

Besides pounding into Rochefort, German armor and infantry farther southeast also had taken Libramont, only 23 miles from Sedan and 16 from the French border. Prisoners said the German timetable called for Paris by Jan. 17.

Even as the German offensive bit deeper into Belgium, Americans to the northeast at Duren, 20 miles from Cologne, had entered Windem, four miles below Duren, Sunday, and cleared Obernaubach, a mile farther down.

While the huge ground battle in Belgium, costly to both sides, raged on, the eighth air force got its fourth straight day of attacks. thousands of German vehicles and 500 enemy planes have been knocked out by Allied fliers since the start of the counteroffensive.

For the first time, the main German pressure in Belgium appeared to be turning from the west, where there still were slight gains, to the northwest or north.

A field dispatch dated Monday, however, said the tide seemed to be turning against the Germans in the Stavelot sector, along the northern rim of the German breakthrough.

Nation's –

(Continued from Page 1)

plane flying to Minneapolis who were killed when the ship crashed near Harrisburg, Pa. Five other Army fliers lost their lives in a plane crash at Ridgely, Tenn., while five servicemen were killed in a crash of a transport plane near Indianapolis.

Of the total violent deaths, 88 were recorded as from miscellaneous causes, 45 resulting from fires and one from weather. By states, California reported the most number of fatalities—37, including 33 traffic deaths. Pennsylvania ranked second with 27, and New York, third with 22.

Identity Of Nude Redhead Remains Mystery To Police

NEW ORLEANS—(AP)—Police reported new clues Tuesday to the identity of an attractive red-haired woman whose nude body was found Sunday morning in a hotel room bathroom, but the exact cause of death and the whereabouts of a man with whom she shared the room until Friday remained as much of a mystery as ever.

Dr. Hilip Montelepre, assistant parish coroner, said the woman died of "suffocation under water" and that he thought the case was a "possible homicide." He said contents of a water glass found in the room are being analyzed.

Initials L. F.

Detective Lieutenant William Grosch reported the woman was wearing a ring engraved with the initials L. F. A picture published in newspapers here brought several telephone calls, police said, from persons who thought they could identify her, but none of the callers appeared to view the body.

The body, upright in a tub containing about six inches of water, was found in a room which had been occupied by a man who registered as D. J. Stafford, Chicago, Ill., and the woman, who, hotel employes said, registered last Thursday as Mrs. Stafford.

Police at Chicago reported that the address given was that of a rooming house and that no one named Stafford was listed on registry records extending back over the past two years.

Hotel employes said Stafford left the hotel Friday night after asking that the room not be disturbed until Sunday because he and his wife "were going on a party."

Cotton

NEW YORK—(AP)—Cotton futures prices at noon Tuesday were 10 to 20 cents a bale higher. March 21.96, May 21.90, July 21.53.

CANDLE AUCTION

One of the oldest forms of selling is that of auction by candle. A small candle is lit as the article is put up for sale and the last bid made before it burns out is the successful one.

MacArthur –

(Continued from Page 1)

ians out of Nanking in expectation of further American air raids, Chinese advises said.

Japanese claimed they bombed the Superfortress base on Saipan Christmas night in retaliation for the combined American naval and air bombardment Sunday of Iwo Jima, Nipponese air base 750 miles south of Tokyo. Admiral Chester W. Nibitz reported return shore fire was moderate. An enemy destroyer escort and two smaller craft were sunk by naval gunfire, while B-29s, Liberators and Lightnings attacked installations.

Emperor Hirohito's admission that the war situation was becoming worse was made in formally opening the 86th session of the Imperial Diet. Nevertheless he lauded his army and navy for "destroying the powerful enemy, wherever he is confronted, with their death-defying gallant fighting."

The Mikado shut his eyes to such facts as the destruction in the last two months of 1,521 Japanese planes and 89 ships by fast U. S. carrier forces under Vice Admiral John S. McCain. Ninety-two other ships were damaged. Most of these planes but none of the ships were included in MacArthur's report.

Army –

(Continued from Page 1)

reached staggering proportions and American soldiers were drawn into its operations.

Since D-Day, its chief source of supply has been the Army, from which it has drained gasoline, soap, food, cigarettes and post exchange items.

For every American arrested for blackmarketing, ten French civilians have been taken into custody, charged chiefly with having American equipment in their possession and selling it illegally. However, 95 per cent of this was delivered to their hands by Americans.

A total of 184 American officers and men are awaiting hearings at the new series of trials scheduled to open the first week in February. All are members of two special battalions operating French railroads.

Hockley –

(Continued from Page 1)

ty, was reported bottomed at 10,118 feet, waiting for motor repairs.

The section at 10,083-118 feet had been cored with only slight indications of oil reported. No drillstem test was reported since an unsuccessful attempt to a total depth of 10,083 feet. One call placed top of Ellenburger at 10,057 feet. Some observers think that it "re-worked" Ellenburger, and not the true section.

Ohio Oil Company No. 1 Jones, wildcat in section 19-19s-39e, about seven miles southeast of Hobbs, in East Lea County, New Mexico, which had only slight shows of oil, and considerable water to 5,779 feet, and again after plugging back to 5,766 feet, had resumed drilling, and had reached 5,880 feet. No information has been released as to how much more hole will be made. The project was originally reported as a 7,500-foot test.

Keinath Still Looking

Humble Oil & Refining Company No. 1 Federal-Keinath, section 8-21s-38e, about six miles northeast of Eunice, in East Lea, was coring below 9,692 feet, in lime and shale. No oil shows have been found and no Ellenburger has been encountered.

Humble No. 1 Keel, section 22, block 27, TP survey, North Mitchell County exploration, was coring under 7,863 feet in lime. A drillstem test at 7,805-53 feet, recovered 30 feet of drilling mud, with no petroleum indications.

Shell Oil Company, Inc., and Cities Service Oil Company No. 1 TXL, section 7, block 45, TP survey, T-1-S, in West Ector County, was drilling out cement in the casing at 7,840 feet.

TXL Drilling Out Cement

Operators set a bridging plug at 8,050 feet, over a plugged-back total depth of 8,100 feet. The pipe was perforated at 7,860-63 feet, with six shots, and 100 sacks of cement was pumped into the formation. The cement was in the pipe up to about 7,745 feet, when drilling-out started.

Shell No. 5 Sealy-Smith, section 38, block A, G&MMB&A survey, outpost to Ellenburger production in the Monahans pool, in Northeast Ward County, and which has already show for production in that horizon, was drilling ahead below 10,348 feet in dolomite.

Sohio Production Company No. 1-A Todd, Crockett County wildcat in section 14, block YZ, EL survey, five and one-half miles southwest of the Todd field, had reached 6,264 feet, and was going ahead.

No Shows Found

Magnolia Petroleum Company No. 1 Johnston, East-Central Lubbock County wildcat, in section 88, block C, D&W survey, cored at 9,418-31 feet. Recovery was six and one-half feet of dark, gray sand, and five feet of black shale. The propect was scheduled to drill ahead.

Magnolia No. 1 Summerlin, section 2, block A-48, psl survey, west outpost to production on the southwest side of the Fullerton field, in Northwest Andrews County, was bottomed at 7,100 feet, and was running tubing. It is due to start testing the Fullerton pay.

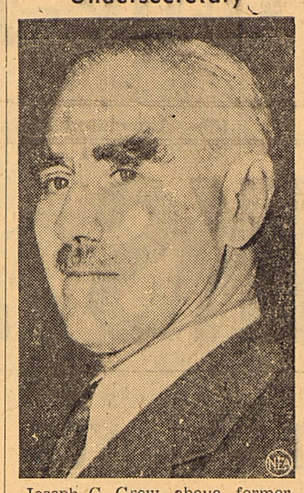
Lynn Wildcat Waiting

Phillips Petroleum Company No. 1-A Bartley, East-Central Lynn County wildcat, in section 1372, block 1, EL survey, was reported shutdown for orders of a total depth of 9,908 feet. A Schlumberger survey had been taken. No official report on the formation on the bottom had been released.

The word "carol" today means almost any Christmas hymn. In earlier days the word was used to discriminate between a hymn and a song of merrymaking.

The Saxons used ivy, holly, and bay in their religious rites, and these have remained popular festive Christmas greens in England to this day.

Undersecretary



Joseph C. Grew, above, former ambassador to Japan and veteran of 40 years diplomatic service, has been nominated by President Roosevelt as Undersecretary of State—the key job under recently-named Secretary of State Edward J. Stettinius, Jr.

Holiday –

(Continued from Page 1)

three miles west of Abilene.

At Marlin Sunday Darwood Weibusch, 16, was fatally hurt in a collision of two automobiles.

Biggest traffic toll was in the Panhandle where six were killed Saturday in three accidents.

Three soldiers and a civilian were killed in a car crash 10 miles east of Shamrock and two other auto accidents claimed one victim each.

Viaduct Accident

Sgt. Malcolm Schwartz, of Palmer, stationed at Amarillo Army Airfield was killed and eight persons injured in the head-on collision of two automobiles on the Commerce Street viaduct in Dallas shortly after midnight.

Critically injured was Glenn Schwartz and Mrs. Glenn Schwartz Dallas, Robert B. Garrett, United States Coast Guard, Miss Iris Keinningham, Dallas. All of these were in Schwartz's car along with Miss Dorothy Rose Kooken, Dallas, who was badly bruised.

In the other car, Miss Johnnie Boatwright, of Grand Prairie, had a compound fracture of the right leg and internal injuries; Sgt. Earl Jacobs, Camp Howze, cuts and bruises; Miss Pauline Morris, Dallas, deep lacerations.

How To Really Embarass A Marine

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC —(AP)— Marine Private First Class Charles K. Dean, 25, felt like a living torch of embarrassment when he opened his first Christmas box early in November.

In what he supposed he would find goodies of some sort, he discovered — of all things — baby clothes!

Dean, whose home is Dallas, discovered, however, the gift was not meant for him, but for his four-month-old son, Charles R. Dean. The box was sent to the father by mistake.

MAAF Spends Quiet Christmas

Christmas Day passed quietly at Midland Army Air Field, as most of the field's activity was guided along channels of worship and relaxation.

A midnight High Mass at the Post Chapel established the tone for the day as Chaplain Patrick J. Toomey led a large congregation of officers and enlisted personnel in their Christmas devotions. Mass at eight thirty and at eleven fifteen, and the Protestant Christmas Day Service at ten in the morning accounted for the religious services at the Post Chapel.

A Christmas dinner at noon introduced the joy and gaiety as it set the stage for an afternoon and evening of fellowship and conviviality. The dinner itself was an elaborate feast, and officers, enlisted personnel and their guests were unanimous in the approval of the turkey and all the "fixin's" that were set before them.

Throughout the afternoon the various sections sponsored Christmas parties for their members. With refreshments, entertainment, the distribution of gifts, and a merry session of caroling the afternoon quickly passed into evening, and reveling stopped to allow time for man and maid to prepare for the Christmas dance at the Post Service Club, which got under way at nine o'clock.

The MAAF band, who had provided the music all afternoon as they toured the various day rooms, were on hand in the evening for the enlisted personnel's dance.

