

# ALLIES SMASH FIVE MILES ACROSS RHINE; LINK UP WITH 40,000 AIRBORNE TROOPS; 'THIS IS LAST ROUND,' MONTGOMERY SAYS

## RUSSIAN PUSH GAINS 43 MI. IN HUNGARY

Battle Raging in Drive to Reach Berlin

By RICHARD KASISCHKE  
LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Joseph Stalin tonight announced Russian troops have advanced 43 miles on a 62-mile front in a great new offensive across Western Hungary.

The Germans said a savage, swaying battle was raging in Berlin's outer defenses 31 miles east of the Nazi capital.

92 Miles From Vienna

The massive breakthrough in Hungary, synchronized with the Allied assault in the West, has already ground within 49 miles of Austria and 92 miles of Vienna. The Soviets said 70,000 Nazis were killed in the drive. The Austrian capital is the gateway to the Southern Germany "mountain redoubt" where the Nazis are reported planning to make their last ditch stand.

The Vienna-bound offensive exploded as the enemy said the Red Army has built up a 17-mile long, six-mile deep bridgehead across the Oder on the road to Berlin and hurled powerful new forces into an assault with the Anglo-American offensive across the Rhine.

Take Industrial Cities

Soviet forces in Upper Silesia, meanwhile, captured the industrial cities of Neisse and Loebischowitz and were probing the Sudeten mountain passes leading from Silesia to Danzig, Prague and Hitler's Czechoslovak arsenal. The capture of Neisse and Loebischowitz was announced in a second order of the day issued by Stalin. They are nine and three miles from the Moravian frontier. Elsewhere, by German and Russian account, the Red Army was attacking on five major sectors from Western Latvia to Yugoslavia's northern border.

In three of these operations, the Russians battered the perimeter defenses of the isolated Baltic ports of Danzig and Gdynia, inched into the southern forts guarding Stettin, Berlin's northern anchor, and battled under German naval fire to wipe out a Nazi pocket in East Prussia southwest of Königsberg.

350 Towns Captured

In Hungary, Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's 3d Ukrainian Army captured the great Hungarian city of Veszprem, 115 miles east of the Austrian mountain fortress of Graz, in its new offensive and swept up more than 350 other towns and villages, Stalin announced. Tolbukhin's troops surged over territory conquered last December and lost to a German counter-offensive in January, advancing as much as 13 miles beyond previous Soviet positions, Stalin disclosed. They smashed the blows of "11 enemy tank divisions."

In this powerful sweep across Western Hungary, the Soviets also recaptured the great 13-way communications center of Szekesfehar, 32 miles southwest of Budapest, and 14 miles to the northwest overran the town of Mor.

Burst Into Veszprem

Eighteen miles southeast of Szekesfehar, Tolbukhin's troops captured Enying, and 23 miles southwest of Szekesfehar burst into Veszprem beyond the west shore of Lake Balaton. This important nine-way road and rail center is on the direct line to Graz and Italy.

The enemy said Tolbukhin's forces, which were within 57 miles

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## The Weather

(By U. S. Weather Bureau)  
Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to day, moderate temperatures.  
New Jersey: Fair today, moderate temperature in interior, cool along the coast.

## Newsprint Conservation

Many pages of advertisements have been omitted from this copy of the Sunday Record. Reason: The Record is co-operating with the Government in conservation.  
But this edition contains all current news and all features complete. The Record is the only Philadelphia newspaper which carries dispatches from five great news agencies: Associated Press, United Press, International News Service, New York Times, Foreign Service and Chicago Sun-Forrest Service.  
Philadelphia Record

## 'THE FINAL ROUND'



## 225 SUPERFORTS BOMB BIG NAGOYA AIRCRAFT PLANT

Carrier-Based Planes Continue Raid on Ryukyu Islands

By LISLE SHOEMAKER  
GUAM, Sunday, March 25 (UP)—A fleet of at least 225 Superfortresses attacked the Mitsubishi aircraft industry at Nagoya with hundreds of tons of demolition bombs early today.

The strike was designed to cripple Japan's airplane engine production. A communiqué issued at the 21st Bomber Command headquarters announced Marianas-based B-29s resumed their raids against centers of war-making facilities in the Japanese homeland.

After-Midnight Attack

The Superfortresses, carrying a huge but undisclosed tonnage of "general purpose" bombs, droned over blacked-out Nagoya shortly after midnight at 5,000 feet. The five previous raids against major Japanese cities—Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe—were incendiary bomb attacks designed to burn out target areas.

It was the second attack against Nagoya—the Far East's greatest aircraft center—and Japan's third largest city—within a week. And it was the fifth time the Mitsubishi plant has been the target for Superforts.

Through Bad Weather

Reports on the results of today's attack were not available immediately. It was the first time B-29s have dropped demolition bombs from such a low altitude, and greater accuracy could be expected.

Pre-raid forecasts indicated the strike would be made through bad weather, which has prevented taking reconnaissance photographs since last Monday's fire raid on Nagoya. At that time crewmen said big fires were touched off in the city.

In the previous incendiary raid on Nagoya March 12, two square miles in the heart of the city were burned. The Mitsubishi plant occupies 10,000,000 square feet—slightly less than a half square mile—on the outskirts of the city. Nagoya is located at the head

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## Air Army Fills the Sky Like Times Square Jam

Armada of 1500 Transports 500 Miles Long Lands Thousands of Parachutists and British Glider Troops; Luftwaffe Offers No Opposition

By ALEX H. SINGLETON  
ABOARD A GLIDER TUG EAST OF THE RHINE, March 24 (AP)—I saw history's mightiest air armada—officially 500 miles long—soar triumphantly across the placid Rhine today and deposit thousands of battle-toughened American and British airborne troops in the thick of an enemy defense zone plastered in advance by an unprecedented artillery and bomb barrage.

## MADRID ORDERS ENVOYS TO STOP ACTING FOR JAPAN

Demands Satisfaction for Murders in Manila; Reich Warns Spain

MADRID, March 24 (P)—Spain, backing up her stern protest over the bayoneting of Spanish civilians by Japanese fleeing Manila, announced today that all Spanish diplomatic missions abroad have been ordered to cease representing Japanese interests.

(The Japanese Domei news agency quoted Sadao Iguchi, spokesman of the Board of Information as "categorically" denying that Japanese troops committed atrocities against Spaniards in the Philippines.

Demands Satisfaction

The Madrid government's announcement, which came as the new U. S. Ambassador, Norman Armour, presented his credentials to Generalissimo Franco, said Spain also dispatched an "energetic demand for satisfaction" to the Tokyo government for the attacks on the Spanish nationals, which it termed "premeditated murder." A note protesting the attacks was sent to Tokyo Monday.

Thursday night the government announced that 172 Spanish men, women and children had been bayoneted to death by Japanese

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## 10,000 PLANES BLAST REICH AS ALLIES ADVANCE

U. S. Bombers From Italy Attack Berlin for First Time

By HENRY B. JAMESON  
LONDON, March 24 (P)—The greatest co-ordinated aerial blows in history rocked Germany today as 10,000 Allied planes joined the assault across the Rhine and then laid a protective wall of fire around the troops as they charged toward the heart of the Reich.

With Nazi defenses thrown into turmoil by this tremendous attack from the West, American heavy bombers from Italy leaped the Alps and smashed a tank factory in Berlin in a 1600-mile round trip, the longest escorted mission ever flown over Europe.

From dawn to dusk, one great procession of bombers and fighters swept across the Channel, to be joined over the continent by thousands of other warplanes streaming up from advanced bases in Belgium, Germany, Holland and France.

Fly in Five Layers

Each phase of the mammoth operation was run off with split-second timing, with as many as five layers of planes roaring toward their objectives at the same time or cross-crossing at different altitudes.

Sixty seconds after a group of transports, towing gliders filled with combat troops, passed over one Belgian city, there came the roar of 200 swift American fighters diving into the fray. A total of 1500 transports and gliders showered fighting men into the seething battle east of the Rhine. A force of 240 Liberators dropped 600 tons of supplies to the airborne troops.

In the crucial hours before daybreak 1900 American bombers and fighters beat up a dozen Nazi airfields around the battle zone and made searing attacks on German positions near the Rhine. Late in the day another 450 Flyin Fortresses and Liberators smashed four enemy night fighter bases in Germany and Holland. And on Friday night RAF Lancasters smashed the German garrison in Wesel, paving the way

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## NAZIS PUT UP ONLY SPOTTY RESISTANCE

British and Yanks' Skill and Guts Conquer River

By WES GALLAGHER

ON THE RHINE, March 24 (AP)—Fighting the most intricate battle ever planned by American and British soldiers, elements of three armies were making amazing progress today after crossing the Rhine by a combination of skill and guts.

Flies Across Rhine

To get a ringside view of the greatest co-ordinated attack ever staged on the Western Front, I followed the Doughboys and Tommies from their secret assembly areas to the Rhine over moonlit roads, watched the attack develop from a front line regimental command post, went across the river, and finally took a flight in a Cub airplane for a 3000-foot-high seat over the Rhine for the air troops of the assault of paratroopers and glider troops.

There is not a man, American or British, from generals to privates, who does not feel that this is the beginning of the last major battle that will bring the war to a quick end.

GI's Usually Pessimistic

It is the first time that this feeling has permeated into the hearts of the always pessimistic GI's who have to do the fighting.

Everything the Allies have learned in three years of war has been thrown into this battle against the most powerful German fighting force left on the Western Front.

German defeat now means loss of the Ruhr, opening of the gate to Berlin, an eventual linkup with the Russian armies and loss of the war for the Germans.

Despite these stakes, German resistance at first was spotty. Abnormal numbers of German prisoners were taken in small attacks. One division alone had nearly 1000 before the morning was over.

It was the same type of feeble resistance that was encountered at the Roer last month when German soldier morale slid down and the front collapsed.

Why Attack Is Succeeding

But the Allied attack was succeeding primarily, not because of German morale. It was because of the calm, icy courage of British Commandos who lay within 1500 yards of Wesel while the RAF put on one of the greatest night precision attacks of the war.

Three hundred Lancasters flattened the town in 15 minutes. The commandos rushed into the flaming rubble and crushed the resistance of tough German parachute troops.

Transport Fliers Brave

The bravery of American transport pilots who flew their cumbersome ships with heavy gliders in tow into a storm of flak and dropped grim air borne troops. Sometimes they came back across the Rhine in flames, sometimes not at all.

But these are only snapshots in the great battle. Here is how it developed:

Yesterday afternoon a pall of smoke hung over the entire Ruhr and the Rhine from Dusseldorf to Arnhem. Some of it was the result of Allied smoke pots along the river, but most of it was from flaming buildings of the Ruhr and the impact of thousands of American and British bombers and fighters.

There was little movement behind the front late yesterday afternoon as the 9th Army and

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## HOUSE CHEERS NEWS

OF RHINE CROSSINGS

WASHINGTON, March 24 (P)—The House of Representatives applauded today as Chairman Andrew J. May (D., Ky.) stepped to the microphone and shouted: "The American armies have crossed the Rhine. The battle cry is on to Berlin!"

A few minutes later the members unanimously approved a request by Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.) that the Speaker send a congratulatory telegram to Gen. George S. Patton on "the magnificent showing he is now making on the Western Front in Europe."

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## 500,000 TROOPS WIN BRIDGEHEAD 12 MILES LONG

4 Armies Seize Crossings at 4 Points; Patton Repels 3 Counter-Attacks; Commandos Enter Wesel

By DREW MIDDLETON

Philadelphia Record-New York Times Foreign Service

PARIS, March 24—Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's great offensive, designed to break the German Army in the north and open the road to Berlin, has begun successfully.

Tommies of the 2d British Army and doughboys of the 9th U. S. Army punched across the Rhine at four places to establish crossings around Rees on the north to below Wesel on the south early today. Counting all services, Montgomery had thrown 500,000 men into the drive.

Late tonight, Supreme Headquarters announced the bridgehead is 12 miles long and five miles deep. The deepest point of penetration was four miles north of Duisburg, at the southern end of the bridgehead, in the 9th Army sector.

## Air Armada's 'Good Progress'

Airborne landings commenced at 10 A. M., one hour after several crossings of the Rhine had been made successfully. This was a departure from previous operations wherein the airborne assault preceded that of the ground troops. Forty thousand paratroopers and glider-borne infantry of the 1st Allied Airborne Army have made "good progress," according to a statement issued here. The landings were made in good weather, protected by hundreds of Allied fighter planes.

(The Associated Press said the 1st Allied Airborne Army joined up with the British 2d Army north of the Ruhr's gateway city of Wesel after six hours of fighting. The Associated Press also reported Gen. Eisenhower had committed possibly 1,250,000 men to the battle of the West with this latest offensive.)

(The Brussels Radio quoted an unconfirmed report that French troops have crossed the Rhine in the area of Rastatt, 12 miles south of Karlsruhe in the Palatinate.)

The airborne army, which was dropped onto Westphalian plain, attacked the supply lines and rear areas of the tough, experienced 1st German Parachute Army defending the Rhine against the 21st Army Group's onslaught. Thousands of bombers and fighter-bombers hammered and scoured German positions and communications on the scarred and smoking Westphalian plain.