MAAF Officer Is Killed In Accident

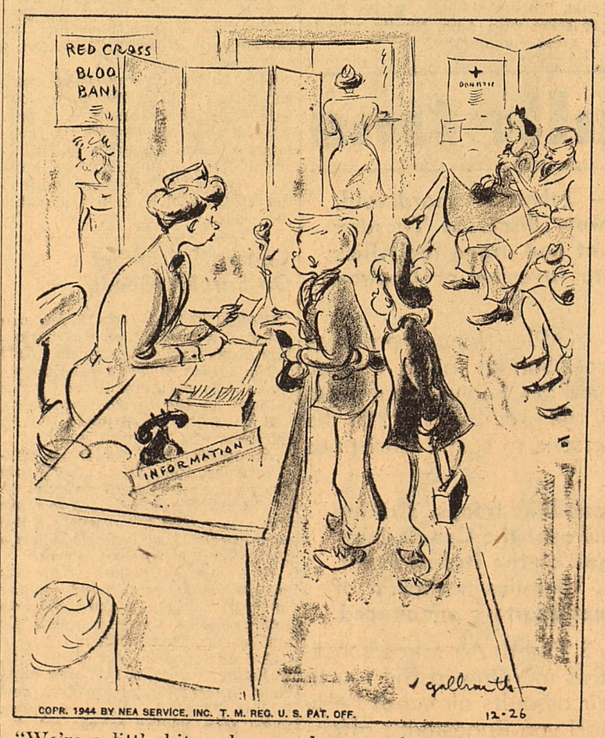
SAN ANGELO—(AP)—Lt. Robert I. Braun of the Midland Army Air Field and Pvt. Harold R. Caudle of the Amarillo Army Air Base, were injured fatally early Sunday in an automobile collision near Brady.

Mrs. Braun and a Goodfellow Field soldier were injured slightly. The automobile collided with a motor truck.

The lieutenant, whose home was in Providence, R. I., recently returned from service overseas, where he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and five Oak Leaf clusters, and was assigned to duty at the Midland Army Air Field. He was on Christmas leave when the accident occurred.

The rank of commodore, recently restored to the U. S. Navy, is equivalent to that of Brigadier General in the Army.

SIDE GLANCES



"We're a little bit under age, but my sister and I thought maybe you could get a pint of blood between the two of us!"

Be Careful About
CYSTITIS
This is inflammation of the bladder. Drink delicious Ozarka health water, free from chlorine and alum. Shipped everywhere.
Ozarka WATER CO.
Midland, Texas
Phone 111—402 S. Big Spring

Ray Gwyn Office Supply
Will Be Closed
December 24th through January 1st

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Cold Preparations as directed

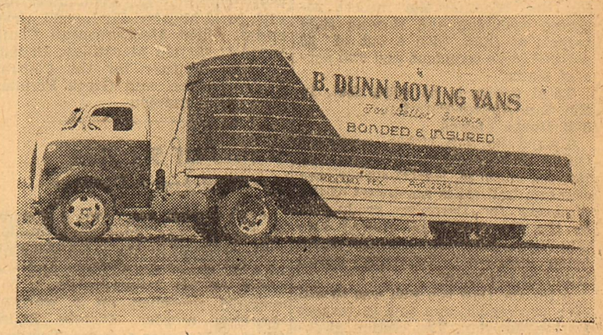
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Laura Jesse, Agent
207 First Nat'l Bank Bldg. - - - Phone 114

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Fresh stocks of Evergreens, large selection and varieties. All kinds of flowering shrubs and trees. All stock adapted for this climate and soil
Office will be open after Jan. 1st. Call us for complete landscaping. Estimates gladly given.
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MRS. J. T. WALKER Phone 1663-W

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BONDED Moving INSURED
Clothes Closets In Every Van
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Society

Miss Knapp Is Bride Of Lt. D. M. Ungaro In Chapel Ceremony

Miss Treva C. Knapp of San Jose, California, became the bride of Lt. Daniel M. Ungaro of MAAF in a single ring ceremony Dec. 23 at the Post Chapel with Chaplain Patrick J. Toomey reading the vows before an altar that was banked on either sides with poinsettias and candelabra. Christmas trees laden with tinsel and blue lights furnished a colorful background. Sgt. Donald M. Gillett, post organists played wedding marches and during the ceremony, Gound's "Ave Maria."

Best man and matron of honor was Capt. and Mrs. Marcus L. Grant who reside in Odessa. The bride is the daughter of Mr. S. A. Knapp of San Jose, and the bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Frank Guscetti of Nevada City, California.

Mrs. Ungaro attended San Jose State College and is a member of Phi Gamma Phi and Business and Professional Women's Club. It. Ungara attended the University of California.

The bride wore a powder blue gabardine dress suit with fuscia accessories and gardenias. Her attendant was attired in a navy blue suit with white accessories and had a gardenia corsage. A wedding dinner was held in the Blue Room of the Scharbauer Hotel after the ceremony.

Coming Events

WEDNESDAY—

Spotters Group No. I will meet with Mrs. C. S. Scott 2008 W. Holloway.

Hostesses for the Junior Canteen will be: 4 to 6 p.m., Mrs. E. A. Culbertson, 7 to 9 p.m., Mrs. C. O. Fredregill.

THURSDAY—

Hostesses for the Junior Canteen will be: 4to 6 p.m., Mrs. Frank Aldrich; 7 to 9 p.m. Mrs. H. W. Hull.

* * *

SATURDAY—

Hostess for the Junior Canteen from 3:30 to 6 p.m. will be Mrs. A. Knickerbocker.

Button Front



Your family will eye you admiringly in this attractive button front house dress cut along popular princess lines. Easily made, it's graceful and figure-slimming.

Pattern No. 8718 is designed for sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48. Size 36, requires 4 1/2 yards of 39-inch material.

For this pattern, send 20 cents, in COINS, your name, address, size desired, and the PATTERN NUMBER to The Reporter-Telegram Today's Pattern Service, 530 South Wells St., Chicago 7, Ill.

Got Those GRAY HAIR BLUES?

Many feel gray hair is a handicap . . . that it adds years to their age. Now science has discovered an "anti gray hair" vitamin.



Get Rayvita Vitamins

Yes, RAYVITA Vitamins work, and at last gray hair is returning to its natural color. RAYVITA Vitamins contain the same amount of "anti-gray hair" vitamin (Plus 450 Int. units B_1) as tested by a leading housekeeping magazine. Of those tested, 88% had return of hair color. RAYVITA Vitamins are non-fattening, can't harm your "permanent." 30 day supply, $1.50; 100 days, $4.00. Phone

MIDLAND DRUG CO.

Give Buffet Luncheon For Alathean Class In John Dunagan Home

Mrs. Paul Filson, Mrs. B. C. Girdley, Mrs. James O. Vance, and Mrs. John Dunagan entertained the Alathean Sunday School class Friday with a Christmas party and buffet luncheon in Mrs. Dunagan's home, 1904 West Wall.

The members exchanged gifts which were taken from the huge lighted Christmas tree. The mantle was decorated with holly and candles, and pot plants were placed at vantage points about the rooms.

Members present were Mmes. George Phillips, G. G. Hazel, Fred Wycoff, C. M. Goldsmith, M. D. Cox, P. J. Mims, Ann Little, N. W. Bigham, A. W. Wyatt, Elliott Barron. J. N. Wilkerson, Anton Theis, and Ralph Barron.

Sending dolls for Buckner's Orphan Home, but unable to attend were Mmes. McClure, Tom C. Bobo, Forrest King, J. A. Tuttle, J. E. Hill, Paul Barron, Jay Harrison, Frank Cowden Lanham, and Vestal.

Patsy Charlton Gives Party For TAC Club

The T. A. C. Club met Friday afternoon at Miss Patsy Charlton's home, 300 North Pecos.

Miss Ruth Anderson was elected a new member, and tentative plans were made for a New Year's slumber party. After the business meeting the guests played games.

Refreshments were served to Misses Beverly Bedeaux, Louise Harless, Helen Calhoun, Ann Thorn, Betty Hays, Dorothy Harrison, Dorothy Freeman, Ruth Hall, and a visitor from McCamey, Miss Florence Currie.

HAVE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Approximately twelve families met at the Valley View School house for a community Christmas party Friday night.

A short program of Christmas carols and piano numbers was presented followed by a visit of Santa Claus, who distributed gifts, candy, nuts and fruit.

Later the young people were entertained with recordings while some of the elders played 42.

Icy Weather Causes Near Egg Shortage

An egg shortage may result from the icy weather of Tuesday. A Midland man who sells a large number of eggs started to leave his home Tuesday morning carrying 14 dozen eggs. He slipped on the ice and fell. When he got up he only had nine dozen sound eggs left. The other five dozen were well scrambled. He wore about two dozen.

Postwar Construction Projects Announced

NEW YORK—(AP)—The American Society of Civil Engineers announced Tuesday postwar construction projects ready for bids on Dec. 21 amounted to $452,938,000 and that an additional $248,106,000 of such work is ready for bids but is being held up because of financing and other obstacles.

Financing but plans are not yet ready for an additional $138,161,000 of postwar construction work, the society said, in releasing data supplied by Engineering News-Record.

The society's committee on postwar construction has set $15,000,000,000 as a goal for postwar construction projects for which plans should be ready and all other details attended to by the end of next July.

Jap Souvenir Rifle Kills Sailor On Leave

PIEDMONT, MO. — (AP) — George Lee Lewis Jr., 21, an electrician's mate first class in the Navy, brought home a Japanese rifle as a souvenir of his two years in the South Pacific.

While he was examining his prized rifle Monday, it was accidentally discharged. He was shot through the head, and died instantly.

Work in clearing a lake bed for Grand Coulee dam involved the moving of 12 towns.

SPECIAL

SUITS and DRESSES

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PETROLEUM CLEANERS

Next to Yucca

TWO PENCILS ARE BETTER THAN ONE FOR SKETCHING 'NATURAL' EYEBROWS



MISS CHAPMAN: Powders over pencilled brows.

By ALICIA HART
NEA Staff Writer

Two reasons why so many made-up eyebrows advertise the crayon which darkens them are too-definite coloring and unsubdued shine.

To lick these problems, as any movie star who uses a studio's techniques—one is make-up wise Marguerite Chapman—will tell you, use two pencils and then pat on powder after you make your mark.

"One black an done brown pencil used alternately in hair - like strokes," says Marguerite, "will produce such a good imitation of Nature's varied pigment that even your most gimlet-eyed observer will be fooled.'

The powder puff, Marguerite says, "kills paraffin or oily shine which trails behind a pencil."

FRED WYCOFFS ENTERTAIN EMPLOYES OF C. P. TOOL CO.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wycoff entertained employees of the C. P. Tool Company with a Christmas dinner in their home, 721 West Kansas Friday. The holiday theme of Christmas was used in the decorations with poinsettias making the centerpiece on the table.

Attending were Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Gotcher, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. McKee all of Denver City, and Frank Embring and Miss Frieda Wycoff of Midland.

LT. WAYNE LANHAM IS NOW AT RANDOLPH FIELD

RANDOLPH FIELD, TEXAS — First Lieutenant Wayne J. Lanham, veteran of 73 combat missions from England, is now an instructor-trainee at the AAF Training Command Central Instructors School here.

At the postgraduate field pilots are prepared for AAF duty as instructors.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lanham, Midland, Lieutenant Lanham wears the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters.

VISITS IN CLEVELAND

Jon Rugel, who is a student at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, is spending the holidays with the James E. Carpeters in Cleveland, Ohio.

SENATOR LEE DIES

WASHINGTON—(AP)— Former U. S. Senator Blair Lee of Maryland died Monday night at the age of 87. He served in the Senate from 1913 to 1917.

Midland Getting Back To Normal After Christmas

Midland was getting back to something near normal Tuesday following a double Christmas holiday, and in many cases a triple holiday. A number of business concerns and offices were taking advantage of the opportuity to close from three days to a week or more.

Students were looking forward to a week of not having to attend classes while a number of their teachers returned to their homes to spend the Christmas holidays.

Tough Travel

Midlanders who fought their way by train or bus to other towns to spend the holidays with friends and relatives are faced with the prospect of fighting their way back as holiday travel still continues heavy.

The churches of Midland featured special Christmas programs at their services Sunday, and a Union Christmas service was held Monday at the Trinity Episcopal Church.

Citizens of Midland found it difficult to spend money Christmas Day as practically every business concern in Midland was closed. A few cafes were open to take care of those who eat out.