## Allies Encounter Few Germans

According to early reports, enemy resistance on the 9th Army front was scattered and the British also reported that the enemy's forward positions were held in only moderate strength.

Field Marshal Montgomery told his troops in a message that "the enemy is driven into a corner . . . this is the final round."

Reports of initial success in this massive offensive, which may prove decisive, were matched by rapid expansion of two other footholds east of the Rhine to the south. Troops of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d Army have broken up three German counter-attacks on their position east of the river north of Ludwigshafen and have established a bridgehead at least eight miles long and four miles deep. Several hundred prisoners already have been taken.

The 1st U. S. Army's position east of the Rhine has now become a front with strongly reinforced forces hammering out sizable gains to the south to reach positions only four miles north of Coblenz.

Three of the Rhine crossings on Marshal Montgomery's front were hacked out by troops of the 2d British Army, including crack Scots infantry and Commandos.

## Highlanders First to Cross

A battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders had the honor of forcing the first crossing of the Rhine. These infantrymen, who have fought with distinction from the Saar to El Alamein, from Tunis to Caen, pushed across the river and scrambled up the eastern bank at 9 o'clock Friday night in a surprise crossing at Rees, which apparently was made without preliminary bombardment.

Other British troops poured across the river in their wake and at last reports the Scots had smashed into Rees itself.

Other forces of the 2d British Army made a more conventional crossing at Xanten, farther south. Units which made this assault were not identified, but it was revealed here that battalions of the Royal Dragoons, an armored car regiment; the Royal Berkshires, infantry regiment, and the 5th Royal Tank Regiment took part in the initial assault. These troops started across the river at 2 A. M. after a thunderous artillery bombardment which began at midnight. They soon captured Bislich, three-quarters of a mile in from the east bank of the river and seven miles southeast of Rees. A position varying in depth from one mile and an eighth to two miles has been established.

The 1st Commando Brigade, including veterans of Di-epe and St. Nazaire, achieved complete surprise in its thrust over the river. The Commandos, who suffered few casualties, swept into Wesel, six and three-quarters miles southeast of Bislich where they captured the local commander, Maj. Gen.

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# Allies 5 Miles Beyond Rhine; Link Up With Airborne Army

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE)

By DREW MIDDLETON

Deutsch, commander of anti-aircraft formations in this area, was killed.

The southernmost crossing was hacked out by doughboys of Lt. Gen. Simpson's 9th Army. They crossed the Rhine south of Wesel between 2 and 3 A. M. this morning after a violent artillery barrage.

## Resistance Light

Our doughboys found the resistance relatively light aside from scattered fire from enemy infantrymen and machine-gunners who dragged their weapons from their fox holes as the barrage died and waves of doughboys swept up from the river bank.

None of the crossings is as yet a bridgehead in the sense that it is free of small arms and light artillery fire. However, the lightness of the opposition, probably as a result of the heavy aerial and artillery barrages, indicates that the task of punching out larger positions should not be difficult. Several hundred prisoners have been taken in the battle, but thus far only two German divisions have been identified. These are the 8th Parachute Division and the 84th Infantry Division of the 1st Parachute Army.

## Several Crossings Made

By 9 A. M., the operation was going "according to plan." Several crossings had been established and troops were well into the first German defensive position. The critical period will come when the Germans counter-attack in strength if, indeed, they are able to do this with their communications and rear areas under attack by the Allied Airborne Army.

## Canadian Troops are Also Taking Part

Canadian troops are also taking part in the battle, it was revealed today although their location has not yet been revealed. Prime Minister Churchill is at Marshall Montgomery's headquarters watching the progress of what he called a "memorable battle" in a message to the troops.

## Churchill Forecasts Victory

"Once the river line is pierced and the crust of German resistance is broken, a decisive victory in Europe will be near," he wrote. "May God prosper our armies in this noble venture after our long struggle for our King and country, for our dear life and for the freedom of mankind."

## As the sun rose over the ravaged countryside north of the Rhine, the first formations of Allied fighter-bombers and bombers wheeled over their targets on the Westphalian plain to begin a day of punishing aerial attack on the enemy. The Allied tactical air forces immediately concentrated in the crossings of the Rhine, being co-ordinated by Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham, commander of the British 2d Tactical Air Force.

## 600 Tons of Bombs Dropped

Hundreds of Marauders, Invaders and Havocs of the 9th Air Force opened their assault at precisely 8 o'clock when they dropped 600 tons of fragmentation bombs on 11 enemy installations north of the Ruhr.

## Fighter-bombers of the same force flew protective patrols for the sky train of 1500 American troop carriers and gliders which brought paratroopers and airborne infantry over their targets. Then fighter-bombers swooped down to blast gun positions and German reinforcements moving to the front and other targets marked by Allied artillery. Pilots reported that the entire position east of the Rhine was covered with smoke and said that they encountered only light flak.

## Sky Train 500 Miles Long

These airborne landings represented the largest single concentration of airborne troops ever undertaken by the Allied Forces. The sky train was more than 500 miles long, exclusive of the hundreds of fighters and bombers which assisted in the operation. The 8th Air Force made a notable contribution to the battle this morning when 1050 of its Flying Fortresses and Liberators blasted 12 Luftwaffe airfields north of the Ruhr.

## Mitchells and Bostons of the RAF's 2d Tactical Air Force carried out sharp attacks on German gun positions in the battle area during the morning and again hammered the enemy's communications. Typhoons and Tempests attacked similar targets with rockets, cannon and machineguns.

## Navy Ferries, Troops

Ships, boats and men of the U. S. Navy and the Royal Navy took part in landings, ferrying thousands of troops across the Rhine.

## After exhaustive experiments on American and British rivers, it was found that LCM's and LCV's were the two largest types of craft suited to meet the Army's requirements which could be carried overland on trailers.

## These types of craft have bows lower to form ramps for loading or unloading and which speeds up their "turn-around" time.

## The operation called for a new amphibious technique. Instead of

## operating craft through waves and surf, the seamen had to learn to maneuver the craft to and from pinpoint landing spots in currents ranging from six to 10 knots and running at right angles to their course. The boats had to be launched from muddy river banks instead of from ships' davits and most difficult of all they had to be transported hundreds of miles, the last few over shell-pitted roads and make-shift bridges.

## Vehicle 77 Feet Long

When moving overland, the LCM on its carrier is 77 feet long and 14 feet wide and the landing craft alone weighs 26 tons. The movement of these craft to the river was a feat of which all services can be proud.

## Marshal Montgomery's offensive should not be regarded separately from other Allied operations, although there is a strong temptation to do so. At present, however, it is the largest offensive underway and is engaging enemy forces qualitatively and quantitatively superior to any elsewhere.

## Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, who commands Army Group H in the northern sector, has the 1st Parachute Army in line from Emmerich to opposite Eindhoven, backed by a large number of 88-millimeter guns. A Panzer corps is believed to be in reserve and speedy expansion of positions east of the Rhine into bridgeheads depends on the Allied armies' ability to deal with its counter-stroke.

## 500,000 Cross Rhine

Fifteen to 20 divisions are believed to be opposing the 21st Army Group's offensive which already, counting all arms, involves more than 500,000 men. Few if any of the German divisions are up to strength.

## Some idea of the size of the Allied assault and the difficulties of preparing it may be gained from two figures. More than 1,000,000 photographs were taken by reconnaissance planes mapping the bridgehead and the landing area while the ammunition needed for the opening of the assault by the British 2d Army alone amounted to 100,000 tons.

## Elements of some Panzer and six infantry divisions had been attracted southward to the U. S. 1st Army's east of the Rhine at Rhenen to help hold the line. The opening of this bridgehead robbed Field Marshal Walther von Model of time wherein to refit and rest the troops of Army Group C. On top of this came the almost complete destruction of the 7th and the 1st German Armies in operations by the 7th and the 3d U. S. Armies west of the Rhine. Only two divisions, the 17th Panzer Grenadiers and the 2d Panzers, have been reported in this area. The Panzer Lehr Division, identified at the bridgehead, has left that area and is probably moving north to counter the other Allied crossings.

## Both American bridgeheads are prospering. Gen. Patton's position across the Rhine, the younger of the two, has been enlarged under a canopy of fighter-bombers after the repulse of three counter-attacks. Infantry were involved in the first two which took place yesterday afternoon and last night, but in the third, the enemy employed tanks as well. The final counter-blow was broken up by artillery fire before it could make contact with the American lines and two of the tanks were knocked out.

## Location Still Secret

Supreme headquarters, at Patton's request, has not revealed the location of this bridgehead which the Germans said yesterday was near Oppenheim, between Mainz and Ludwigshafen. (The Associated Press said that the 3d Army was 17 miles from Frankfurt and only seven from Darmstadt after capturing four east-bank towns. These towns were identified as Efelden, Astheim, Gersheim and Leesheim.)

## 1st Expands Bridgehead

Continued pressure by 1st Army's doughboys and tanks extended the southern flank of the Remagen front another two miles late yesterday and early today. This front is now 33 miles long and 10 miles wide.

## German counter-attacks, all of which were repulsed, have failed to check the thrust in the south. The tanks gained 4000 yards to a position near Engers, only four miles north of Coblenz. Other infantry advanced 2500 yards to the northeast of Neuwied to capture Rengsdorf, a mile and one-half east of the Wied River, while Kurtscheid fell to the 9th Infan-



A HASTY LUNCHEON is taken by Field Marshal Montgomery while visiting forward British and Canadian troop positions before the start of the Rhine offensive.

—Associated Press Wirephoto.

## Germans Warned Not to Execute Allied Air Troops

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Allied radio stations broadcast a message from Gen. Eisenhower to the German Army and the Waffen SS disclosing that the Allies have captured a German secret order calling for the execution of Allied airborne troops and warning the enemy that severe punishment would be dealt to any troops carrying out the order.

## Eisenhower disclosed that the secret order, dated at Hitler's headquarters October 18, 1942, with an additional order dated October, 1944, commanded the execution of Allied airborne forces and parachute troops.

"With particular emphasis, it is pointed out that such troops are not terrorists," the broadcast said. "They are soldiers who are fulfilling their military duties in an orderly way."

## try Division after an advance of nearly 3000 yards.

The Germans are falling back before an attack by the 9th Division in the center of the bridgehead where they thrust one-quarter mile east.

## Counter-attacks Repulsed

The stiffest fighting was to the north and northeast where several small counter-attacks were repulsed east southeast of Hennef on Friday.

The 1st Army took 1642 prisoners yesterday and has captured 26,970 since it crossed the Rhine March 7. Its total since D-Day is 295,120.

## The German pocket west of the Rhine dwindled under steady pressure from the 7th and 3d Armies Friday and early today.

The 36th Division of Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch's army broke through the Siegfried Line Friday and thrust six miles to the northeast across the northern end of Bienwald Forest, capturing Hatzenbühl, only four miles west of the Rhine. Several other villages, six to eight miles south-east of Landau, were taken by this division.

## Lauterberg Cleared

The 14th Armored Division, operating in the same area, cleared Kendal north of Lauterberg and smashed to the northeast for further gains.

The 5th French Armored Division pulled out of the line in Bienwald Forest and followed behind the 14th Armored in an attempt to relieve pressure on the 3d Algerian Division attacking Siegfried Line positions in Bienwald.

Elsewhere in this area, there were only mopping up operations to report. The 94th Division of the 3d Army has completed the clearing of Ludwigshafen. The junction of the 3d and 7th Armies south of Landau has completely isolated German forces west of the north-south line through the city.

## NEW RATION INCLUDES FUDGE FOR U. S. FLIERS

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new AAF ration that gives hungry fliers a snack while in the air for three hours or more is being issued by the air quartermaster. Known as the air crew lunch, it includes fudge, assorted candy and gum to help alleviate fatigue.

Outstanding feature is the container designed to be opened with one hand while wearing heavy flying gloves. Sliding the inner container forward releases the fudge and gum from a hole in the side of the container. Sliding the container in the opposite direction releases the candy.

# Nazis Put Up Only Spotty Resistance Beyond Rhine

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE)

By WES GALLAGHER

The British 2d Army lay quiet.

But with darkness, the front stirred to life. From the forests came the rumble of tanks and trucks, and on the roads long convoys sprang forth like magic with loads of every conceivable weapon, thousands of tons of bridging material and huge landing craft on their giant trailers.

## Some Weapons Secret

Some of the weapons were still on the Allied secret list. You wondered how this vast assortment of equipment could get untangled and arrive at the right place at the right time. Most of it did. When it did not or failed of its purpose American or British ingenuity found a way to do without it.

But far more impressive, as always, were the long lines of silent infantry hiking across the fields and along the roads. The sight brought a tightness to one's throat.

Near the river dike, a barrage from mortars kicked up dust and steel whistled about the veteran regimental command post in a ruined house.

## Orders Go by Phone

In the cellar, the commanding colonel—a short man with a .45 slung on his hip—was just getting his communications in order. It all had to be done by telephone, for this division had been moved to the front secretly and could not use the wireless for fear of advertising its presence to the Germans.

"The worst thing about this period," he complained, "is that you have to sit and wait. There is nothing you can do, just sit and wait. You can't stop all this stuff from going on, nor can you help it any until the battle starts."