EVERETT C. LUCKIE RECEIVES HIS WINGS

MOORE FIELD, TEX.—Everett C. Luckie has received his wings after graduation ceremonies at this Central Flying Training Command Advanced Pilot School and has been appointed a flight officer in the Army Air Forces. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Luckie.

Classified Ads bring results

Congratulations To



Lt. and Mrs. Louis Hiner on the birth of a daughter, Mary Carolyn, at the post hospital, Dec. 24.

OZARKA WATER CO. welcomes these new arrivals. Phone 111 and a bottle of OZARKA will be delivered to you free.—adv.

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"It tastes better"



PHONE 1137

'Robin Hood's' Boss Jumps From Window

NEW YORK — (AP) — Oscar H. Gropper, 57, owner of a leather goods firm where a secretary recently was accused of "Robin Hood" thefts to give employes pay raises, plunged to his death Tuesday from his ninth floor hotel suite, police reported.

Gropper left notes to his wife and his attorney, police said, in which he had written: "Thefts have ruined me."

He was head of Gropper, Inc., from which Mrs. Madeline Dunnigan, 22, was accused on Dec. 8 of taking between $30,000 and $40,000. She is under arrest on a charge of grand larceny.

Gasoline Rationing Coupons To Expire

Three more gasoline coupons will expire January 1, when B-4, C-4 and I coupons marked fourth quarter become invalidated, officials of the Midland County War Price and Rationing Board announced Tuesday. Gasoline cannot be purchased with the coupons after midnight Sunday.

The B-5, B-6, C-5 and C-6 coupons will remain valid until further notice.

House Will Renew Treaty Campaign

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Leaders of a move to give the House a hand in future treaty-making will renew their campaign as soon as the new Congress meets.

"We want to get a constitutional Amendment resolution passed through the House and over to the Senate early in January," Rep. Kefauver (D-Tenn) said Tuesday.

Tire Quotas Sharply Slashed For January

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Tires available for civilians in January will be pared sharply below the December figure.

OPA says military demands for rubber have slashed the January allocation of passenger tires to 1,800,000 from 2,000,000 in December, small truck and bus tires to 216,000 from 280,000, heavy truck and bus tires to 110,000 from 120,000.

War Correspondents Amaze Eskimos

POINT BARROW, ALASKA—(AP) War Correspondents Olen Clements of the Associated Press and Russell Annabel of the United Press caused lots of excitement among the natives on this first visit to the Far North.

Chief reason for the excitement: The correspondents' boots and parka style coats. None of the eskimos could figure what all the heavy clothing was for.

READ THE CLASSIFIED

Germans Have Taste Of Own Curfew Law

By RUTH COWAN

GANGELT, GERMANY—(AP)— It is five minutes before noon in this little agricultral town of 2,000 inhabitants, most of whom stayed here as the American battle lines passed beyond with little damage to the community.

It is a deserted village at this hour. The only sign of life is an occasional two-wheeled farmer's cart rattling along the brick-paved streets. Or perhaps a window curtain moves as some housewife peers out cautiously.

Then the town clock strikes 12 and the town suddenly springs to life. Doors open and women come out with baskets and hurry to the shops to buy what food is available. Children fetch the day's supply of water from the town's pumps in pails and pitchers.

There is a muffled murmur of talk, but no cherry greeting. No one has time to pause and chat and, besides, it is forbidden to congregate. There are only a few men about.

Read Signs

The inhabitants pay no attention to a proclamation pasted on the window of the chemist's shop, but they know it says that the AEF has entered Germany "as conquerors but not as oppressors."

Neither do they pay attention to the large American flag over the two-storied building marked "Headquarters, Military Government."

Within that building Maj. J. R. Chambliss of Boston presides as commander. Acting under his supervision as burgomaster is a Catholic priest.

I wander among the women hurrying here and there. They regard me silently. Their attitude seems to be that of weary acceptance.

Then the clock chimes one. Like characters leaving a stage, the men, women and children hurry into their houses. The front doors—on which the names and birthdates of each of the occupants are posted—close.

These Germans, who have been imposing curfews on the other peoples of Europe, now have a curfew imposed on them. Except for this one hour from noon to 1 p.m. the people of this town must stay in their homes.

AL JOLSON REPORTED IN FAIR CONDITION

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF.—(AP)—Al Jolson, 56-year-old singing actor, was reported in fair condition Tuesday following a recurrence of malaria which he contracted last year during an entertainment tour overseas.

He is confined to his hotel room and his physician, Dr. Stanley Imerman described him as a "pretty sick boy."

Wrestlers in Japan sometimes weigh 300-350 pounds.

THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF HEADGEAR SHOULD DETERMINE SHAPE OF MOUTH



DANA JENNEY: Glamorous.

By ALICIA HART
NEA Staff Writer

When you wear a large hat, paint on a lavish mouth, drawn and colored to its fullest proportions. With berets, cloches and turbans, be more conservative, and pull in the color-size of your lips.

"Preserve the balance between two important points of color — your painted lips and this season's bright-as-rainbow bonnets" —this is the advice that millinery style leader John-Frederics tosses to customers.

Having proven its worth to glamorous Dana Jenney, photograhper's model, we gather more of this good advice from her.

"Soft colors in hats," she says, "are an invitation to use delicately pinked powders and pastel-tinted lipstick. If green goes on your head, use a golden red lipstick; if black, wear a brilliant true red lipstick as your color foil."

Congress Finds That Indian Is Still Indian

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A Congressional committee made a formal finding Tuesday that the white man isn't doing right by the red man.

Reporting on a ten-months investigation of the condition of Americans, the House Indian Affairs Committee said "disappointing progress" during 150 years of government supervision of the Indian has resulted from a program it said was designed to make the Indian a better Indian instead of a better American."

Thieves Smash Window To Obtain Story

DENVER, COLO. — (AP) — Thieves smashed a $100 plate glass window at a bookstore Tuesday to steal of 50-cent pamphlet.

Its title: "Denver's First Christmas."

Classified Ads bring results

RARE BOOKS and PAINTINGS
Etchings, Engravings, Miniatures, Restoration, Artistic Framing and Appraisals.
Will Buy Valuable Books and Paintings
PHILOTHEOS K. FERNEY
Route 7, Box 458
FORT WORTH

WE HAVE

White and yellow gold watches. The best Diamond values in Texas. A full line of precious metal jewelry. Expert watchmakers and engravers. The little store with the big stock.

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Successors to
INMAN JEWELRY CO.
Crawford Hotel Lobby - - - Phone 1548

"Say It With Flowers"

Book your Christmas orders early to assure selection and delivery

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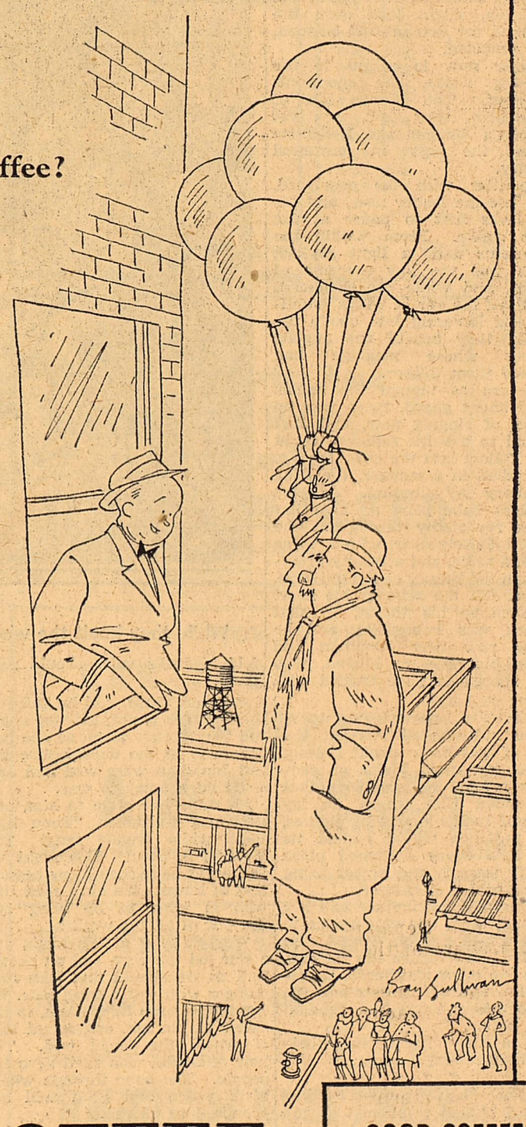
What's that! You're up in the air about your coffee?

Did you ever feel that way yourself? Plenty of homemakers have!

And maybe it's only a short jump to real coffee satisfaction! Maybe you've just not found the *brand* that brews up rich and mellow—full of hearty, full-flavored coffee goodness.

So, why not drop into your grocer's and get a pound of Del Monte Coffee? A blend that carries the Del Monte label is pretty sure to come up to your expectations, isn't it? You know Del Monte always puts *flavor first*—in scores of fine foods.

See if Del Monte isn't the coffee that's right for you. Right down to the ground!



You ought to try

Del Monte COFFEE

—just as you'd expect—RIGHT EVERY WAY



2 Grinds—Regular and Drip
Both Vacuum Packed

GOOD COFFEES
BLENDED RIGHT
ROASTED RIGHT
PACKED RIGHT
ALL RIGHT EVERY WAY!

The ACACIA TREE

by J. M. Lacey

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XI

"FLAVIA! Flavia!" Michal stood in the courtyard of the inn and called to her friend. "Flavia, Flavia."

Flavia came hastily, from gathering old figs. The few fig trees, barren of leaves, yet held the past season's figs upon their twisted boughs, and Flavia's basket was filled with the rain-darkened fruit.

"Why camest thou, Michal?" she asked without greeting.

"Drusus has come," Michal said, and the young Roman woman gave a quick glance about her. "Here, Michal?" she questioned.

"Here, indeed, within the hour," Michal promised. "He has but stopped with Joel to talk of Malachi."

Flavia looked toward the inn. "It is full," she said. "Someone must be turned away to make room for Drusus."

"Turned out on this night of feasting!" Michal protested. "Then let it be some stout old Roman!"

Flavia laughed. "Thou art daring, little friend. Indeed I likely shall depose some little Hebrew maiden like thyself."

"I shall rest with my shepherd, on the hills," Michal said happily. "This night the flocks shall be guarded carefully, for surely there are many thieves among this festal crowd."

Flavia reflected, "Indeed there is a man of Galilee had spoken for room for his wife tonight. I must send him word that my brother is come from Rome and it is impossible to sheiter the wife in our inn. Truly the caves are better shelter than Galileans are accustomed to."

Michal regarded the other woman gravely. "Thou hast borne a son to one of us. thou hast lived these long years in our land, meeting all comers to the inn, yet how little thou knowest of ourselves, Flavia," she said. "Yet indeed the stable here may hold welcome for a wife from Galilee and it will be warmer than the hills."

* * *

"FLAVIA," Michal roused herself, "I must be gone from here before Drusus arrives."

"Why, Michal? Is not Drusus my brother and thy friend?" Flavia wondered.

"He is angry with me," Michal said reluctantly.

"Because thou let thyself be given to Joel when he would have claimed thee!" Flavia defended her brother.

"It is our custom," Michal said quietly.

"It is the Roman custom to take," Flavia replied.

"And be taken," Michal answered. And then contritely begged, "Forgive me, Flavia! But it was my husband had thee and that while I was his betrothed."

Flavia fingered the figs in her basket. "Thou art not bitter, now, little one. Thou hast thy son," she said slowly.

"And may keep him Joel's only while thy son is believed mine."

Startled she held out her hand to catch the suddenly falling dampness. "Flavia!" she cried. "It is snow! Surely it is snow! I must hasten now to my husband and child."

After the swift fall of snow there was a quietness about the night, unusual even in the peace of the Judaean hills, and the very blueness of the sky's unclouded expanse made the stars seem more bright. Michal slept on an improvised couch within the temporary fold they had erected, her baby snuggled in her arms, the warmth of the sheep enough for comfort. In the doorway of the fold Joel lay musing, his heavy robes drawn close about him, his eyes tracing the course of the stars that glittered in countless array. His thoughts were idle as the light wind that sifted the snow. He thought that surely it was 10 years since snow had fallen on the hills, there would be no thievery tonight for the snow would betray the perpetrators. He could doze if he willed.

Surely in a dream he arose, and left his flock unguarded, to follow the other shepherds. Yet even dreaming, the welfare of Michal and little Dan was uppermost in his mind. He thrust a bleating lamb into the bosom of his robe, silencing it that it should not disturb his darlings. And then he followed.

* * *

THE wind quickened, a star seemed to excel all others in brightness, and Joel realized the other shepherds were walking into the light of the star.

The star's light was suddenly blinding in its brilliance. The startled shepherds halted, while all the light of myriad stars seemed to beat down upon them with a hard bright light that changed to a miracle of soft effulgence, and a spirit from Adonai stood by them, and the glory of Elohim shone round about them, and Joel's heart stood still.

Bidden by the Lord, the shepherds heard the word, "Be not afraid, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people.

"For here is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

"And this shall be the sign unto you. Ye shall find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger."

The stars were now a shining heavenly host, hazy, indefinite, yet entirely real. The lamb in his bosom stirred, and Joel's mind flashed for an instant to the tiny son at Michal's breast, Michal, his beloved, asleep within the sheepfold.

Yet the other shepherds were speaking now, and Joel fell in with the plan the spokesman urged. "Let us go even unto Bethlehem and see now, this thing which is to come to pass, which Elohim hath made known unto us."

(To Be Concluded)

THE WAR TODAY

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst

The Germans have got their second wind and again are on the drive, but such news as has filtered through the censorship dim-out up to this writing indicates that the Allied forces have been holding the enemy to small gains in most sectors or stopping them altogether.

General Eisenhower seems to have the situation well in hand, and we can have confidence in the outcome. Despite the great weight of the German counter-thrust, our troops have suffered no debacle. On the contrary we've steadily increased our grip.

The fighting is fierce, and we must be prepared for heavy casualties. We shall break the back of this German offensive in due course. But the cost in lives is going to be hard to take.

Hitlerites Suffer, Too

The Hitlerites, of course, are suffering just as heavily.

The broad picture of the German assault remains the same. They're straining to expand the two great salients which they have driven into the American front in Belgium towards the Meuse River. One of these long arms is stretching out towards the fortified communications center of Liege. The other on the south is reaching for Namur, and subdivides into a drive for Sedan—a historic invasion route to Paris.

The threats are far from one-sided, however, Eisenhower is flinging counterattacks at the flanks of these German salients. The immediate purpose of this pressure is to prevent the expansion of the arms. However, Nazi Field Marshal von Rundstedt is making a big gamble in thrusting these salients out into Allied territory, for he lays himself open to a counter move which might cut off and annihilate great numbers of his troops.

That naturally is what General Eisenhower is hoping to achieve. We haven't yet reached the crucial mement of his all-out counter to von Rundstedt. That Allied assault undoubtedly is in course of preparation, and when it comes von Rundstedt may find himself involved in his last great fight.

Older Congressmen Fight Any Change Toward Streamlining

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Congress is on the verge of creating a committee of its own members to explore ways of improving Congress.

In some ways Congress is out of date: Its machinery creaks and it doesn't have all the help it needs to do a job.

Newspapers, political scientists and particularly younger Congressmen have urged improvement. The proposed committee is the first step.

The work of that committee, which seems sure to be set up, undoubtedly will do some good. But don't expect too much or anything too radical.

Older Ones Sceptical

Already some of the older Congressmen are sceptical about the intentions of the younger Congressmen who want the committee.

"This is just a dodge of these young fellows to try to get around us old fellows," one oldtime Congressman said.

Another oldtimer said: "These young fellows just want to get ahead in a hurry without staying around long enough to take their turn."

The two oldtimers—both powerful—were talking about this:

The committee rights and privileges which a Congressman—Representative or Senator—acquires just by staying around a long time.

They—the oldtimers — suspected the special committee might recommend a real change in the number and make-up of Congressional committees.

Carries Prestige

In Congress, if you're on a committee, you want to stay on. It carries prestige, power and publicity. The bigger the committee, the more important you are.

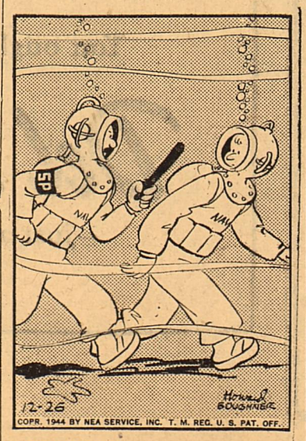
And a committee chairmanship is the big prize, powerful. You get it automatically as someone ahead steps out — if your political party has majority control in House or Senate—by staying on the committee long enough, years.

Thus committee chairmanships are distributed by longevity—called seniority—and not by ability.

It has been suggested inside and outside Congress that chairmen be appointed on ability and that where committees overlap in their work they be combined.

This would reduce the number of committees, chairmanships and committee memberships.

HOLD EVERYTHING

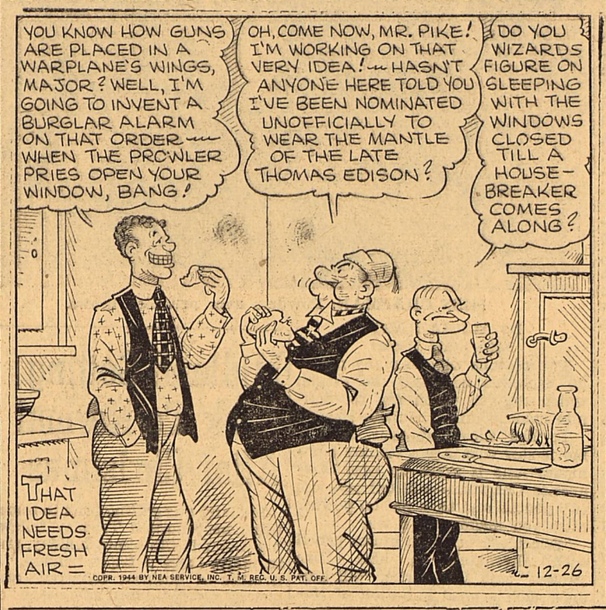


"Hey! Let's see your papers!"

Greetings
FRIENDS
Our Very Best Wishes for a Joyful Season

The Studio Will Be Closed Thru Jan. 2nd
The Midland Studio
210 W. Texas Phone 1003

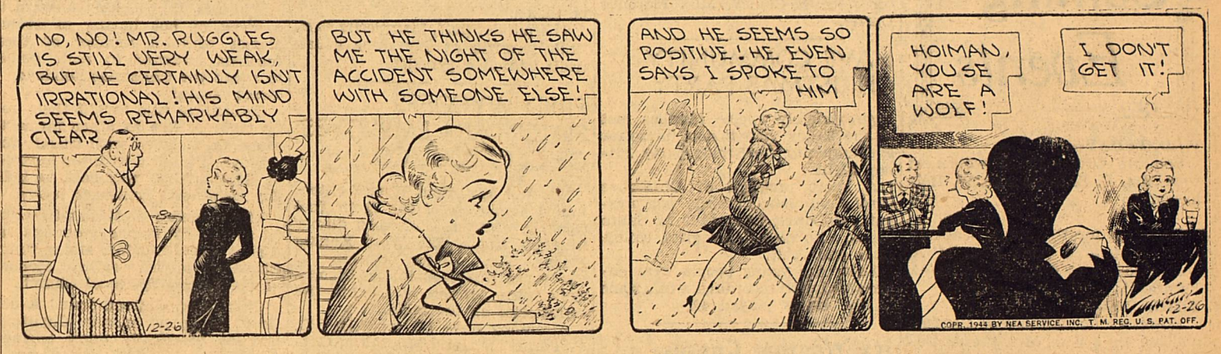
OUR BOARDING HOUSE —with MAJOR HOOPLE



OUT OUR WAY —By J. R. WILLIAMS

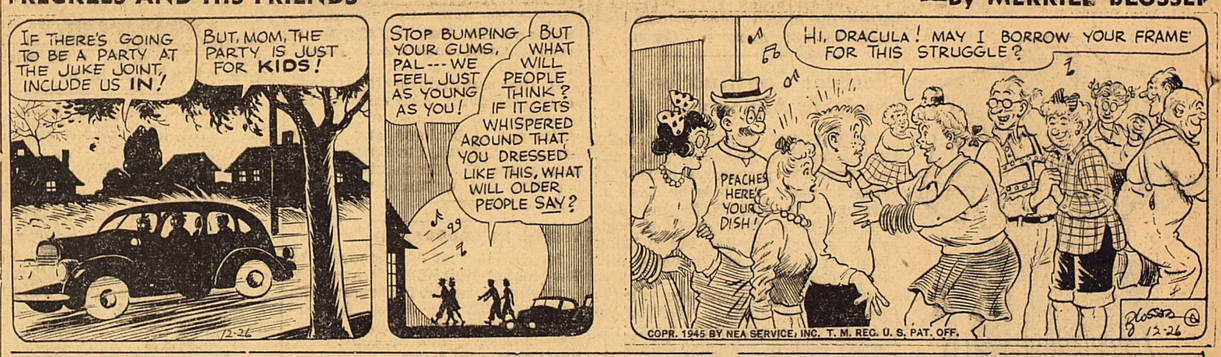


BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES —By EDGAR MARTIN

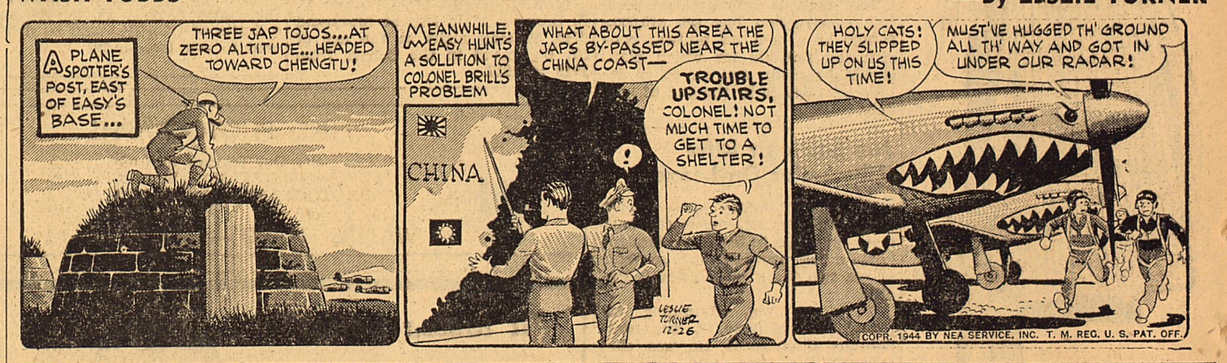


buy MEAD'S fine BREAD

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS —By MERRILL BLOSSER



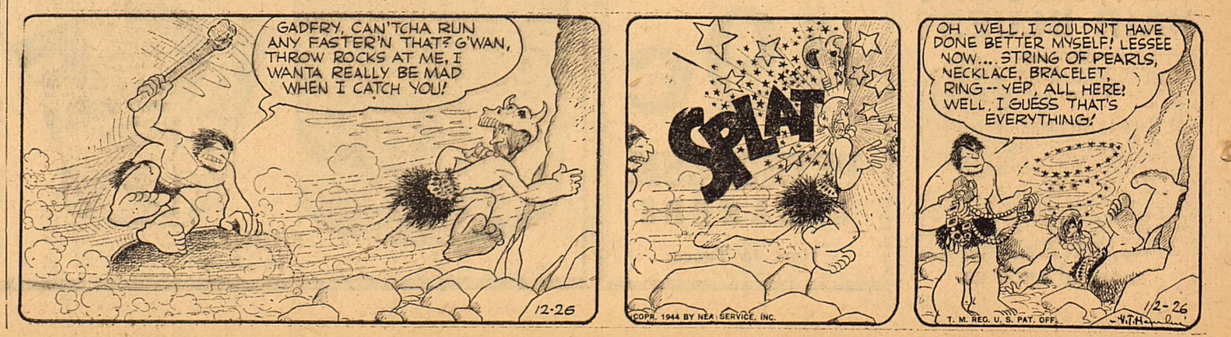
WASH TUBBS —By LESLIE TURNER



RED RYDER —By FRED HARMAN



ALLEY OOP —By V. T. HAMLIN



The ACACIA TREE

by J. M. Lacey

©1944 BY NEA SERVICE, INC.