Shortly after dark, there is a thunder to the north from the big guns. The British have begun their preliminary barrage, a barrage that is to go on for four hours.

## Jump-off Staggered

The jump-off was staggered, with the British northern flank launching its attack at 8 P. M., the southern flank at 9 P. M. and then the 9th Army to the south at 2 A. M.

From the time those guns opened up, the front was a continuous roar, reaching such a crescendo that plaster fell from the walls. The concussion of the guns pulled at your clothes.

## Commands Slip Across

Just north of this command post, British Commandos slipped across the river in the darkness at 10 P. M. and sliced through the river defenses. Then they hid out a scant 1500 yards from the key German stronghold in the West.

At 10:30 P. M., there was a heavy droning in the sky and more than 300 Lancasters with blockbusters labored overhead with railway schedule precision. It was their job to find the town in the dark and flatten it without hitting the Commandos.

Standing in the back yard I could see the attack. The first bombs hit and for 15 minutes the town flamed and jumped. Overhead, almost in a funnel straight into the sky, burst hundreds of flak flashes. These flashes were

ed about above the battle in a fighter plane, supervising his fighters and bombers and shepherding tow planes and gliders to the dropping areas.

## Nazis Fire on Boats

The Germans tried to mortar the boats as they crossed the river, but casualties were surprisingly light for the magnitude of the operations. All up and down the river for miles the scene at this beachhead was repeated.

Back at command posts, lines on the maps ranged deeper and deeper.

## GERMANY BLASTED BY 10,000 PLANES

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE)

By HENRY B. JAMESON

for British Commando assaults.

## Land of Death

Pilots said the whole great Munster box north of the Ruhr was a land of death, with no sign of movement among the blazing towns and cities.

"All hell was let loose on the other side of the Rhine," a pilot said.

The first great wave of American heavies blasted enemy air bases in the area of Achmer, Vechta, Vechtel, Rheine, Hesepe, Nordhorn, Steenwijk, Zwischenahn, Plantunne, Varrelbusch and Varrel. Night fighter bases were hit at Zentrinn, south of Kassel; Stornede, east of Hamm, and Enschede in Holland.

So vast was the aerial operation that Gen. Eisenhower delegated Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham, head of the British 2d Tactical Air Force, to co-ordinate the work of all Allied tactical forces.

## 20 Nazis Shot Down

Twenty German planes which attempted to rise from a field near Munster were pounced upon and shot down by one American Mustang group before the Nazis reached 1000 feet.

By sundown, with planes still banging away in support of Field Marshal Montgomery's new-ly won bridgehead, each American 8th Air Force and British bomber had completed three separate missions from bases in Britain.

The target included just about everything in the 1000-square-mile death trap east of the Rhine, from dug-in German troops to tank columns and rail yards crammed with Nazi reinforcements and supplies.

"The instant we hit the Rhine we knew the British had gone across," said Capt. Louis C. Wieser, a Fortress pilot of Hammond, Ind. "A tremendous battle was raging just east of the river, with literally hundreds of fighters strafing and diving and with gun flashes everywhere."

Quesada Directs Fight For more than four hours, Maj. Gen. E. R. Quesada, leader of the 9th Tactical Air Command, directed the fight.

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# Beginning of End for Hitler, Jubilant U. S. Soldiers Say

By DON WHITEHEAD

U. S. 1ST ARMY, ACROSS THE RHINE, March 24, 6:46 P. M. (AP)—Powerful Allied assaults on the Western Front have wiped out Rhine River defenses and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's armies now stand on the threshold of complete victory over Germany.

This is the feeling along this army front tonight. Not in two and a half years of war has such optimism prevailed among troops and officers as that which is cheering soldiers hearing news of new crossings on the Rhine against light enemy resistance.

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At the same time scores of fighter-bombers hit German flak positions deeper in the battle zone. That assault continued for half an hour. Then it had to stop so that the drop areas would not be covered with smoke and dust.

No Allied guns could fire in or near the area during the drop because of the danger of hitting Allied planes or troops.

Some flak positions may have been knocked out, but there were plenty left as two streams of C-47's with their tense 'chutists and glider men crossed the river to the north, made the drop and then swung out to the south.

## Some Planes Hit

The cub flew high above the scene at the point where the C-47's came out. We could see the planes going straight into the flak as though craft and crews were armor-plated. Smoke obscured the drop, but not the planes. In 14 minutes, some planes flamed orange from direct hits. They trailed long streams of fire as the pilots fought desperately to hold control until they crossed the Rhine where their crews could jump in safe territory.

Some exploded in flight. Others fell at the river's edge. Two at once were seen flaming almost side by side as they streaked for the Rhine.

"Just Sit and Take It!" "Look," shouted Williams, pointing. "Look at those poor devils. You've got to hand it to those C-47 pilots, just sitting there and taking it."

Williams whipped his Cub about and cut in close to the two flying coffins. There was nothing to do but just sit and watch helplessly. One plane had its motor on fire and the pilot was trading altitude grudgingly against time in an effort to make a crash landing in an open field.

The other was burning from the wings. Suddenly parach



## 9th Finds Few Germans On Rhine's 'Berlin Bank'

By CLINTON B. CONGER

ACROSS THE RHINE WITH AMERICAN 9TH ARMY, March 24 (UP)—The 9th Army stormed the Rhine on route to Berlin in the darkness early Saturday and achieved their initial objectives against surprisingly light opposition.

I came across the Rhine with our infantry, and after two hours on the east bank of the great river not a single casualty had been reported by the group which I accompanied.

Opposition was so light that hopes were running high among the American men and officers that they were engaged in the war's last campaign in Europe.

**Rhine Slow-Flowing**  
Battalion after battalion of our forces are pouring across the Rhine, which is slow-flowing at this point.

Our assault boats are chugging back and forth, spilling troops on the "Berlin bank" as fast as they can be shuttled across.

We hopped off at 2 A. M. Ahead of us American and British gliders and paratroopers of the 1st Allied Airborne Army already had landed well beyond the river.

**Main German Forces Held Back**  
The main German forces have not yet engaged us. They are known to include the remnants of the crack German 1st Paratrooper Army. Possibly they are being held back while the Nazi command tries to figure out where the main weight of our attack will fall.

My crossing was almost an anticlimax after the days of tense waiting. Before the kick-off possibly the world's greatest artillery barrage crashed down on the Nazi positions across the river.

But as we crossed the Rhine it was deathly still. Only the lap of the water against the sides of our boat could be heard. Later there was a burst of small-arms fire all around, but none seemed to be coming our way.

**Stunned Prisoners Taken**  
We rushed up to what we had expected to be the first German line of resistance. That happened to be the capturing of some stunned prisoners.

From a railway embankment beyond us and from both our flanks there came the occasional chatter of machine guns. Snipers were still active in the darkness behind us.

But the famed German artillery and even the bristling Ruhr valley flak guns were opening up with only occasional fire in the sector where I am writing this dispatch.

**Power Overwhelming**  
Possibly the desperate German manpower crisis has forced them to pull back everything but outposts along the river and to their main forces farther back for a possible counterattack when the pattern of our offensive becomes clear.

But there are guarantees that the Germans won't be able to mount a counterattack as fast as we build up our bridgehead.

First of these is the great width of our assault. The second is our overwhelming air and artillery effort which has isolated the assault area. And third is the speed with which our troops are pouring across the Rhine and plunging into the interior.

**How Attack Began**  
The assault went like this: For the last two days or so we have been billeted in hiding in hamlets and villages half a dozen miles back of the river, waiting for our vehicles and weapons for D-Day and H-Hour.

About 10 P. M. after the men finished a late supper, checked and re-checked their equipment, they began strapping it on. Headquarters personnel took the last deep drags on their cigarettes, yunched them out under their belts, climbed into the trucks and the first small column was rolling toward the Rhine in the dense blackout.

**Everything Timed**  
Everything had been timed to the split second.

As the lead car passed the company area, the woods, thickets

and barns erupted with more jeeps, joining the procession until the whole battalion was in line.

It took only a few minutes to drive to a point four miles from the Rhine where the battalion dismounted from the trucks and began the last march-in. In a long column of twos, the men swung down the dirt road while the jeeps and trucks turned back to the assembly point to await their priority turn for rafts and bridges.

Our battalion was well ahead of schedule. A couple of miles down the road we halted. And through the stillness we could hear the sullen, distant and continuous rumble of the British 2d Army barrage. That started at midnight.

**9th's Barrage Starts**  
At 1 A. M. on the nose the 9th Army's massed artillery roared into action with a deadly time-on-target salvo that crashed down with precision every few minutes. Between these crescendos came the bark and growl of individual guns.

At 2 A. M. we started forward again. That barrage really started into high. The roar was so continuous that you had to put your lips to a man's ear and yell to make yourself heard.

The German positions were now wrapped in great flames and a dull red glow marked the German lines.

**Tape Guides Infantry**  
The infantry moved across flat ground, completely devoid of cover. It was guided by white tape on the ground. The moon, nearly full, was beginning to be bloodied by the haze and smoke. The columns closed up with a distance of only five to 10 yards between the men.

Silhouetted against the glare of the fires we moved like a strange snake-dance past German farms. Occasionally, we passed livestock. At one place two mares and a young colt nuzzled together and whinnied. At another a cow gazed at us in placid interest. Puzzled and outraged birds, awakened from their nests, flew around in angry protest.

**Move Through Smoke**  
We moved through a bank of black smoke, still rolling northward from yesterday afternoon's air attacks and came ahead of the artillery belt. Now we could hear the machine guns pumping away and the dry cough of the heavy mortars.

The enemy shells were more audible, too, and at each halt the men glanced around trying to spot some handy hole or ditch—just in case.

Finally, came an uncomfortable wait in the open for our turn to go across. The storm battalion jumped off at 3 A. M. in two waves. We waited for their boats to return. Finally, guides led us on the dog trot across the last couple of hundred yards up the dikes and down the other side into the boats.

**Motor Quickly Catches**  
We were lucky. Our motor caught on the first pull and we were on our way across the Rhine.

We got to the shelter of an embankment without event. The colonel and a couple of men decided to take a look over the embankment. As we neared the top, a helmeted figure rose in silhouette against the sky and snapped a challenge in German: "Who goes there?"

The German didn't even have his luger out of its holster, let alone cocked. The colonel grabbed the luger and the doughboys took the disarmed German forward a few paces where he persuaded a second German to surrender in his pillbox.

I spoke to the prisoner in German and he said there were three more Germans in the pillbox who might or might not surrender.

We called a couple of times but the Krauts were lying low.

"We got business," said one doughboy: "Let the rear echelon pick them up."

## CHURCHILL HAILS FEAT OF ALLIES IN FORCING RHINE

'Last Round Going Very Well,' Montgomery Tells Men

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—The "decisive victory in Europe will be near" once the Rhine River line is pierced and the crust of German resistance broken, Prime Minister Churchill declared today in a message to Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery's armies.

"I rejoice to be with the chief of the Imperial General Staff (Field Marshal Sir Alan Brooke) at Field Marshal Montgomery's headquarters of the 21st Army Group during this memorable battle of forcing the Rhine," Churchill said.

**Lauds "Valiant Allies"**  
"British soldiers, it will long be told how, with our Canadian brothers and valiant United States Allies, this superb task was accomplished. Once the river line is pierced and the crust of German resistance is broken, the decisive victory in Europe will be near."

"May God prosper our arms in this bold adventure after our long struggle for King and country, for dear life, and for the freedom of mankind."

Montgomery addressed this message to all 21st Army group troops.

"1. On the 7th of February, I told you we were going into the ring for the final and last round: there would be no time limit. We would continue fighting until our opponent was knocked out. The last round is going very well on both sides of the ring—and over-head."

"2. In the west, the enemy has lost the Rhineland, and with it the flower of at least four armies—the Parachute Army, 5th Panzer Army, 15th Army and 7th Army. The 1st Army, farther to the south, is now being added to the list."

"In the Rhineland battles, the enemy has lost about 150,000 prisoners and there are many more to come. His total casualties amount to about 250,000 since the 8th of February."

**'How Much Longer'**  
"3. In the east the enemy has lost all of Pomerania east of the Oder, an area as large as the Rhineland, and three more German armies have been routed. Russian armies are within about 35 miles of Berlin."

"4. Overhead, Allied air forces are pounding Germany day and night. It will be interesting to see how much longer the Germans can stand it."

"5. The enemy in fact has been driven into a corner, and he cannot escape."

"Events are moving rapidly. The complete and decisive defeat of the Germans is certain. There is no possibility of doubt on this matter."

"6. The 21st Army Group will now cross the Rhine."

"The enemy possibly thinks he is safe behind this great river obstacle. We will agree it is a great obstacle: but we will show the enemy he is far from safe behind it. This great Allied fighting machine composed of integrated land and air forces, will deal with the problem in no uncertain manner."

**'Good Hunting to You All'**  
"7. And having crossed the Rhine, we will crack about in the plains of Northern Germany, chasing the enemy from pillar to post. The swifter and more energetic our action, the sooner the war will be over. And that is what we all desire: to get on with the job and finish off the German war as soon as possible."

"8. Over the Rhine, then, let us go. And good hunting to you all on the other side."