XII

THE heavenly host vanished but a radiant glow lingered upon the plain. Here Ruth had gleaned and Boaz met and loved her. Here, also, David had tended his father's flocks. Here, now, if he could believe his ears, an heir had been born to David and would lead his countrymen to peace and joy, yea, might lead even the Romans, the Romans and all men, Joel reflected.

Eager now to return to the sleeping flocks, the shepherds hastened. The Roman inn of Bethlehem, they saw, was yet alight as Romans and Hellenists passed the night in unwonted revelry.

Familiar with the courtyard, Joel became leader now, and his foot was first to pause at the inn's stable. From within the cavernous dark a light glowed, there was the low murmur of voices, and while the shepherds hesitated the stir of wings sounded, and hovering low above the stable, they beheld the angelic throng whose message had fetched them thither.

It was as though the angels stood silent guard, there was no sound of singing now, and Joel turned to ask his fellows, would they follow into the cave?

Cradled in a manger, the King of Glory lay sleeping. A mere helpless babe such as love has given repeatedly throughout the ages, infinitely dear, with a value beyond price, and a beauty greater than the beauty of the universe.

Joel felt the ache in his heart advance to his throat, so that speech was impossible, and he knew now why Jonathan had taken his babe to Michal, who else should he have trusted with a thing so holy?

This babe before them, warm in the hay-scented manger, the birth of this babe would redeem all the unwanted births of generations and the radiance that surrounded Him where He lay wrapped in His swaddling clothes, that radiance would spread its light into every darkened place and its warmth and power bring healing where it entered.

He noticed the mother and her husband, then, and an impulse to kneel would not be denied. So that he knelt before the maiden, while the other shepherds, kneeling also, told of the star and the herald whose word had brought them here.

While they knelt the whole stall became bright as day.

* * *

LITTLE DAN became restless and Michal awakened as the new morning light fell within the sheepfold. The sun had not yet risen and Michal raised herself on one elbow, striving to see the figure of her husband in the doorway of the fold. The sheep were asleep and the quietness that held only the soft sounds of their breathings was suddenly broken by excited shepherd voices. The sleeping babe in her arms, Michal arose and flung a robe hastily about her shoulders, and stepping carefully she made her way to the doorway, anxious lest the rising sound of voices should rouse the sheep and take them from the fold if Joel's voice should reach them.



"The Nativity" by Gustave Dore.

While they knelt the whole stall became bright as day.

Joel was there, and he came to her, his face alight, his step eager and young once more as she had known it in the days before she and Jonathan were wed and Joel had ridden away to war.

He drew her close to him, and explained excitedly, "Thou hast slept while angels sang! The Messiah is born! This night we shepherds have seen glory beyond that of kings. We have seen Him who is born to be King and Saviour of all the world!

"Angels sang of His birth, and a star led the way, and an herald told us we should find Him in a manger with cattle lying near. We went even unto Bethlehem, to the stable of the inn, and found Him of whom the angel told. The heir of David, who shall save His people. The babe through whose birth peace and good will are promised to all men."

"In a stable, Joel?" Michal questioned, and her thoughts flew to Flavia and her brother. Was this the wife refused her room that Drusus might sleep in the inn? Had the Lord of all the World been born in a stable because she, Michal, had flirted with a Roman and feared his coming to her this night? Yet how should the shepherds have known Him from a hundred babes if His birthplace had not been strange?

Joel answered, "In a manger sweet with hay, warm with the breath of clean cattle, and hallowed by the star's great light Truly Adonai witnessed the birth of this babe, and to David's royal line has come the King of Kings."

"The babe's mother, is it well with her?" Michal asked.

"She is young and lovely," Joel replied. "And worthy to bear our Prince. She seemed well, indeed, for she welcomed us graciously and let us look upon the babe. And about her and the child was a luster as though the sun shone on them, while yet there was no sun.

"I carried a fine white lamb of my flock, warm in my bosom where I had thrust it that its bleatings should not disturb thee, and when I offered it to the young mother there, there was light about them as radiant as the star! She smiled upon me, and held the lamb in her arms with her little son, and the Holy Child shall be warmed tonight by my lamb's sweet wool."

A herdsboy regretted, "I am without a thing to offer to the babe and His mother. So poor! so poor!"

"Lad, thou art rich!" Joel cried. "Would that I had the riches of thy future years!"

Another spoke of the star, its brilliance visible still from where it stood above the stable, "It is so wondrously bright, surely its radiance will shine upon the world throughout all generations."

Michal spoke softly, "And the glory of this night shall be remembered by all nations."

THE END

• Use Them For Results **Classified Ads** • Read Them For Profit

RATES AND INFORMATION

RATES:
2c a word a day.
4c a word two days.
5c a word three days.
MINIMUM charges:
1 day 25c.
2 days 50c.
3 days 60c.
CASH must accompany all orders for classified ads, with a specified number of days for each to be inserted.
CLASSIFIEDS will be accepted until 11 a.m. on week days and 6 p.m. Saturday, for Sunday issues.
ERRORS appearing in classified ads will be corrected without charge by notice given immediately after the first insertion.

Personal 3

LISTEN in on Radio Station KRLH from 1 to 1:15 p. m. each Saturday—your best cattle market is on the air LUBBOCK AUCTION & COMMISSION CO.
(78-tf)

NOTARY PUBLIC at Reporter-Telegram. O. M. Luton. 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.
(157-tf)

PHONE 2202, W. D. North, for service on typewriters, adding machines and cash registers.
(232-tf)

SEWING MACHINES
Repair all makes sewing machines and vacuum cleaners. Cash paid for your old machine. E. W. (Bill) Jennings, 705 N. Main, Phone 1488.
(233-30)

Lost and Found 7

LOST—Terrier puppy, seven weeks old, female, white with black spots, in vicinity 911 W. Tennessee. Reward. Call 1305.
(249-5)

FOUND—Female bulldog, brindle & white. Phone 1760, 1901 College
(249-3)

Help Wanted 9

MAID wanted. Haley Hotel.
(249-tf)

MAID wanted, full or part time. Phone 117. 900 S. Baird.
(248-3)

WAITRESSES wanted. Apply Scharbauer Coffee Shop.
(120-tf)

WANTED: Retail milk route driver. Must be reliable with good references. Apply in person. Banner Creamery.
(193-tf)

WAITRESS wanted, day or night work. Excellent working conditions. Apply Cactus Cafe.
(291-tf)

WANTED—Experienced waitresses, good money, short hours. Apply Log Cabin Inn.
(169-tf)

SODA GIRL wanted. No night or Sunday work. Apply in person only. City Drug.
(206-tf)

Help Wanted 9

DUMP TRUCKS WANTED: To haul caliche, Andrews County, Texas. Pay 35¢ per 4 yard load mile. Long job. Trucks now making an average of $40.00 per day. Will hire 15 trucks between December 20th and January 1st in order to start second crushing plant. Call Floyd Hunter, Supt. Office phone 82, Residence 39, Andrews, Texas.
(244-12)

TRUCK route salesman wanted. Work out of town. Salary and commission. Kraft Cheese Co. Phone 1067 or 2152-W.
(245-6)

WANTED—Boys or girls 16 years old, men or women for day or night messenger duty, bicycle or walking. Good salary. Apply Western Union.
(246-6)

Situations Wanted 10

EXPERT linoleum laying. All work cash. See Foster, 409 N. "D." Phone 1109-J.
(219-52)

SEWING wanted. 1303 N. Marienfield.
(243-24)

WILL keep children in my home by hour, day or week. Phone 1444-J, 1009 S. Big Spring.
(245-6)

RENTALS

Wanted To Rent 21

WANTED—Sleeping room or apartment by officer and wife. Phone 9526. J. D. Kelly.
(248-6)

WANTED—Sleeping room or apartment by officer and wife. Phone 9526. Mrs. J. B. Williams.
(248-6)

UNFURNISHED house urgently needed by Jan. 1st by family of four. Call 429-R.
(240-9)

OFFICER and wife want room or apartment. — U. H. Schumann, Phone 9526.
(245-6)

FOR SALE

Household Goods 22

FOR SALE—Electric range, small dresser. Phone 117, 900 S. Baird.
(248-3)

WANTED — Used furniture and stoves, any amount. Highest prices paid.
GALBRAITH'S
319 E. Texas Phone 746
(206-tf)

ANTIQUE white oak dinette table with four red leather upholstered chairs. Phone 1894-R after 6. 2101 W. Kentucky.
(246-6)

Miscellaneous 23

FOR SALE—Prewar Simmons baby bed with inner spring mattress. Also two wheel trailer with practically new tires. Inquire for signal maintainer at depot.
(248-3)

ANDIRON type radiant heater for sale. Phone 2283-W.
(247-3)

CRAWFORD TAILORS
Alteration work and pressing. There is none better and it costs no more. Crawford Hotel Basement.
(240-15)

RIDE the elevator down to Crawford Tailors, Crawford Hotel Basement.
(240-15)

READ THE CLASSIFIED

BURTON LINGO CO.
☆
Building Supplies
Paints - Wallpapers
★
119 E. Texas Phone 58

FUNNY BUSINESS



"Dummy legs—hurdle practice for our waiters for New Year's Eve!"

Wanted To Buy 26

SELL US the things you don't need—we make small loans. Nix Trading Post, 200 E. Wall. Phone 9544
(204-tf)

WANTED to buy—late model portable Singer sewing machine. Must be in good condition. Write Box 369 care this paper.
(240-tf)

WILL BUY and repair alarm clocks. Will pay up to $4.00 each for Baby Ben or Big Ben clocks. Will buy clocks in any condition. — Phone 2234-J, 1406 W. Illinois.
(245-6)

Radios and Service 27

RADIO REPAIRS
610 S. Loraine - Phone 1310-M
(232-26)

TREAT lawns for better grass in spring; Trim and transplant shrubbery; Examine poplar and eradicate borers; Trim shade trees and treat Elm if needed; Call me for estimate on new shrubbery trees and roses; Complete landscaping; Experienced; Permanent. J. A. Richardson, Phone 332-R.
(226-26)

Nurseries, Flowers, Seeds 30

GOOD variety evergreens, flowering shrubs, roses, shade, fruit and pecan trees. If in need of trees and shrubs, pruned or moved, call 1494-W-1. Baker Bros. Nursery. In business since 1884. Will be here next year.
(244-26)

Wearing Apparel 32

IF YOU want to sleep, we have 22 extra beds. Haley Hotel.
(249-tf)

Livestock and Poultry 34

DEAD animals wanted for gunpowder. Free pickup service day or night. Call collect 484, Big Spring Soap Works, Big Spring, Texas.
(134-121)

Feed 36

FOR SALE—2,500 bundles of good feed. Call Burris, 72.
(248-3)

Analysis of an active plant tissue, like lettuce or beet leaves, shows that it contains about 90 per cent water.