"9. May the Lord's mighty in battle give us the victory in this our latest undertaking, as he has done in all our battles since we landed in Normandy on D-Day."



HE LED THE THIRD across the Rhine. Capt. Harry (Pete) Smith, of Georgetown, Ky., whose men formed the first wave in the offensive, is pictured here with some German prisoners after the fall of Ft. Driant, near Metz, France, in 1944.

## 'Navy Orphans' in Army Togs Sail Allies Across the Rhine

WITH THE U. S. NAVY ON THE RHINE, March 24 (UP)—American naval units, after five months of sea life ashore, helped catapult Allied forces across the Rhine today.

Attached to the 9th U. S. Army, the sailors dived across the river in fast amphibious craft, disgorging troops, cannon and military supplies.

The sailors who manned these "Berlin ferries" had waited and trained since October. They had been forbidden to wear Navy uniforms or mark their vehicles "USN." They called themselves the "orphans of the Navy."

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**Gobs Used British Rivers**  
to Practice for Crossing

By AUSTIN REALMEAR  
SUPREME ALLIED HEAD-QUARTERS, March 24 (AP)—American and British naval forces which ferried Field Marshal Montgomery's troops and heavy equipment across the Rhine today rehearsed for months in England.

It was long apparent that the armies would need ferry service between the time bridgeheads were started and bridges were thrown across. Exhaustive experiments were carried out on rivers in the United Kingdom having banks and current similar to those of the Rhine.

Instead of operating through waves and surf to beaches constantly changing with the tide the crews had to learn to maneuver their craft to and from pinpoint landing spots in strong currents running at right angles to their courses.

The armies needed fast craft sturdy enough to carry tanks, bulldozers and mobile guns safely. It was finally decided that LCM's (landing craft, medium), which weigh 26 tons, and LCP's (landing craft, vehicle personnel) which weigh nine tons, were the largest types suited to the Army's requirements which still could be carried overland.

Both craft have ramps, making mechanical loading devices unnecessary.

The crews had to learn to launch these heavy craft from muddy river banks and to transport them over hundreds of miles of damaged roads. The 50-foot, all-

steel LCM on its carrier is 77 feet long—equivalent to the height of a seven-story building—34 feet wide and 20 feet high. Yet many of them were moved to launching sites over shell-pitted roads, makeshift bridges and through narrow village streets.

**'U. S. Blood and Guts'**  
Helped to Land Patton

THIRD ARMY'S RHINE BRIDGEHEAD, March 24 (AP)—U. S. Navy men sailed the Rhine 250 miles from the nearest ocean today and helped put the 3d Army on its bridgehead in Hesse.

Fleet 36-foot LCP's, capable of hauling 40 men, were trucked from the English Channel to the Rhine for the amazing operation and were in action soon after the first waves of infantry hit the shore in Army assault boats Thursday night. The Navy also brought along power launches and other craft.

The name given the Navy's operation in this show with Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's men was appropriately "U. S. Blood and Guts."

**BRITISH SURGEON LINKS COLD TO DEAD LEAVES**  
LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Dr. John Anthony Seymour Jones, a leading British ear and throat surgeon, today linked the leaves that scatter from trees with the cause of colds.

Writing in the journal Medical World, Dr. Seymour Jones said he was "convinced that the origin of the widespread epidemic cold is in the whole air of a distri-

ct being charged with a fulminating virus over a prolonged period." He suggested that "the source of the virus is in the countless millions of decaying leaves shed by trees."

**JAP TROOPS BURNED FAMED MANILA LIBRARY**  
MANILA, March 24 (AP)—More than 2,000,000 books—including the National Library's priceless, irreplaceable 70,000 Filipiniana collection of books and documents—were destroyed during the Japanese burning of Manila, Otley Beyer, of the University of the Philippines, said today.

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## GI Battled Nazis to Protect Wounded—Gets Top Medal

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—The Congressional Medal of Honor has been awarded an infantry officer who stood up alone and shot it out with German machinegunners to cover the rescue of seven wounded companions.

The award is to 2d Lt. Stephen R. Gregg, 30, former welder from Bayonne, N. J., the War Department announced today.

The action occurred near Montelimar, France, last August 27, when Gregg was a technical sergeant.

In an advance to capture a hill position, seven Americans were wounded by hand grenades. Each time medical aid men attempted to reach them they were fired on from three enemy machinegun points.

Gregg took a light machinegun, and holding it at his hip stood up and advanced into enemy grenade and machinegun fire. He kept up this one-man assault until the hospital men had treated and removed the seven wounded.

A hand-to-hand struggle developed when Gregg's ammunition was exhausted. Four German infantrymen, who by that time had been able to maneuver into firing positions, opened up on the four Nazis. The lieutenant wrested an automatic pistol from one of the Germans and then made his way back to his own lines.

Gregg is a veteran of fighting in both Italy and France.

STEELE boxes with locks, 23" long, 13" wide x 21" high—\$4.50. 37" long x 13 1/2" wide x 21" high—\$6.50. Hinged inside, handles on each end. Acorn Iron & Supply Co., 915 N. Delaware av.—Adc.

**JAPS FIGHT TO FLEE TRAP AT MANDALAY**  
CALCUTTA, March 24 (AP)—Pitched battles between hard-driving British armor and Japanese troops caught in the Myingyan-Meiktila-Mandalay triangle were reported today as the enemy fought to escape from Central Burma. The enemy force was originally estimated at 30,000.

Allied occupation of Meiktila has cut the Japanese escape routes to the south and, unless the enemy can break through there, only narrow trails eastward to Thailand still remain open.

In the last 48 hours, field dispatches said, more than 1000 Japanese troops have been killed in the Meiktila area, with 200 slain at a road block midway between Thazi and Meiktila. Thazi is 15 miles east of Meiktila.

An armored column which captured Wundwin killed 190 of the enemy garrison of 200. The Japanese suffered heavy casualties when their roadblock on the Meiktila-Wundwin road was knocked out. Wundwin is 18 miles northeast of Meiktila, and the Allied armor pushed on another mile Friday and seized Pindale.

A 16-car train on the Mandalay-Rangoon railway, loaded with Japanese field guns and ammunition, was taken by the Wundwin column.

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**For Women**

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**For Women**

**For Women**







# **NAZIS' CHOICE: 'SURRENDER OR PULVERIZATION'**

**Murphy Reveals Plans for  
Revamping Reich  
Education**

WASHINGTON, March 24 (UP)—Robert Murphy, political adviser on German affairs to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, warned the German people tonight that they must choose now between "unconditional surrender and pulverization."

He also revealed plans for re-educating the German people under Allied supervision, to make Germany a peace-loving nation. The plans contemplate elimination of all Nazi teachers, teachings and text books, and the closing of all schools in Germany until the necessary adjustments of faculties and text books have been effected.

**Speaks on Weekly Forum**  
Murphy, who will return to Eisenhower's headquarters next week, spoke on the State Department's weekly radio program on "What About Enemy Countries?" Also participating in the forum were Assistant Secretaries of State James C. Dunn and Archibald MacLeish.

"Fortunately the debate over unconditional surrender versus a negotiated peace will soon become a dead issue," Murphy said. "Germany's choice now is between unconditional surrender and pulverization, and if they choose pulverization, they will have only themselves to blame for following vicious leadership."

Dunn said the two most important aspects of long-range treatment of Germany were re-education and establishment of the rights of labor. Murphy revealed that organization of German labor unions already is being encouraged, and that the Allies are studying plans for German workers to participate in management of industries.

**Allies Must Supervise**  
Murphy said re-education of Germany will be a tough problem. But he stated emphatically that the job should not be left to the Germans themselves—"unquestionably the Allies must supervise this delicate operation."

The broadcast covered the broad field of Allied policy toward Germany. Here is a summary of some of its high spots: War criminals—Hitler will be considered a war criminal and the fact that he is chief of state will be no reason for excluding him. Members of the Gestapo who have carried out criminal acts must be punished, and industrialists who supported and helped Hitler "would certainly be among those to be dealt with."

**Democratic tendencies**—"I don't see how we can be too optimistic about the early discovery of many 'democratic Germans,'" Murphy said. "But we are trying."

**Occupation**—General location of occupation zones for the four big Powers is decided and "several hundred officers" of the U. S. Army are training in England and France for the job.

**Partition Undecided**  
Partition—Undecided yet, but "there may be a movement in Germany to divide the country," Murphy said. In that case the Allies will approve and encourage it.

**Postwar control**—Control of manufacturing in the entire German economy by a corps of civilian observers is planned for a long time.

Dunn said no one was in a position now to determine the post-war status of Japanese Emperor Hirohito. "Certainly neither the State Department nor Undersecretary of State Joseph C. Grew is defending the Emperor's position," he added.

Plans for treatment of Japan, like the end of the Japanese war, are still in the future, he said. But he added that "we'll have no more truck with the Japanese militarists than with the Nazis."

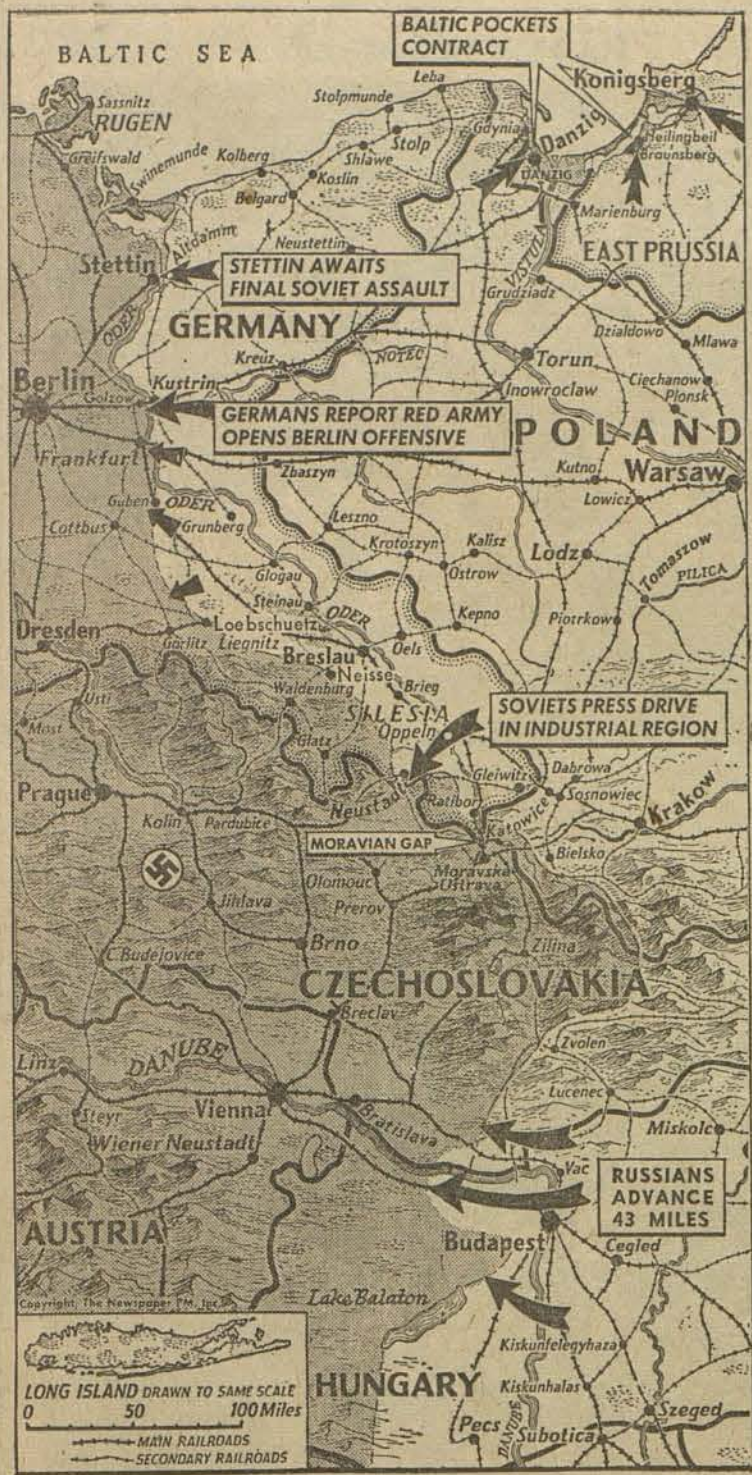
## **OKLAHOMA PLANS FUND TO ADVERTISE STATE**

OKLAHOMA CITY (UP)—The next Oklahoma Legislature will be urged to appropriate funds to advertise the merits of Oklahoma's resources and invite business and industry to investigate the State, Chairman Don McBride, of the State Planning and Resource Board, announced.

McBride said the board will propose a budget for the next biennium of approximately \$467,000 yearly. Complete details will be worked out between now and when the next Legislature meets in January.

## **WAS FIRST IN ENGLAND**

According to tradition, Queen Elizabeth owned the first mahogany known in England. Sir Walter Raleigh, the sea-faring courier, presented her with a table made of it.



## **RUSSIANS ADVANCE 43 MI. IN HUNGARY**

**CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE**  
By RICHARD KASISCHKE

east of the great rail city of Szombathely, near the Austro-Hungarian border, were battering at the approaches to Komarom, Danube citadel 84 miles east of Vienna.