BUSINESS SERVICE

Plumbing & Heating 39

Shattuck Plumbing Co.
308 N. Weatherford St.
Phone 2046-W.
(238-tf)

Painting & Papering 45

FOR the best labor or material. Phone 1589-W. Box 133. Nineteen years satisfactory service in Midland. Floor surfacing and finishing. Estimates cheerfully given. L. H. Pittman, 900 N. Weatherford.
(230-26)

Oil Land & Leases 50

WILDCAT WANTED: Will drill a well on block with good geology. Will buy producing royalty. Submit details. James T. Cumley, Wichita Falls, Texas.
(248-3)

AFFIDAVITS of Adverse Possession, also Tenants Consent Agreement forms, 100 to pad. Phone 8, The Reporter-Telegram. We deliver.
(103-tf)

AUTOMOBILES

Used Cars 54

We will pay cash for late model used cars.
ELDER CHEVROLET CO
(196-tf)

We pay highest cash prices for used cars.
MACKEY MOTOR CO.
300 S. Loraine Phone 245
(4-tf)

We will pay ceiling price for used cars.
CHARLTON GARAGE
110 S. Baird - Phone 99
(236-26)

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate Loans 60

IS THERE A DEBT ON YOUR FARM OR RANCH? If so see your nearest National Farm Loan Association about the new Long Term, Low Interest rate on Federal Land Bank loans. You may save many dollars each year on reduced interest rate. Stanton-Midland NFLA, Stanton, Texas.
(242-30)

Houses for Sale 61

7 ROOM frame with half block of ground. Large double garage with wash room and storage. Nice fences and shrubs. 140 feet of pavement along side; 4 blocks from south ward school. Immediate possession. Priced at only $6,500.00. Terms if desired.
SPARKS & BARRON
Tel. 79 First Natl Bank Bldg.
(247-6)

NICE five room brick veneer home. Garage. Servants quarters. Located on West Texas. Vacant now. Call Glass and Myrick, 505.
(249-3)

FOR SALE: 14x20 frame house; hardwood floors, to be moved. 710 South Baird.
(246-6)

Farms for Sale 63

FOR SALE: 200 acres; ½ in cultivation; 4 room house; windmill; lots of good water; mineral rights. Phone 1734-W. Box 306.
(239-12)

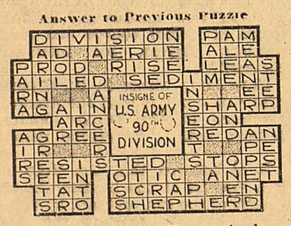
Real Estate Wanted 67

HOMES WANTED
If your home or other property is for sale I can sell it. Homes especially wanted at once. Call—
BARNEY GRAFA
203 Thomas Bldg. Ph. 106
(241-tf)

WANTED TO BUY: 3, 4 or 5 room furnished or unfurnished house, prefer to deal direct with owner. Write Box 422, Midland.
(228-tf)

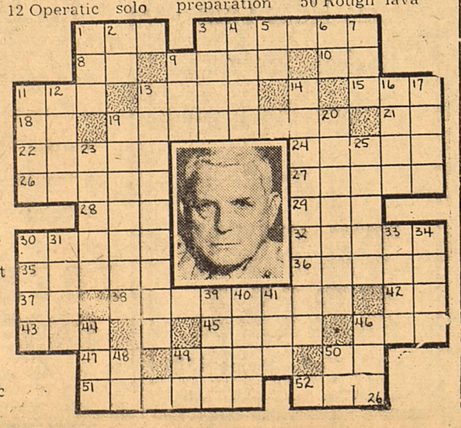
U. S. Marine Leader

Answer to Previous Puzzle



HORIZONTAL
1,3 Pictured leader of U. S. Marine Third Amphibious Corps on Guam, Maj.-Gen.
8 Symbol for silver
9 Makes mistakes
10 Accomplish
11 Loiter behind
13 Ache
15 Diminutive of Robert
18 Area measure
19 Archetypes
21 Symbol for ruthenium
22 Ocean movements
24 Car
26 Merits
27 Offenses
28 Late American humorist
29 Number
30 Arabian province
32 Woody plants
35 Popular cant
36 Shelf
37 Electrical unit
38 Presented
42 He heads American troops fighting the Japs —— Guam
43 Corded fabric
45 Highway
46 Altitude (ab.)
47 Type measure
48 Liquid measure
50 Any
51 Hikes
52 Vulgar fellow

VERTICAL
1 Tatter
2 Giant king of Bashan
3 Pluck
4 Sea eagle
5 Exists
6 Diminutive of Edward
7 Steal
9 Dine
11 Tardy
12 Operatic solo
13 Wayfarer
14 Restless
16 Verbal
17 Raised biscuits
19 Suspended
20 Disunited
23 Stage play
25 Ate
30 French river
31 Otherwise
33 Antiseptical preparation
34 Dispatched
39 Fall in drops
40 Divisions of geological time
41 Rodent
44 Fondle
46 Too
48 Written form of Mister
49 Afternoon (ab.)
50 Rough lava

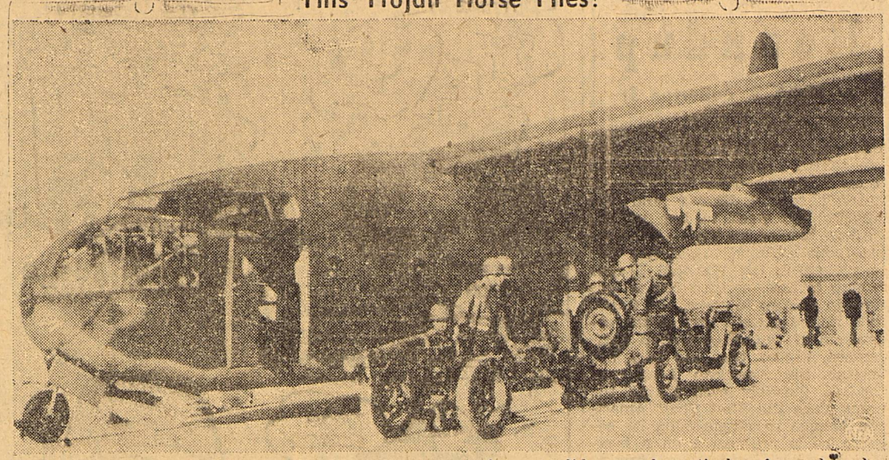


YOUR CHOICE
Sooner or Later



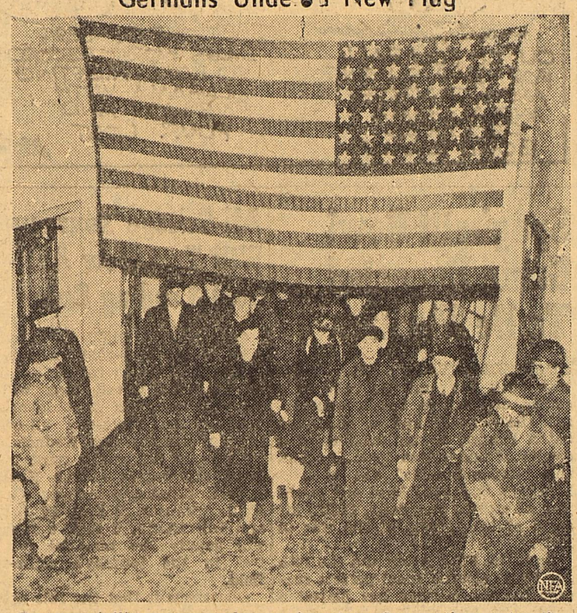
DUNAGAN SALES CO.
Midland, Texas

This Trojan Horse Flies!



Military secrecy recently was lifted on the nation's largest glider—made entirely of wood and dubbed the Trojan Horse. Designed and manufactured by the Laister-Kauffman Aircraft Corp., St. Louis, Mo., the glider has a wing span of 105 feet, hauls a large truck or howitzer and carries 42 fully armed men. The cargo section stands only 20 inches above the ground.

Germans Under a New Flag



German civilians pass under an American flag as they enter the town hall of Eschweiler, Germany, to register with the American Military Government office.

Envoy to China



Maj. Gen. Patrick Jay Hurley, above, has been nominated by President Roosevelt as U. S. Ambassador to China, succeeding Clarence E. Gauss, who recently resigned. The 61-year-old one-time lawyer, Indian fighter, World War I officer and Secretary of War has been in Chungking as the President's special envoy since late summer.

Livestock

FORT WORTH—(AP)—Cattle 1,500; calves 900; cows 25 to 50c higher; other cattle and calves fully 25c or more above last Friday's closing levels; common to medium slaughter steers and yearlings 9.00-12.50; good beef cows 10.00-12.00; common to medium butcher cows mostly 8.00-10.00.

Hogs 1,200; fully steady; good and choice 180-270 lb. butcher hogs 14.55; good and choice 150-175 lb. averages 13.25-14.25.

Sheep 2,500; yearlings and slaughter ewes up 25 cents or more; lambs very scarce.

Legal Notices 68

NO. 1092
ESTATE OF MARY L. QUINN, DECEASED
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that letters of independent administration upon the Estate of Mary L. Quinn, deceased, were granted to me, the undersigned, on the 20th day of November, 1944, by the Court of Midland County, Texas. All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby requested to present same to me within the time prescribed by law. My postoffice address is Midland, Texas.

(Signed)
Paul J. Reiger,
Independent Executor of the Estate of Mary L. Quinn
12/19-26—1/2-9

FOR SAFETY CALL 555 YELLOW CAB

Ration Calendar

MEATS, FATS, ETC.—Effective 12:01 a. m. Tuesday, only Book Four red stamps Q5, R5, and S5 are valid. Five more red stamps will be validated Dec. 31.

PROCESSED FOODS—Effective 12:01 a. m. Tuesday, only Book Four stamps X5, Y5, Z5, A2 and B2 are valid. Five more blue stamps will be validated Jan. 1.

SUGAR—Effective 12:01 a. m. Tuesday, only sugar stamp 34 is valid. Another will be validated Feb. 1.

Brothers Together Christmas In Jail

Two Midland brothers finally managed to spend a part of Christmas together when police placed them in jail Monday afternoon.

One of the brothers went to a friend's room at a local hotel and proceeded to start a fight. Police had to take the friend to the hospital for treatment for bruises received from the brother stomping him.

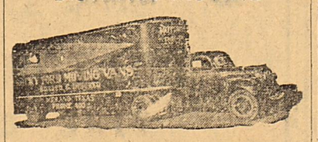
Police took the brother to the police station and were putting him in a cell, with quite a bit of argument from the brother. The other brother came to the station and joined in the argument with the result a policeman suffered a cut lip, and both the brothers were locked up to brood over the Christmas season.

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Four Yanks Escape Tank At Close Range

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM—(AP)—It isn't often that anyone can claim he escaped alive after being fired on by an enemy tank from a one-foot range. But one American officer and three enlisted men can do just that.

They were in a jeep carrying 300 pounds of TNT to the front to blow up a bridge and halt the German advance. Driving was T/5 Drady O. Berryhiff, Palestine. His passengers were Sgt. Joe A. Broadstreet, San Angelo, Pfc. Adolph E. Johle, Schwertz, and Lt. Charles F. Lawyer of Baltimore, Md.

A tank suddenly roared out of a side road and Berryhiff slammed on the brake, halting the jeep one foot short of the tank. A second later, its gun roared with a blast that bounced Johle clear out of the jeep.

Berryhiff swiftly swung the jeep around and shot down the road, pulling off at the first path and hiding behind a barn. Johle scampered into a doorway and got away, too.

When the enemy threatened to overrun one divisional command post, the commanding general forgot all about his dignity. "We are going to hold this post," he said grimly.