The battle before Berlin—which Moscow has not yet announced and which the Nazis called a bloody preliminary to an impending all-out frontal assault on the capital—was "now raging to a climax," DNB said.

**Checked at Golsz**  
The Nazis said Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's 1st White Russian Army troops had been at least temporarily held at Golsz, six miles west of captured Oder fortress of Kustrin, and 31 miles from the bomb-gutted capital.

Eight miles to the south, the Germans said massed tank forces of Zhukov's Army broke into Kleissin, 33 miles east of Berlin, and there the Germans reported bitter house-to-house fighting.

Kleissin is two miles beyond the Oder and seven miles north of the river fortress of Frankfurt. The Germans said fighting had extended 10 miles northwest of Kustrin to a Soviet west bank bridgehead at Kleinitz and enemy reports indicated Zhukov had established a solid bridgehead 17 miles long west of Kustrin from Kleinitz to Kleissin.

The reports indicated at least three Soviet bridgeheads across the Oder had been linked.

## **NAZIS STRENGTHEN DEFENSES IN ITALY**

ROME, March 24 (AP)—Aggressive 5th and 8th Army patrols, probing enemy positions all along the Italian front, reported today the Germans were constructing large scale defense works at several points.

German artillery action was stepped up along the front and there were sharp patrol clashes along the 8th's front. Strong American raiding parties attacked a large cluster of buildings near Furcoli, on the central front, and inflicted some casualties on the enemy.

## **U. S. PLANES HAMMER JAP TROOPS IN CHINA**

CHUNGKING, March 24 (AP)—U. S. 14th Air Force planes, including Liberator bombers, have been hurled against the new Japanese offensive west of the Peiping-Hankow railroad which is aimed at seizing the area's wheat crop, an American communique announced today.

Without encountering opposition in the air in two days of operations, the planes blasted supplies and equipment west of the railroad and south of the Yellow River, in wide sweeps through Honan and Hunan provinces.

## **AIR ARMY FILLS SKY LIKE TIMES SQUARE**

**CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE**  
By ALEX H. SINGLETON

chutes and gliders pouring out troops and equipment.

Above, the air armada curved in a gigantic "U" as the stream of planes—officially placed at 500 miles long—came in two abreast, methodically dropped their troops, banked in sharp turns, and soared back across the Rhine.

German planes gave no opposition.

The long procession, streaming out from bases in Britain and France, served as the signal to silence the smoke-screened batteries of Montgomery's big guns as the first plane nosed across the Rhine.

In broad daylight under a powder-blue sky, the fleets flowed over the landing area, across grey-green valley lands once planned for potatoes but now ploughed by tank tracks and furrowed by shells.

**Nazis Numb by Barrage**  
From the dark patches of timberland stripped and torn by shellfire, from bomb-battered cellars of skeleton-like farmhouses, poured bursts of intermittent anti-aircraft fire as the reeling Germans attempted to recover from the pre-zero hour barrage to meet the challenge.

But when puffs of smoke betrayed the presence of flak batteries, rocket-firing fighters swooped down to blast their positions and take over where the west-bound guns had left off.

In the hundreds of transport-tugs—as in the Stirling in which I flew—crews tensely rode up the run in freight-train fashion to deliver their troops and drop their human cargoes.

**Anxious to Land**  
Soon after our Stirling crossed the Rhine going in, a glider pilot called out over the intercom: "Release now?"

"No," said the Stirling's skipper. A few seconds later again came the urgent cry, "Now? Now?"

"No, No, No!" shouted the skipper. "We'll wait until we reach the marker."

Then as the marker—railroad line 66—was approached, came back his signal, "Release now." Suddenly the Stirling lunged forward, free of the tow.

"We're getting flak up here now," the tail gunner reported calmly.

**Heads Back for England**  
Swiftly the pilot banked, circled, dodged a darting fighter by what seemed to be only a few yards, and headed back for England.

Below in this section were hundreds of parachutes lying discarded on the ground as the paratroopers dug in. Along the road nearby were a dozen burned-out wrecked vehicles, one of them a tank. Half a dozen smoked in a field in which several gliders were sprawled.

There was little enemy movement visible on the Rhine's eastern bank.

But back of Montgomery's

front, I saw powerful evidence of the might behind the Allied drive. Transports in road-clogging abundance were moving up towards the front. Freshly-built air strips were there to support the push. There were masses of men and material.

And from dawn when the operation started until mid-afternoon when the stragglers were circling their home bases, the sky was full of other planes—heavy and medium bombers—to support the drive.

## **Ardennes Vets Spoiling for Chance at Revenge**

By HOWARD COWAN  
(Representing the Combined U. S. Press)

**WITH U. S. AIRBORNE TROOPS**, March 24 (AP)—A sky-sweeping fleet of C-47 transport planes—some laden with parachute troops, others towing gliders—launched the first aerial invasion of Germany today with a series of daring daylight landings east of the Rhine.

Thousands of battle-tested 'chutists and glider infantrymen swarmed over the sunlit plain shortly before noon, a few hours after Field Marshal Montgomery's forces began pouring across the Rhine on the left flank of the Western Front.

**Have Score to Settle**  
I am flying with a glider load of men, some of whom are going into this fight with a score to settle. These were men who had fought the Germans in the Ardennes bulge.

"Now it's our turn," said Lt. Col. J. W. Baddock, Portland, Ore. veteran of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Southern France and the Ardennes.

"All I hope is that the wings don't come off this thing," declared the 30-year-old tank and artillery expert as he climbed into the glider. "We ought to point 'V'3" on the side of it, it's so full of explosives."

Soiling for a fight, the outfit is spoiling for a fight. We moved off this morning after a 5 A. M. breakfast of steak, eggs and cherry pie. The weather is warm and sunny. There is not a cloud in the sky to keep the Thunderbolts, Mustangs and Typhoons from helping in this show.

Never before have so many troops been rained from the skies on so small an area and in such a brief space of time.

For the first time the C-47s have gone into combat with two gliders instead of one in tow. Most of the transports now have self-sealing gasoline tanks, and they won't blow up like giant firecrackers if incendiary bullets strike vulnerable spots.

## **Plane Uses New Method in Dropping Paratroops**

By DOON CAMPBELL  
(Representing the Combined Allied Press)

**WITH THE 1ST ALLIED AIRBORNE ARMY**, March 24 (AP)—The C-46 Commando, giant new troop-carrying aircraft, made history over Germany today by tumbling 1st Airborne Army paratroopers from both sides at once.

The new drop technique, used

for the first time in the co-ordinated Allied assault east of the Rhine, revolutionizes airborne operations by doubling the fire and fighting power each transport plane can take into battle.

On D-Day, in Southern France and at Arnhem, 18 paratroops dropped from one door of each C-47 carrier. Today 36 battle-hardened sky men fell from two doors of each C-46.

This American-produced super-transport has a range of 1800 miles and a speed of more than 250 mph. It is fitted with radar and can carry almost four tons.

Twin engines give it 4000 horsepower. A further development is a four-bladed propeller instead of the usual three.

They say the C-46 is a honey to fly. I've seen it take off, cruise and land. It glides effortlessly and smoothly through the air despite its stumpy design caused by the great accommodation capacity.

## **JAPS IN CHINA GAIN 20 MILES IN A DAY**

CHUNGKING, March 24 (UP)—

Onrushing Japanese armored columns, gaining more than 20 miles in 24 hours, have pressed to Fancheng, only 31 airline miles from Laohokow, American air base and military headquarters in northern Hupeh province, a Chinese communique said today.

An estimated 60,000 tank-led Japanese troops scored gains to the southeast, northeast and east of Laohokow in a powerful spring offensive which threatens the rich wheat crop in northern Hupeh and southern Honan provinces.

Enemy troops yesterday captured Icheng, on the turbulent Han River 20 miles south of Fancheng and 145 miles northwest of Hankow. Fording the rainswollen Han, they advanced to Fancheng. The communique said fighting was in progress in the northeast and southern outskirts of the city.

## **JAPS IN BAGUIO ALMOST CIRCLED**

By DEAN SCHEDLER

MANILA, Sunday, March 25 (AP)—American troops clamped down today on Baguio, Philippine summer capital and prewar outlet for one of the world's richest gold-producing regions.

The 33d Division doughboys, closing in from two directions on the scenic mountain city of 25,000 normal population, were sealing the Japanese off into the wild Kalinga "head hunter" country.

**Airport Captured**  
Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Saturday communique announced one force of Yanks, moving up the Naguilian mountain road

from the northwest, has captured Naguilian town and airport. Naguilian is 12 air miles from Baguio.

Other 33d troops were some eight miles southwest of the city limits on the ennon rd, along which they have been fighting for days.

The only escape route left for Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's Japanese garrison, which may include Yamashita himself, was by the unfinished Bontoc road and jungle trails through the wild Kalinga country.

MacArthur reported the 25th and 32d Divisions also advancing in Northern Luzon's mountains east of Baguio, had further reduced Japanese positions near Balete Pass and Santa Fe. The pass is the gateway to the Cagayan Valley, leading to the northern part of Aparri. It was here the Japanese started their Philippine invasion in 1941.

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PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 25, 1945

## Those 60,000,000 Jobs Should Be 365-Day Jobs

President Roosevelt took two steps last week to prepare for peace in time of war.

He asked Congress to appropriate \$4,480,000 for preparation of plans for the development of the Missouri River Valley as one of the great Federal undertakings to provide a reservoir of jobs.

He called on James F. Byrnes' Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion for a study and recommendation of a guaranteed wage for as many workers as possible.

Those two ideas go together.

We won't be achieving the prosperity we want after the war if we provide 60,000,000 jobs that last 60 days, or even six months. We must make the jobs as nearly as possible year-round jobs, with a year-round income.

The President quoted a War Labor Board report as saying that a guaranteed annual wage is "one of the main aspirations of American workers."

He is right. The American worker knows that even if his scale calls for \$2 an hour it doesn't mean much at the end of the year if he's worked only a few months. His actual earnings may average a good deal less than \$1 an hour.

A guaranteed wage should be one of the main aspirations of American businessmen as well as American workers.

A worker employed only half-time can't buy the goods he must buy to keep the wheels of industry turning.

If he fears he'll be out of a job in six months, he won't buy an automobile or a radio, or a refrigerator or clothes, or house furnishings. He'll be hoarding his money for the lay-off ahead.

Guaranteed wage plans present varying problems in various industries and businesses.

At one extreme, a newspaper that publishes 365 days a year has little trouble in employing men throughout the year.

At the other extreme, it's obvious that a resort hotel open three or four months can't provide employment for 12 months.

There are many industries where an annual wage can be guaranteed if labor and employer work together on the problem.

Many businessmen realize this.

Last fall, for instance, W. W. Stephenson, executive vice president of the National Boot and Shoe Manufacturers Association, declared that shoes can be sold on a monthly rather than seasonal basis. He added: "I am convinced that this can be accomplished through joint manufacturer and retailer co-operation and planning."

About 100 American industrial concerns have introduced guaranteed annual wages.

There is no reason why, by intelligent planning, employment in many more industries can't be spread over the year and a guaranteed wage made practical. Before the war the automobile companies changed the date of bringing out their new models from spring to fall in order to stimulate demand in a normally slack period.

Just what Byrnes' Advisory Board, given the job of making the survey, will recommend, we don't know.

But certainly the Federal Government should take the lead in making a guaranteed annual wage feasible.

It could, for instance, extend the principle of merit rating under which employers with lower labor turnover pay lower unemployment compensation insurance rates. It could set standards under the Fair Labor Practices Act.

We have put a ceiling on wages during the war. We must devise ways of putting a floor under wages for the peace.

## Warishell Department (Enemy Division)

Because of the shortage of materials, German women must do without black stockings and men without black ties "even in case of the death of the closest relatives," a Berlin broadcast reports.

## And Tell It to Congress!

On Page 4 of the second news section of The Record today you will find a second account of the tour of Norman Abbott and Mrs. Abbott through Bretton Woods.

The first trip of that famous couple, recounted recently, created nation-wide interest. Requests for Record reprints of that simplified explanation of the Bretton Woods economic program came in great volume, from economists, bankers, educators, labor unions, auditors, businessmen.

Today's story deals chiefly with the proposed new International Bank. It aims to show how that new bank will help support the 60,000,000-job program, finance reconstruction of war-wrecked Europe, and re-

habilitation of a world perilously close to economic chaos.

That bank would help us at home by financing export of the products of heavy industries, locomotives, turbines, etc., and it is in those industries where there is the greatest danger of a postwar deflationary letdown.

We hope you will enjoy this second story of Bretton Woods as much as our readers seem to have enjoyed the first. And we hope that it will inspire you to write your Congressmen and Senators to support the Bretton Woods program—without crippling amendments.

## Organized Labor Must Not Abrogate Bill of Rights

Since formation of the Political Action Committee, The Record has applauded the aims of this lusty offspring of the CIO.

PAC has performed as a wholesome new political force on the American scene. It has given the workingman and other independent liberals a focal point for concerted political action.

But PAC is not above criticism—no more than is the CIO leadership, or military strategy or President Roosevelt or Mayor LaGuardia.