He personnally rallied his cooks, orderlies, drivers and clerks, and threw them into a hurried defense line. He directed traffic and supervised, while under heavy artillery and tank fire, the placing of strategic anti-tank defenses.

German Tiger tanks drove to within 200 yards of the post but the "mess shack" army never wavered. They held and knocked out so many Nazi vehicles the enemy finally had to retreat.

Three Thurstons Are Ready For Another Session Of Congress

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The new Congress may show up now . . . the three Thurstons are ready.

The three Thurstons really aren't Thurstons at all. They only act like magicians.

They sit by the rostrum in the House and, like magic, reel off the names of every one of the 435 members whether they have seen them before or not.

They are Col. Bill Roy, the assistant Parliamentarian; George Maurer, the reading clerk, and Fishbait Miller, custodian of the 103-year-old mace.

Speaker Sam Rayburn will tell you how important they are to the orderly conduct of the House.

Pretty Good

Sam is pretty good at remembering the names and states of the members. But with 90 new ones coming in. . . . a vast majority strangers . . . the speaker would have a tough time all alone "recognizing" them for the privilege of the floor—which means a speech.

That's where the three Thurstons step in. One of them is always Johnny on the spot ready to whisper to the speaker when a new member gets up:

"That's Doakes of Arkansas."

The speaker "recognizes" the gentleman for whatever business the gentleman had in mind. And you can imagine that the gentleman is pleased about the whole thing. How in the world, he wonders for a while, does the fabulous Rayburn do it?

Nothing To It

The three Thurstons just go crazy for a couple of weeks. That's all there is to it.

They have a book. It has pictures of every member. The day after election letters go out to the newcomers for pictures and biographies.

Then the three sit down for hours daily and study the pictures, memorizing the facial characteristics.

After a while, they see the pictures in their respective nightmares.

Midland - Odessa
BUS LINE
SCHEDULE

Leave Midland-Odessa	Leave Airport
5:25 A.M.	6:00 A.M.
5:55 A.M.	6:30 A.M.
6:25 A.M.	7:00 A.M.
6:55 A.M.	7:30 A.M.
7:25 A.M.	8:00 A.M.
7:55 A.M.	8:30 A.M.
8:30 A.M.	9:00 A.M.
9:30 A.M.	10:00 A.M.
10:50 A.M.	11:30 A.M.
1:00 P.M.	1:30 P.M.
2:00 P.M.	2:30 P.M.
2:55 P.M.	3:35 P.M.
3:30 P.M.	4:10 P.M.
4:30 P.M.	5:10 P.M.
4:45 P.M.	5:30 P.M.
5:05 P.M.	5:40 P.M.
5:30 P.M.	6:10 P.M.
5:45 P.M.	6:20 P.M.
6:05 P.M.	6:40 P.M.
6:30 P.M.	7:10 P.M.
7:05 P.M.	7:40 P.M.
7:30 P.M.	8:10 P.M.
8:05 P.M.	8:40 P.M.
9:30 P.M.	10:00 P.M.
10:30 P.M.	11:00 P.M.
11:30 P.M.	12:20 A.M.

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Dick Fischer Has Idea For Second Team Schoolboy Play-Off

DALLAS — (AP) — Dick Fischer, a well-known football official in this section, has an idea and he'd like to get the opinion of coaches and school men.

He thinks it would be a fine thing if they had a "second team" race in Texas schoolboy football. What he means is this: many times the eleven that wins a district championship isn't any better than the team that finishes second; for instance, there is a tie for first and by a district rule one team is certified as champion and the other eliminated from the state race. Also, one team may beat another by just one point, or by a fluke or a break of the game.

So Fischer's plan is to let the teams that finish second in the districts have thier own state play-off, staging their game a day ahead of the district champions. He thinks the winner of the "second team" race might play the "first team" winner the first week in January.

Then, he reason's, we would certainly have the best team winning the title.

Fischer plans to take his idea to the Texas Interscholastic League.

High Test Mourning Saves Many Words

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. — (AP) — Filling Station Operator J. F. Gish saves unnecessary words when out of high grade gasoline.

He drapes the pump in black.

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PETE SMITH NOVELTY
ANGEL PUSS

Sports Roundup

By Hugh S. Fullerton Jr

NEW YORK—(AP)—Chick Meehan, who put New York University on the college football map—and took it off again when he left there—is heading toward Denver and Los Angeles this week to line up the western half of his Trans-American pro football league. . . . If this tour is successful, the National League is sure to have at least one serious rival in seasons to come. . . . Chick, in a rather obvious slap at the organizers of the All-American Conference, argues that his loop will become the American League of football (possibly even taking the name since the West Coast American League is relinquishing it) because he is proceeding on a business-like basis instead of talking about $15,000 players and $25,000 coaches and because his clubs and because his clubs will have the fields to play on. . . . But possibly the tipoff on all these projected pro leagues is that the National, which finds an eleven-team setup unsatisfactory, turned back all franchise applications last spring and hasn't found anyone since then who could put in a $25,000 check to bid for a place in the circuit.

SERVICE DEPT.

The Second Air Force Superbombers claim they had not only the longest football schedule of the year (14 games) but that they made use of the season's oddest press box. When the Bombers played Idaho Southern at Pocatello in a driving rainstorm, they backed a GI truck up to the 50-yard line so the scribes could watch from under cover. . . . When Bob Scheffing, former Cub catcher, now training at the Bainbridge Naval Center, attended a recent basketball game, a recruit asked his help in finding a lost wallet. Bob obliged and found the kid's purse, then discovered that his own was missing. So Bob had to ask the recruit to help him. They haven't found it yet.

GIs 20 Per Cent House Payment Is Eliminated

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Veterans who purchase homes under the GI Bill of Rights won't have to put up 20 per cent in unborrowed funds in order to occupy them.

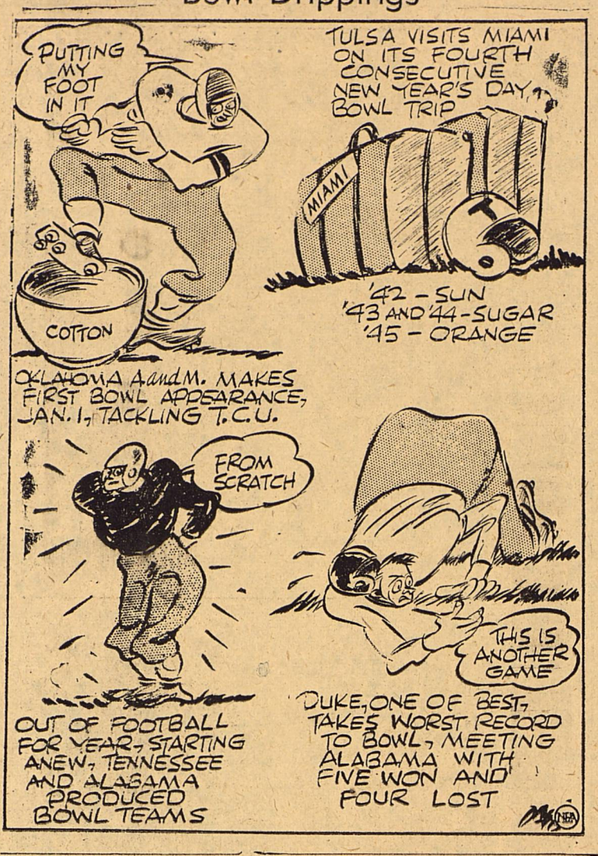
OPA rent regulations provide a tenant may not be evicted for occupancy by a purchaser without a 20 per cent payment from unborrowed funds. This was set aside Tuesday for GI purchases.

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Bowl Drippings



Spaghetti Bowl Game Expected To Be Thriller

QUARTERS, ITALY — (AP) — What with such icing on the cake as a couple of 56-piece bands, sweatergal cheerleaders and a champion baton bender, to say nothing of a couple of undefeated football clubs, this "unmentionable" site of next Monday's Spaghetti Bowl plot might just as well be Pasadena, Calif., instead of the middle of the war in Italy.

Both the Fifth Army and the 12th Air Force elevens boast perfect records because neither has played a game yet, but don't get the idea they aren't a couple of pretty fair clubs.

The rosters have that usual liberal sprinkling of ex-college and pro performers from the gridiron breeding grounds of Pennsylvania's coal fields, the Texas Plains, Midwest's corn belt and California's sunny slopes.

A crowd of 35,000 is expected to be on tap nipping cognac for the 1:30 p.m. (6:30 a.m. CWT) kickoff.

Insurance Man Killed In Airplane Crash

CLEVELAND—(AP)—The body of Otis L. Vaden, 45 of Temple, insurance and real estate man, was found in the wreckage of his plane 12 miles west of Cleveland Monday after a long search.

A group of more than 100 men had hunted through the thickly timbered area for 48 hours following a soldier's report to Sheriff-elect Clyde Young Saturday that he had heard a plane crash.

Vaden was en route from Port Arthur, where he had business, interests, to Temple. Survivors include his widow and two children.

Classified Ads bring results

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All-College Tourney Will Test New Anti-Goal Tending Rule

OKLAHOMA CITY—(AP)—Net results of the anti-goal tending rule passed late spring to put a ceiling on basketball's tall boys will be gleaned from its first laboratory test in the three-day all-college tourney opening here Wednesday.

Three of the sport's most prominent skyscrapers — Bob Kurland, 7 feet, Oklahoma Aggies; George Kok, Arkansas, 6 feet 10 inches; and Bill Henry, 6 feet, 8 inches—will supply the material for the test in the tourney's eight-team field.

Consensus is that the rule actually will aid the tall players by freeing them for more offensive play.

The opening round finds Arkansas vs. Denver; Rice vs. West Texas; Oklahoma Aggies vs. Baylor; and Oklahoma vs. Texas Tech.

Revenge Is A Woman's Weapon

OKLAHOMA CITY—(AP)—Western Union told Jane Schneider she had a money order waiting for her.

Instead of the fortune she had hoped for, the order turned out to be for one cent.

But she evened the score with the penny-sender. She wired an indignant thanks—collect.



Sun Bowl Game Takes Shape As Sharp Conflict

EL PASO—(AP)—for a bowl that was so hard-pressed for teams that less than two weeks ago it was ready to drop its plans for 1945, the Sun Bowl has done a pretty good job of obtaining an attraction the fans like.

It has come up with a contest of international flavor and with every ingredient for stirring up good neighbor feelings between the United States and Latin America. It also has one of the few unbeaten teams to appear in a bowl game Jan. 1.

Dartmouth Coach

The National University of Mexico, coached by a man who quarterbacked Dartmouth in his college days — H. B. Hoban — will meet Southwestern University of Georgetown, a school that appeared here last Jan. 1 and won over New Mexico University 7-0.

Southwestern's season has not been as good as Mexico's. The Pirates won six games and lost five, but they played a colorful brand of ball in a hard schedule and will return to El Paso with a stronger team than finished the regular season as the result of additions to the squad such as Center Bryan Taylor, who played half a season with Texas Christian Universnty.

Hoban's boys won five and tied one, and for the twelfth straight years were champions of Mexico.

Record Crowd Expected

The largest crowd to see a Sun Bowl game was in 1943, when 18,000 turned out but this number is expected to be equalled Monday when the eleventh annual classic is run off.

While Southwestern will be favored to beat the lighter Mexican team, prospects for a wide-open, wild-scoring battle were luring the customers to the box office. The Mexico champions feature razzle-dazzle and are a speedy outfit. Southwestern is versatile but packs more force in its aerial attack than on the ground.

It is not the first time for a team from Mexico to appear in a bowl game against an eleven from the United States. In 1942 the National University met Louisiana College in the Orchid Bowl, losing 10-0.

Sleet And Cold Strike Midland; Temperature 26

Midlanders skidded to work Tuesday morning as a freezing drizzle covered streets, sidewalks and everything not under cover with ice. At 9 a.m. the temperature had fallen to 26 degrees.