PAC is not sacred—but the right of free speech is.

That is why we are particularly shocked that Local 447 of the CIO's United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers threw two members out of the union for assailing PAC activities during the 1944 political campaign.

The ousted unionists, who didn't like PAC and said as much, will probably be forced out of their jobs because there is maintenance of union membership in the Newark plant that employs them. One of them is a veteran of this war.

Fired by their own union—because they spoke their opinion!

This is America. We want no highhanded denial of civil liberties here. Certainly not by those who should be out defending those very liberties.

If an employer were to fire workers for opposing activities of the Chamber of Commerce, union labor would rise up in wrath, denounce him as Fascist tyrant, bring him before the National Labor Relations Board on charges of unfair labor practices.

So should organized labor rise up and denounce this guilty labor within its own ranks.

Certain inalienable rights belong to every man, whether he be a union member or not.

They are the fundamentals of individual protection, the Bill of Rights, which guarantees freedom of speech among other freedoms.

They are a man's sacred right.

No union leadership, union majority or any other group can be permitted to take them away or diminish them.

That's what America stands for. That is what unions must stand for, too.

## Note for Historians

Oranges reaching Britain from Spain now have wrappers showing crossed American and British flags, fastened with a pink bow, inscribed: "Unity Makes Peace." The pro-Allied wrappers haven't made the British forget the days when time bombs were found mixed with oranges from Spain.

## Finland's Free Election

Finland, with her sturdy tradition of democracy, has elected a new Parliament, being the first European nation to do so since Hitler began his campaign of conquest.

What matters most is that Finland's was a free election.

Although Finland is still under Soviet control and partial Soviet occupation, both Prime Minister Paasikivi and the Finnish Minister of Justice have declared that the voters were not coerced, and that the results represent the will of the Finnish people.

Those results show big gains for the Democratic People's Union, which is Communist-controlled but includes Socialists and left wing liberals. This group won about 25 percent of the vote and, under proportional representation, obtains 51 seats in the Eduskunta, or Finnish Parliament. The Social Democrats lost heavily, but retain 52 seats.

Co-operation between these two parties is expected to control the new Government, even though the right wing parties polled a slight majority of the total vote.

Premier Paasikivi is due to head the new regime, and that its policy will be friendly co-operation with Russia is indicated by Paasikivi's statement after the election: "In the future, Finnish policy will never again run counter to the interests of the Soviet Union."

This should satisfy Moscow, which properly kept hands off the election machinery, although the Russian press and radio were active in propaganda. With ample justification, the Soviets have insisted on friendly regimes in their neighbor nations. The Finnish elections seem to assure that.

Just as the world watched the Finnish election, so it will now watch to see if elections equally free from coercion are held in Romania, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece. Reports say that in Bulgaria, where the next plebiscite is to be held, only pro-Communist parties will be given places on the ballot. We hope those reports are wrong.

Finland's voting fits into the formula laid down at Yalta: "Free elections of Governments responsive to the will of the people."

Americans take that pledge at face value.

## Add Age of the Animals

Headline in the New York Herald Tribune: "Dogs Parade With Picket Signs to Assail Rabies Law as Unfair."



CAT LOOSE ON THE ARK

THE MAIL BAG

## Manpower Shortage? A Mail Bagger Doubts It

To the Editor:

A case comes to the attention of the writer. An individual, middle age, college man and draft exempt, applies for a job.

He has all the qualifications, experience and background to fill the position in question. He goes through all the "red tape" of filling out application, submitting references, etc. Then is told he has the ability needed and to await the company's decision. After a week's wait, he is told the position is filled, only to note an ad appears in the newspapers for additional applicants.

We are led to believe there is a "manpower shortage." We are led to believe men beyond the draft age, able and qualified for certain jobs are sorely needed.

Then just what is the attitude foremost in the minds of employers seeking competent help? What are we to expect after war shall cease, if at this time, when qualified workers are available for certain jobs, employers are giving competent men the "run around"?

W. R. CUNNINGHAM.

## Claims Consumers Get Poor Coal for Top Prices

To the Editor:

I read your criticism of John L. Lewis with a degree of tolerance. You failed to mention what the operators are doing to the public. We are getting coal of the lowest grade we have used in the last 50 years and paying an advance of \$3 a ton since 1938. At that time we were getting good coal. But the operators had to have an advance on account of Lewis' demand for higher wages. That would have been fine if they had continued to supply good coal.

The strikes made coal scarce and the operators took full advantage of this by adulterating the coal with anything which was black and could be mixed with the coal. My last load of coal was half dirt at top price. When I took a sample back to the dealer, he admitted it was bad coal at a good price, but said if he complained he might be cut off the list as a dealer.

All other commodities are kept up to a standard; coal is the only exception. Have you heard of a big operator being punished for this robbery on coal?

I hope Lewis gets all he demands and the operators are compelled to absorb the entire amount. They could afford it. If they are allowed any more advance, then a standard should be placed on their product.

ONE WHO HAS BEEN BURNED.

## Does Ousting of Jones Express F. D. R.'s Thanks?

To the Editor:

I just finished reading that Jesse Jones contributed \$5000 in the recent Presidential campaign to help elect Roosevelt.

F. D. R. has a funny way of showing his appreciation. B. M.

## Make City World Capital; Improvements Will Follow

To the Editor:

Let us first make Philadelphia the capital of the United Nations and there will be added wholesome water, broad avenues, clean streets, clear and beautiful rivers, and all else that would make ours the foremost city of the world.

When Henry Wills was secretary of the Philadelphia Board of Trade (now merged with the Chamber of Commerce) he showed us an illuminated plan for a beautiful park to extend from Independence Hall down to the Delaware River between Chestnut and Walnut sts.

The board hoped some day to make this a reality. Now that the Philadelphia Record has proposed to make Philadelphia the home of the United Nations, Mr. Wills, new secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, should bring forth the plan he has nursed for so many years and submit it as a working model for The Record's plan for a "United Nations City."

We would propose that this city within a city should take in much of old Philadelphia as laid out by Penn., "and be bounded on the North by Vine st. and on the South by Pine st." and run from Sixth st. to the Delaware River. In this area are innumerable historic churches and buildings.

This grand proposal of the Philadelphia Record is no impractical dream of a "starry-eyed visionary." It is a forward looking

## Would Reader Prefer Daisy Border on Pages?

To the Editor:

I heartily endorse the suggestion of "Elkins Parker" that the sports pages should be eliminated.

I never read them, anyhow, and the space thus saved could be utilized for additional comic strips, movie reviews and chit-chat columns.

You might perform an additional public service by scalloping the edges of the pages. In this way you would save valuable newsprint and The Record would look nicer on the cupboard shelves. DAISY.

practical proposal that would bring millions of visitors to Philadelphia and millions of dollars in trade to Philadelphia merchants.

H. G. TOTTEN.

## PARIS IS REAL CAPITAL

To the Editor:

Your suggestion to make Philadelphia a home of United Nations is nonsense.

Who wants to come to this unfriendly and unhealthy city? It's a city with corrupt administration and loose police department. Another thing: There are no really high-class hotels and restaurants here to speak of.

It is true Philadelphia is the "Cradle of Liberty." But that's only American liberty. The "Cradle of Universal Liberty" is France. Therefore the capital of the world always was and will be Paris, France. LIEUTENANT.

## Reader Attended Meeting—Says We Can Trust PAC

To the Editor:

The other day we attended our first meeting of the Citizens' Political Action Committee. In the same place Bill Leader's hosiery union holds its meetings.

The PAC is doing a good job in education by keeping its members informed of what legislation is before Congress and the State Legislature.

The meeting was quite well attended and we saw none there with heads, no one carried any bombs, the hammer and sickle on a red background (the Russian flag) was not in evidence either by word or deed. We did note on the side wall two American flags. Between them was a roll of honor of hosiery workers who were serving in the armed forces. There must have been at least 500 names.

The speakers included a State Senator, a representative of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, the executive secretary of the Committee of Seventy and other gentlemen in public life.

There was no talk about overthrowing the "American System of Government," but only discussion as to the means to improve it, peacefully.

We were well impressed and we think that the PAC can be trusted by every American who believes in fair play.

CITIZEN JOE.

## 'We Should Put End To Jap Name-Calling'

To the Editor:

Many people have referred to the Japanese as monkey-men, apes and other unsavory names that do not fit any of God's creatures. We as Americans should do away with this. We are supposed to be bringing light to those misguided people. I do not approve of what the Japanese did to us and other countries. But I know we must stop calling these people such terrible names.

It is a slap in the face to the loyal Japanese citizens who live here and are doing their part as law-abiding citizens. We must remember there are many Japanese youths who are serving in our armed forces and are doing a wonderful piece of work.

We must prepare ourselves to accept all peoples as equals or otherwise many international incidents may occur that will strain good feeling among various countries. JOHN A. QUILLIN.

## Polish Gov't in Exile Might as Well Get Comfy

To the Editor:

I notice that the Polish exile government in London is still belyaching.

The Yalta conference brought forth a compromise. At the same time they declared they would not disband, even if they did not have a country to rule over.

Just in case they do not get a country soon, I suggest that they settle for a room and bath.

BUILT MILT.

## The Burglar

By A PHILADELPHIA LAWYER

Many times I have been asked how I came to leave New York and become a Philadelphia Lawyer. It all began with a burglar.

At the time I was a clerk in a New York law office and lived in Stamford, Conn. Every evening when I got home after a day of crime and tort and contract, I would take a long walk in the surrounding country for my health. One night I was held up on a dark road by some tramps.

They didn't hold me long, and I must have come close to the record for the 440. However, it was humiliating and I resolved to exercise my right under the Constitution to bear arms.

The only weapon which I possessed was an early example of a revolver, with four barrels and a revolving hammer.

In the early summer came a night when, after a long swim off Shippan Point, I went to bed, my artillery deposited on a dressing table beside me. In the black mid of the night I awoke with a start. Some medals which hung over my bureau jingled and I realized that the burglar, whom everybody is always expecting, had come at last.

Sitting up suddenly in bed, I reached over and grabbed that antique revolver. Instantly the burglar was beside me. As I cocked my pistol he gave a shout and fired directly under my outstretched arm.

I was never so shocked in my life, for I had only planned to capture, not to injure him, and it seemed downright unsportsmanlike for him to shoot me. However, at the sting of the bullet I forgot all peaceful resolutions and, pressing my pistol against his chest, pulled the trigger. Came only a dull click as the darn thing missed fire.

The next moment that burglar disappeared out of my life forever through an open kitchen window, and I realized that I was probably fatally wounded.

With some difficulty I aroused my father, who had slept peacefully in the next room through all the tumult and the shooting.

He was more indignant than sympathetic, for the burglar had been in his room first and extracted a 10-spot from his ministerial purse.

"Why didn't you clinch with him and hold him until I got there?" he snorted, as he telephoned our family doctor.

I went back to bed feeling that my life was ebbing fast.

Finally, good Dr. Pierson arrived on the scene, much irritated at being called out of bed at such an ungodly hour.

He produced a probe and got to work, while I reflected how sad it was that so bright and promising a young man should be cut off by a burglar's bullet.

"Right," he said a minute later. "You ain't hurt a hell of a lot," and he deposited on the counterpane a section of blanket which had served as a backstop. In it, still warm and unsullied by human gore, was a .38-caliber bullet, which I still have as a memento.

That morning at breakfast the telephone rang incessantly and I had to tell admiring friends the story of my bout with the burglar. Even the editor of the Stamford Advocate, himself, called me up and printed a special edition under a hasty headline, "Young Lawyer Bests Burglar," an exaggeration which certainly must have irritated that burglar if and when he read it.

He turned out that the blanketed bullet had only penetrated less than an inch into the muscle of my shoulder, wherefore, smelling strongly of iodoforn, I started for my office in the old Broadway Bank Building, where now the Woolworth towers.

Although I was the last, yet for that one day I became a hero.

It began when a bevy of reporters burst into the big outer office where we all had desks.

"Where's the young feller who fit a burglar?" demanded the first one.

"Not here," said Fielding austerely. "This is a respectable law office. Go over to Howe & Hammon's for burglars."

"Now, this is the place," insisted a World reporter, peering at his notes, "237 Broadway. Burglar shot him through the bowels. Fought back like a hell-cat 'n' chucked burglar out the window."

"Perhaps it's Freddy," suggested Fitch, a confirm-joker.

"My boys are all right," asserted Freddy, the office boy, positively.

"It may be Sam, he smells kind of wounded," was Wintringham's contribution to the joke, as he sniffed the iodoforn fumes that emanated from my vicinity.

"Yes," I said modestly, "I did have a little fuss with a burglar last night."

Amid the incredulous astonishment of my associates I told my story. I was questioned respectfully by one reporter after another and then photographed. Even the hardened Freddy, the stenographer, regarded me admiringly.

It was the repercussions of that eventful night that brought me to Philadelphia. At this point we pause for station identification. Tune in next Sunday on Station RECORD and hear about a love story.

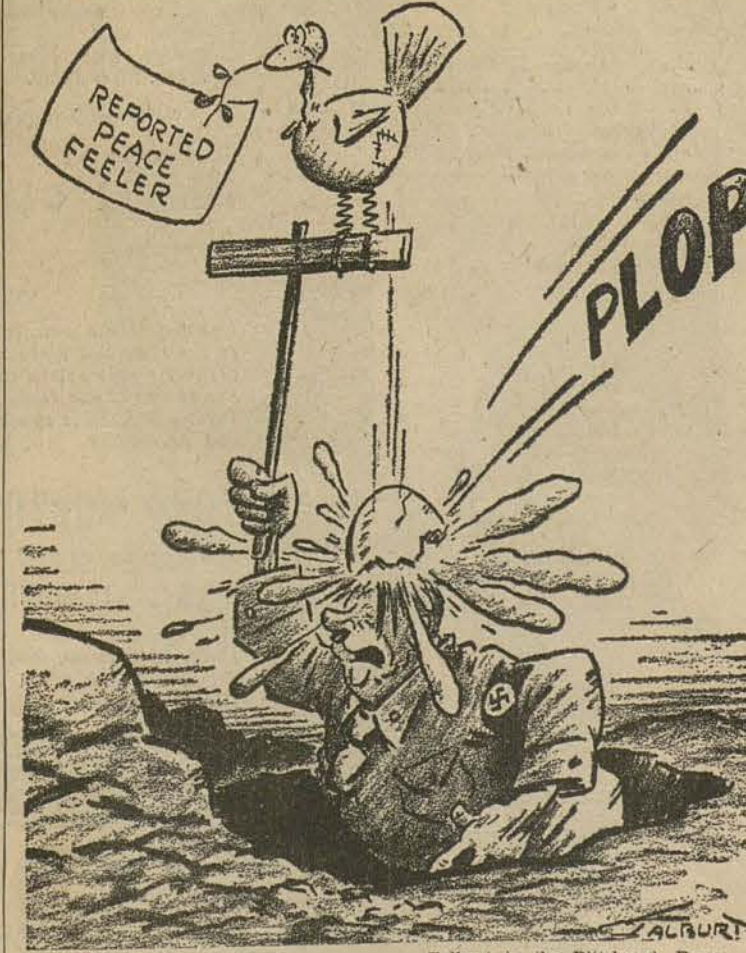
**BEAUTY**

Sometimes out of the dust and grime of a great city will flash some bit of loveliness that strikes at one's very life.

The other evening I stood alone in my office. Below me the city clanked and honked and muttered. Yet in the distance a great tower soared like a pillar of fretted ivory and jacinth, and against the sunset an office building showed battlements of jasper and amber.

Above them the sky was all amaranth and cinnebar, with a school of deep violet clouds. As the light dimmed, the old, old, unbought stars came out and the newest of new moons, white as frost, hung like a cobweb in the lute-green afterglow.

(Copyright, 1945)



Seems to Have Laid an Egg



## Washington Merry-Go-Round

The Inside Story of How Japs Nearly Took Chungking

WASHINGTON, March 24. It is now possible to reveal just how close the Japanese came to capturing the Chinese capital of Chungking last November.

While Lt. Gen. Alvin Wedemeyer was en route to Chungking to replace Gen. Stilwell, the Japanese were driving on Kunming, gateway to Chungking. It looked very much as if they would capture it. By December 22 the Japanese radio was boasting that Wedemeyer would

eat his Christmas dinner in New Delhi if he ate it at all. Wedemeyer knew the situation was grave, arranged a conference with Chiang Kai-shek soon after he arrived.

"I need 90,000 men in a hurry," Wedemeyer told Chiang. "And they have got to be good men. Can you give them to me?"

Chiang wanted to know how Wedemeyer would get the men to the front if he could find them.

"I've got 87 big Army transports lying around here, and I can move 100,000 men in a few days," Chiang asked what men Wedemeyer wanted.

The American general told him he wanted 50,000 crack Chinese troops which had been trained and equipped by his predecessor, Gen. Stilwell, and were fighting in Burma. Chiang agreed. Then Wedemeyer asked the \$64 question.

"I also want about 60,000 of your best men who have been fighting the Chinese Communists in the North, Your Excellency," said Wedemeyer nervously. "I think it is more important that these Chinese troops fight the Japanese than that they oppose each other."

Chiang never batted an eye, swiftly gave his approval, and Wedemeyer ordered his air transports into action. In four days he had enough men at the Kunming fighting line to slow up the Japs. In four weeks he had the Nipponese drive stopped cold south of Kunming.

Note—Wedemeyer is doing as complete a reorganization job on the Chinese Army as he can, seems to be getting results.

### Meanest Man in Washington

Newly-appointed Federal Loan Administrator Judge Fred Vinson was a bit surprised during a Cabinet meeting last week when his colleague, Attorney General Francis Biddle, hurled a sudden charge at him.

"I understand you are the meanest man in Washington," Biddle told Judge Vinson.

"Why so?" asked the startled Vinson.

"I understand," continued the Attorney General, "that you caused Ed Prichard to lose 90 pounds. You are the only man in Washington who could make him do that. When he worked for me, he gained 50 pounds."

The Attorney General was referring to 300-pound Edward F. Prichard, Vinson's brilliant counsel and right-hand man, who has now shifted from the Office of Economic Stabilization to the Federal Loan Administration. Replacing him as counsel of the Economic Stabilizer's Office is efficient Tom Emerson, formerly of OPA.

### Washington Gestapo

Despite the shortage of manpower, the military Gestapo still seems to have plenty of personnel to spy on newsmen.

The other day Constantine Brown, crack foreign editor of the Washington Star, telephoned the State Department regarding certain news from Romania. Forty-eight hours later, two men from Military Intelligence were at his apartment house checking up with elevator girls and the servants as to whom he saw, who called on him, where he dined.

Brown immediately questioned Gen. Clayton Bissel, chief of Military Intelligence, and Bissel admitted the investigation had taken place.

Note—All reports from Europe continue to bear out the fact that U. S. Military Intelligence was woefully lacking regarding the concentration of German troops for the Belgian breakthrough. Perhaps if G-2 spent as much time checking on the enemy as checking on newsmen, we could have prevented some losses.

### Priorities to Veterans

A new racket has developed as a result of the WPB ruling whereby discharged war veterans can get certain priorities on strategic materials in order to get back into private business.

Some unscrupulous businessmen (also some unscrupulous veterans) are arranging deals whereby the veterans become minor partners in their firms, then go to the WPB and secure priorities for raw materials.

Some veterans don't even sign papers giving them legal partnerships in the firm, and as a re-

sult find themselves used as mere priority bait, to be fired shortly thereafter.

In one case, however, when a veteran secured leather for a firm, WPB forced that firm to give the veteran a life contract. He cannot be fired in the future, come what may.

The WPB was preparing to go even further and give much broader priorities to the veterans to establish themselves in small business. However, this plan has been altered, partly because of abuses of the present concessions to veterans; also because of fear that further concessions would seriously threaten production of war and civilian goods already scheduled.

More recently, Vance Muse has been active in the South, promoting State referendums to ban closed shops.

Now, Muse is being investigated by the FBI for possible violation of the Corrupt Practices Act. The investigation has been in progress for about a month.

It didn't get into the papers, but Justice Jimmie Byrnes' War Mobilization Advisory Committee had another red-hot meeting the other day, during which CIO President Phil Murray tried to take the Administration's wage policy over the coals, but found himself completely stymied by the AFL's frustrating Bill Green.

Ex-Governor O. Max Gardner, of North Carolina, chairman of the Advisory Board, was in the chair when Murray started discussing wages with OPA Director Chester Bowles, Economic Stabilizer Bill Davis, and Chairman George Taylor of the War Labor Board. It was the first time Murray had had Bowles, Davis and Taylor together in one room, and he charged at them like a roaring lion.

First, Murray turned to Bowles and accused him of lading out price increases with a 10-gallon can. Then he turned to Davis and Taylor and charged that they laded out wage increases with an eye-dropper.

"Let's see what you are doing on the price level," said Murray. "The steel industry is making 36 times its pre-war earnings. Yet you have found a method of raising the price level of in excess of \$100,000,000. The President's Executive Order No. 9250 specifically says it is designed to 'stop profiteering,' and yet, whereas the pre-war net profit before taxes of the steel industry was 3 1/2 billion dollars, it has now reached about 24 billion. What have you got to say about that?"

### FBI Probe

Last summer this column told how certain big business interests in the north were financing the anti-Roosevelt campaign in the South, and particularly called attention to Vance Muse, of Houston, who was active last summer in pledging Texas electors to vote against Roosevelt despite the wishes of their State.

Among other things, it was recalled that in 1936 Vance Muse had spark-plugged the famous Macon, Ga., grass-roots convention to "uphold the Constitution," supposedly inspired by Southerners, but actually financed by du Pont and General Motors money. Muse collected \$10,000 from Pierre du Pont and John Raskob of General Motors before the Macon convention, plus \$500 from Henry du Pont and \$1000 from Alfred P. Sloan of General Motors afterwards.

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### Phil Murray on Prices

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Bill Green Barges In

Bowles said nothing.

"You recently told Congress," Murray continued, "that you didn't consider it your function to control profits, but only to 'keep a floor under profits.'"

Bowles admitted that was true, pointed out that he had a difficult job on his hands, that he wasn't concerned so much with wages.

Murray then turned to Davis and Taylor, as Gardner tried to keep the meeting in check.

"As against that picture, what picture have you folks done but simply freeze wage rates?" he said to Davis and Taylor. "You two are running away from your responsibility. You are supposed to be preparing to meet the terrific curtailment of weekly take-home pay after we lick Germany. What are you going to do when the 48-hour week is dropped and the labor market loosens up?"

Davis and Taylor fumbled for an answer, but, out of a blue sky, Bill Green got to his feet, swiftly lifted not only Davis and Taylor, but Bowles as well, off the spot by offering a motion picture showing confidence in the fine way in which the OPA and the WLB had been functioning.

Murray was flabbergasted at Green's action. He was speechless. Chairman Gardner banged his gavel. The resolution passed unanimously.

DEAUVILLE, France, March 24—A special train service for high priority supplies for the armies at the front operates now from Cherbourg, with a 36-hour schedule from shipside to front-line depots.

It is a through train for the front in France and Belgium via Paris. It hauls freight cars, each carrying up to 20 tons of vital items. It must be unloaded within 12 hours. At Cherbourg it is loaded directly from Liberty and Victory ships, without the intermediate steps of unloading of the docks and then reloading on the train, as formerly.

This train is operated by the 728th Railway Battalion, commanded by an experienced railroad man, Col. Carl D. Love, of Louisville, Ky.

This is what might be called a de luxe train of its kind. But railroading in the Normandy area was not always de luxe, far from it. In the battle for this area the railroads were bombed, tangled, twisted. Rolling stock was destroyed.

The military railway service, commanded by Brig. Gen. Clarence L. Burpee, of Jacksonville, Fla., plunged headlong into the job. It meant not only repairing tracks, yards and telephone lines, but rebuilding bridges, signal houses, railway stations, and the like.

But while all this was going on, the trains had to move. They did move, but how. Perhaps every American boy is born with the ambition to be a railroad engineer—at least those of my generation were. Some of them had a chance over here in those early days for the invasion. Some day somebody may write a companion piece to "Casey Jones" about the GI at the throttle, the GI who may have been a curtain salesman, or an amusement park ticket-taker. The five-man crew got a handful of K rations, jumped on the train, and away they went, knowing vaguely which way they were headed, but not knowing exactly how to stop. It was sort of a case of: "Coming—ready or not."

Landed Elsewhere

There was one crew which started for one place and landed somewhere else, quite an adventure. The amateur engineers drove ahead through blackouts, into midnight blackness, with no organized signal system. They plunged headlong into tunnels, not knowing whether they had been mined. They drove with head stuck out of the cab, with a prayer. A sharp lookout was

necessary, for sometimes the track ended suddenly, and sometimes the bridge that was supposed to be there was not. Cigarettes, burning pieces of newspaper were makeshift signals.

Occasionally they were bombed. Their orders were to get through and they got through, somehow. They chopped up broken cross-ties for fuel, or they stopped and scoured the countryside for wood, or hauled furniture from bombed-out houses along the way. For water, they worked many angles, getting it sometimes from local fire departments, sometimes from creeks, sometimes from shell craters, sometimes by organizing bucket brigades among French farmers to bring it from a lake or stream.

Some lives were lost in collisions, and there were some bad ones. Once a train carrying high octane gas bumped headlong into another, with an earth-shattering explosion that rocked the whole countryside, in a jam that developed Rambouillet and Maintenon. It was hit-and-miss railroading. A respectable engineer would never have permitted it.

Truck Drivers' Epic

There's another epic of the boys at the wheel—the truck drivers. Trucks are not used out of the ports any more on anywhere near the scale of those early days, now that the railroads are in order and pipelines are available for carrying gasoline. But they were the sole reliance for a time.

To follow the armies, they improvised the famous red ball highway out of Normandy. Eventually it stretched 500 miles, going and coming, with one-way traffic each way, carrying at its peak nearly 8000 tons of supplies, mostly food and gasoline, from Normandy alone. It was dangerous work with the gasoline, as at Coutances, for instance, where a convoy of 13 2000-gallon trucks had to go through a flaming town to get gas to Gen. Patton.