A cold wave hit at 3 p.m. Monday with a strong wind blowing from the north. The temperature stood at 60 degrees when the norther hit. The mercury began a shorp decline which continued through the night. Sunday was comparatively mild with the maximum temperature for the day of 56 degrees being reached at 6 p.m.

The freezing drizzle was general over this section. It extended to west of Hobbs, N. M., to south of Lubbock and south to Junction.

Freezing At Wink

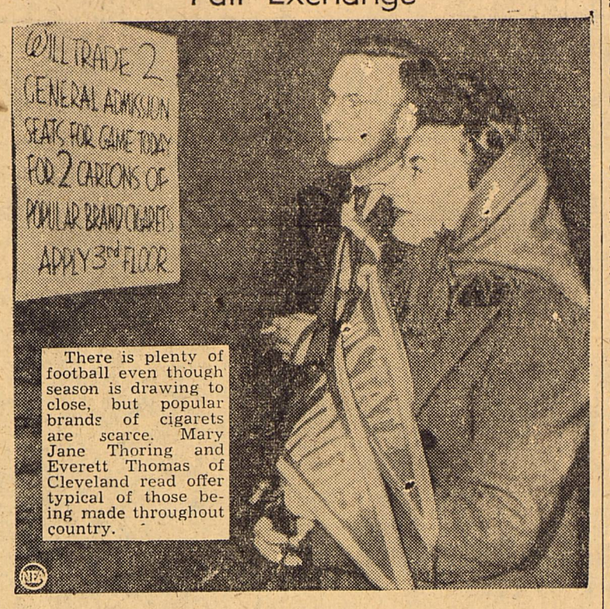
A temperature of 30 degrees was reported at Wink with a freezing drizzle and light overcast. A light fog and overcast were reported at Lubbock with a temperature of 22 degrees. Amarillo reported a 23-degree temperature with overcast.

Big Spring was being peppered by the icy drizzle and a temperature of 25 degrees was reported there. Abilene had an overcast, sleet was falling and the mercury had fallen to 27 degrees.

San Angelo also reported a freezing drizzle. The temperature had fallen to 30 degrees and skies were heavily overcast.

Theodoric, King of the Ostrogoths, was educated at Constantinople.

Fair Exchange



Central Pacific Grid Teams Proved Boon To Returning Combat Men

SAN FRANCISCO—(AP)—To those inclined to sniff at war-time worth of either civilian or service men's football, we refer the following review from Army Air Forces Headquarters, Central Pacific:

"Service football teams of the Central Pacific area league, which concluded their schedule early in December, played before a season's "gate" estimated at 600,000, almost entirely of servicemen. Soldiers, sailors and Marines on this Central Pacific island (Oahu) thus were enabled to enjoy the thrills of football.

62-Game Schedule

"A 62-game schedule was served up to servicemen returning from Pacific combat zones, of men awaiting battle assignments, by the eight loop member teams, plus an associate club fielded by the 4th Division Marines of Maui. All games, admission free, were waged on gridirons of island military installations with top crowds of 20,000 witnessing some of the contests.

"The schedule ended with the Army Air Forces and the Kanahoe Klippers, a Navy entrant, locked in a percentage tie for the CPA championship, each with six victories and one defeat. The powerful Air Forces' outfit will conclude its season in a service bowl battle Jan. 7, in which it will face an all-star Navy team coached by Lt. Cmdr. Gerlad A. (Tex) Oliver, former head coach at the University of Oregon and at St. Mary's Navy pre-flight school. He served as president of the CPA grid league and supervised its organization.

TCU Man Coached

"Lt. Cmdr. Mike Brumelow, former Texas Christian line mentor, coached the Navy Klippers.

"The 7th AAF Bombers were coached by Capt. Edgar Hennig, former Sweetwater High School coach and Major James Stacey, Detroit Tigers, who coaches the line. Lt. Cmdr. Jack Cisco, of North Texas State Teachers College, coached the Ford Lsland Navy eleven and Lt. Stan Anderson of Stanford University coached the Barbers Point Navy team.

"Lt. Al Kretowich of Holy Cross tutored the Transient Center Marines and Lt. B. Gillespie of Scranton College handled the Base Depot Marines. Chief Petty Officer Preston Moody, former Gladewater High School coach, mentored the Seabees.

"The Maui Marines, who have been in combat at Tarawa and Guadalcanal, were coached by Lt. Col. Pat Hanley, former Boston University coach."

The California desert has a native reptile which lives under the sand and moves through it with a swimming motion.

Big Seven Returns To Prewar Level

By ROY ROBERTS
AP Newsfeatures

DENVER — Big Seven basketball returns to the Rocky Mountains with a full complement this winter after two blank years.

A tiff over football matters which led Denver University to drop out of the circuit and cut it to Size Six after the 1941-42 season is patched up now, and the manpower shortage that reduced it to a one-team league last year has been overcome by eager freshmen, deferred students and returning servicemen.

Utah, only conference school playing the game last season, has but one man left of the youthful Redskin band that speared the National Collegiate Athletic Association championship with an overtime triumph over Dartmouth in New York City last March. He is Arnold Ferrin.

Coach Vadal Peterson will surround Ferrin with freshmen and deferred upper classmen and send them out to see if they can become basketball ambassadors like the men before them.

Denver, which played independent basketball last year, is back in the conference with a new coach, Cliff Rock, head coach at Kansas State last year, and two veterans, Larry Sewald and Herb Vean.

Colorado State, Utah State, Wyoming and Brigham Young return to the hardwood this winter after a year of idleness. Wyoming will be under the direction of the man who coached the Cowboys to the NCAA championship in 1943 — Ev Shelton. Like Wyoming, the Colorado Aggies, Utah Aggies and BYU will be mainly freshman-manned.

Colorado, which gave up the sport after 1941-42 and turned its fieldhouse over to the Navy as a dormitory, now has its facilities back and, in a sort of reverse lend-lease, has some sailor-marine material still training at CU to draw upon.

In the independent collegiate field, Colorado College will send out a team of sailors and marines with high school experience, and Montana and Montana State will pick up where they left off two years ago.

In the independent amateur-military division, the drumming will be louder than last year.

Denver's clique of independent amateur veterans who beat the courts together year after year — Jack McCracken, Bob (Ace) Gruenig, Art Unger and Pete Levty — have rallied again, under the name of Ambrose Jellymakers. As they have for ten seasons, they will shoot for A.A.U. honors.

Military installations in the Rockies from the Casper Air Base in Wyoming to the Deming Air Base in New Mexico are building teams of former college and independent players, for inter-post competition.

Five Army teams in the Denver area will compete with the Ambrose amateurs in the Denver Victory League, now in its second season.

It is believed that the Yule log is a variant of the bonfire characteristic of the sun festivals, by which ancient people marked the four stages in the earth's progress around the sun.

Sooner Aggies Outranking TCU By Wide Margin

By HAROLD V. RATLIFF

DALLAS — (AP) — Appropriately enough, the first of the Cotton Bowl participants to arrive in Dallas will be Oklahoma A. and M., which has been rated first in every book.

When Coach Jim Lookabaugh leads his Sooner Aggies into town next Thursday he will have a difficult time convincing the fans there's a close battle ahead with Texas Christian—that is, if the statistics are given a prominent place.

Those statistics show Oklahoma A. and M. to be the irrestible force, the Horned Frogs far from the immovable object.

"Oklahoma A. and M. has averaged 100 yards more per game in offense than we have," said coach Dutch Meyer of T.C.U. in explaining why he had been stressing defense in the Frog practice sessions. "If that doesn't call for defensive tactics, then I don't know football."

Frogs Held Better

The Aggies have averaged 438 yards per game in rushing and passing, kick returns and pass interception returns, whereas T.C.U. has 309. The Frogs did succeed, however, in holding their opponents to 302 yards while the Cowboys allowed 360.

But Oklahoma A. and M. never worried much about defense. The Cowpokes didn't need to. For instance, they gave up 40 points to Tulsa but got 46 themselves.

Even comparative scores give the Aggies the edge. Against mutual foes the Aggies scored 74 points to 21 while T.C.U. broke even with 46 to 46. Both defeated Texas and Texas Tech but while the Cowboys beat Oklahoma by three touchdowns, T. C. U. lost to the Sooners by two. Also ,the Aggies downed Arkansas by three touchdowns whereas the Frogs were fortunate to escape with a 6-6 tie.

The Aggies led T.C.U. at their own game—passing—with 125 yards per contest compared to 81 for T.C.U. in rushing, Oklahoma A. and M. had 197, T.C.U. 140. The Frogs lost to Oklahoma and Southern Methodist; the Aggies fell only to unbeaten, untied Norman Navy.

But all this apparent superiority hasn't affected the Cotton Bowl box office. Officials still think there will be more than 40,000 in the stadium —the second largest crowd in the nine-year history of the classic.

Firemen Answer Two Early Morning Calls

Members of the Midland fire department had a busy time over Christmas, as they answered a call both Sunday and Monday, and both of the calls were in the early morning hours.

Fire at 6:10 a.m. Sunday destroyed a double garage and its contents at 2011 West College. A car and some bicycles were in the garage. It was owned by O. H. Jones. The blaze is thought to have been caused by electrical wiring.

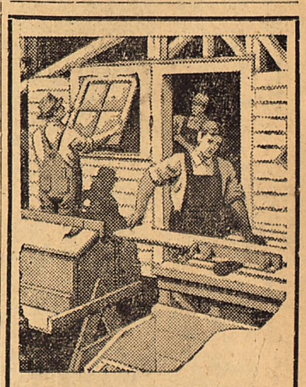
The firemen fell out again at 3:45 a.m. Monday to answer a call at 402 East Kentucky, where a refrigerator motor was burning. The motor was ruined.

Fifty Girls Write A Plenty Long Letter

COFFEYVILLE, KANS. — (AP) — Fifty girl friends of Sgt. Charles R. Miller, stationed at the Coffeyville Army Air Base, after hearing that he complained of receiving only short letters, sent him one 287 feet long.

Written on adding machine tape, it took Miller one hour and fifteen minutes to read the letter—and another twenty minutes to roll it up again.

Chanucah, the Feast of Lights, occurring about the same time as Christmas, is the popular mid-winter festival of the Jews, when gifts are exchanged and other traditions observed.



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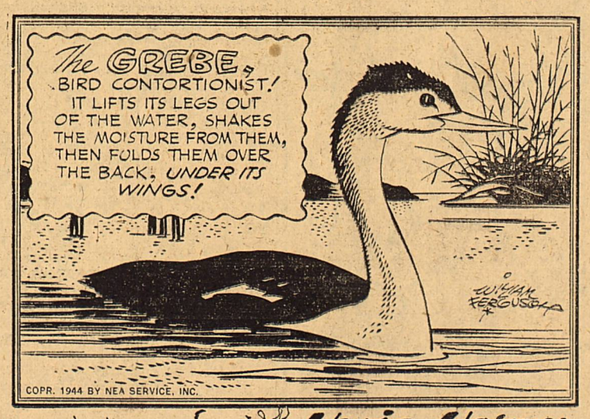
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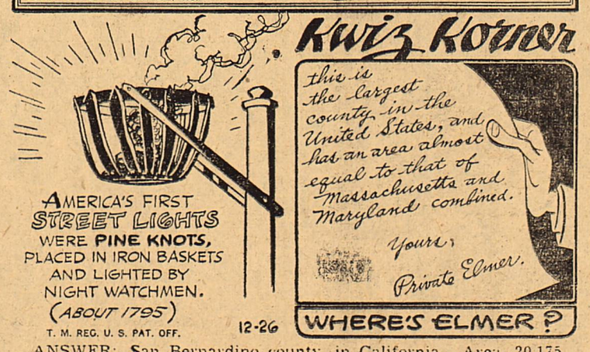


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