They made that flaming highway without a miss, a miracle.

Their schedule called for 22 out of 24 hours operation, with only two hours for maintenance. One driver would sleep while the other was at the wheel, though often one driver would carry the cargo through.

The red ball highway ended its glorious career in mid-November last year. It is littered with the legend of unsung heroes, more than half of them Negroes.

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Here's an Early American Bedroom Suite that has unusually large pieces. So strongly constructed, we endorse it for the children's room. Sturdy hardwood finished in a rich Cherry Maple. Authentic styling. 4-drawer Chest, Dresser with swinging mirror and full-size Bed.

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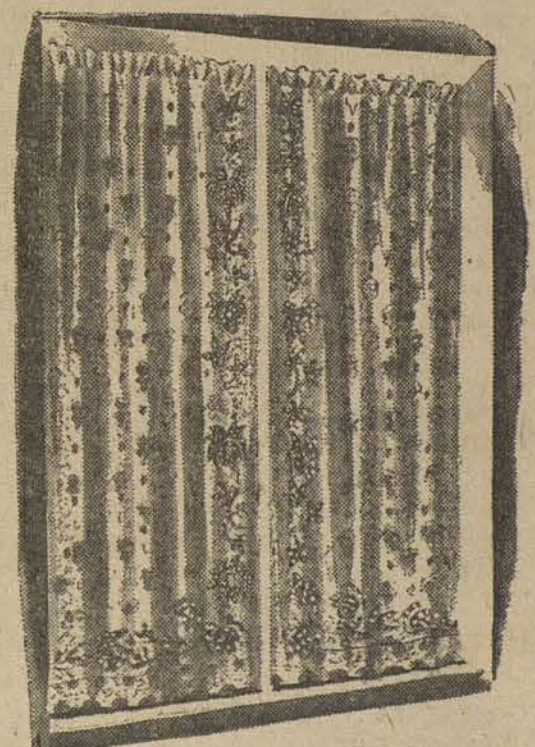
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\*\*\*\*\*



# Comedy Is the Main Prop on the Stage Sets This Week

## FOOTLIGHTS

'Chicken' and 'Dinner for 3'  
Obviously Packaged for Gourmands

By *Edna H. Schless*

It's going to be a little difficult to view current theatrical menu with much gusto this morning.

In spite of their gastronomic titles, "Chicken Every Sunday" and "Dinner for 3" are not the sort of theatrical tidbits to perk up a languid appetite. In fact, both are pretty synthetic products, put out hastily for the trade and obviously packaged for the gourmand rather than the gourmet.

"Dinner for 3," written, directed and produced by Tim Whelan, is indeed a pretty desperate catchall, a frantically concocted who-dunit that runs the gamut of murder-mystery-farce from A to B, as the saying goes.

Mr. Whelan has to be credited with having made a hectic effort to provide the customers with a comprehensive laugh trap, but the bait will attract, we should think, only the hungriest.

His new play obviously belongs to the lower levels of Hollywood entertainment, and for all its screamingly funny intentions is not at home in the adult theater. And this comment is offered with no intention of sneering at the movies, but merely to suggest that there is a place for everything and that in a well-ordered entertainment world everything should be in its place under appropriate circumstances and at appropriate prices.



For the sake of the record—"Dinner for 3" is the story of a gay and eligible bachelor, a physician, who finds himself unable to choose between three ladies, all of whom aspire quite actively to share his bed and board with benefit of clergy.

To arrive at the proper diagnosis of each applicant, the doctor undertakes a little experiment.

He invites the three yearning candidates to dinner and with the help of two colleagues (who on the Locust st. stage engage in some highly unprofessional antics) stages a fake murder with himself cast in the role of the fake corpse. The idea being to find out what the gals really think of him when he is supposed to be ready for the mortician's table rather than the altar. This merry conceit (as old as the middle ages) is developed at mad farce tempo with the usual business of running up and down stairs (four comedic playwrights seem obsessed with the humor of stairs-running these days), the usual shots in the dark, feminine screams and interchange of "corpses," in about as adolescent a charade as this reporter has witnessed in many a season. These goings on are not helped either by a profusion of routine and phonily sophisticated dialogue.

Harry Ellerbe, Miriam Seegar, Stanley Logan and a large supporting cast, all likable and able players, strive mightily in this witless ollapodrida without gaining much but sympathy.



"Chicken Every Sunday" arrived at the Shubert last Monday trailing an impressive record of almost a year on Broadway and a short but rather triumphant tour of the Midwest—an achievement in the box office hard to dismiss even if you should be so inclined.

As you probably know by this time it's a dramatization of Rosemary Taylor's book of the same name which had some currency in the better-seller lists a season or so ago. And its headway on the stage since the Broadway opening of last April recalls that well-known aphorism of Oscar Wilde—"Nothing succeeds like excess." For the Brothers Epstein have certainly gone to excessive limits in their attempt to amuse you with the characters drawn from Miss Taylor's story.

The pedigree of the show might read—"Out of Miss Taylor by Father Day" (of "Life With Father"). And some of the assorted eccentricities of "You Can't Take It With You" are not above suspicion of paternity since the resemblance is such that you can hardly go to the Shubert this week without recalling the two older comedies.

However, those are not models to be sneezed at and while "Chicken Every Sunday" is not always an irresistible laughing matter, it has funny moments that, if you're not in too much of a hurry, might be worth waiting for.

The plot is a slender one and the authors have not placed too much weight on it. It's about a set of comic strip caricatures who inhabit a boarding house in Tucson, Arizona, circa 1916. This establishment where chicken is on the menu every Sunday is run by Emily Blachman, a shopworn Virginia gentlewoman whose career as a harassed landlady is not made any easier by her husband, Jim Blachman, a smalltown tycoon of dubious solvency who runs a bank, a laundry, a gold mine and a horse-car line on a whole bundle of shoestrings. The boarders, given to excessive running up and down stairs and in and out of doors, include Uncle Jake, a likable unregenerate and salty old lecher who likes to talk about the fancy ladies of his youth; a bleating young poet with a dominating mama; a school teacher who has mysterious midnight assignations with a star boarder who spoils all the scandal by turning out to be her husband; a wandering nymphomaniac who, fallen on lean times, takes to pursuing Indians, and a faded belle who claims perpetual squatter's rights on the bathroom.



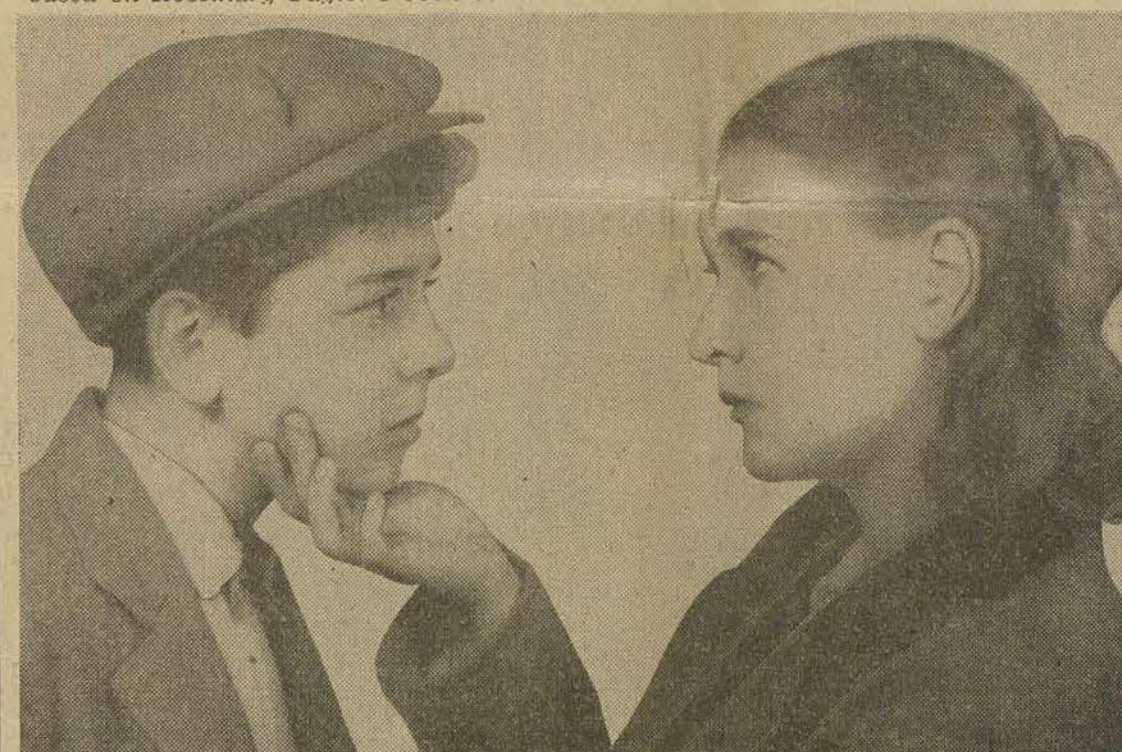
The Epsteins, you see, have overlooked nothing in marshaling a comic menagerie for your laughter. That the creatures of their (and Miss Taylor's) imagination do little but run around in circles and figuratively speaking, jump out at one another crying "Boo!" is perhaps beside the point, especially since there is no point anywhere visible to the naked eye for most of the evening.

But at least last Monday's audience, and, we understand, later patrons, too, seemed vastly amused, and nothing is so right at a comedy as a laughing audience. "Chicken" is reasonably well served by a lively and competent cast headed by Viola Frayne and the worried but sentimental landlady who keeps the human zoo, and Sidney Blackmer as her loud-talking and large-dreaming spouse.

And probably the show rates a passing-plus mark as entertainment. "Entertainment," of course, covers a multitude of sins in any show. And although to a certain viewpoint what entertains you is an important element in the equation, too, what with the early spring and the thermometer in the 80s, it's too warm to go into that now in the case of "Chicken Every Sunday."



HOW TO TORTURE YOUR WIFE . . . as exemplified in a scene from "Chicken Every Sunday," in which Sidney Blackmer as the husband enjoys a one-sided matrimonial joke at the expense of his wife (Viola Frayne). The comedy, new to Philadelphia and based on Rosemary Taylor's book of the same name, is the tenant at the Shubert.



MURIEL GRUBER AND JULIA LAURENCE. . . in a scene from "The Miracle of the Warsaw Ghetto," Yiddish drama starring Jacob Ben-Ami, due Thursday at the Forrest.



THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA . . . and not such a bad one to be in. It's Harry Ellerbe as the lady-killing medico in "Dinner for 3." Marjorie Lord (right) and Miriam Seegar are the rivals for the doc's affections. Tim Whelan (right) is directing this rehearsal shot . . . a bit enviously, perhaps. The comedy enters its final week at the Locust tomorrow.

## BILLBOARD

Opening Thursday Afternoon

The Miracle of the Warsaw Ghetto Forrest

Yiddish drama by H. Leivick, here for a brief engagement after 24 weeks in New York. Jacob Ben-Ami is starred in the play, which depicts the Warsaw Ghetto in April, 1943, when 40,000 Jews made their last-ditch stand against the tyranny of the Nazis. Incidental music for the production was written by Sholem Secunda. Three days.

Continuing

Chicken Every Sunday

Shubert

A boarding house in Tucson, Arizona (circa 1916), is the scene of this comedy, which Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein adapted for the stage from Rosemary Taylor's original biographical story of her own family. Sidney Blackmer and Viola Frayne share the leading roles and other players include Suzanne Kaaren, Hugh Thomas, Jan Sherwood, Austin Coghlan, Adrienne Bayan, Mona Bruns, and Frank M. Thomas. Final week.

Dinner for 3

Locust

New comedy written, directed and produced by Tim Whelan, well-known Hollywood director. A farce with elements of romance and mystery, it concerns a doctor who is pursued by three lovely ladies, and finds it difficult to make a choice. A large cast is headed by Harry Ellerbe, Miriam Seegar, Stanley Logan, Marjorie Lord and Les Tremayne. Final week.

Coming

A Doll's House—James B. Cassidy's revival of the famous Ibsen play with a line-up that includes Frederic Tozere, Dale Melbourne, H. B. Warner, Lyle Talbot and Jane Darwell. Locust, April 2.

I'll Be Waiting—New comedy-drama by Reita Lambert with an all-feminine cast starring Virginia Field and featuring Katherine Alexander, Barbara Robbins and Katharine Emmet. Walnut, April 2.

The Student Prince. Return engagement of Sigmund Romberg's 21-year-old romantic operetta about the love of a Prince for a little waitress. Alexander Gray, Laurel Hurley and Detmar Poppen have featured billing. Forrest, April 2.

## He Gave Sinatradicts Plenty to Yell About

By JUNE HERDER

What James Boswell did for Samuel Johnson on paper, Tim Whelan has done for Frank Sinatra on the screen. For it was at Whelan's insistence that the bobby-sock phenomenon took time out from his crooning here and there throughout the land and departed for Hollywood. There Frankie implanted his impression on celluloid so swooners all over the country could go into action en masse and faint in rows from Maine to California.

A Chef Whelan Special

If Whelan's part in persuading Sinatra to yodel in pictures were generally known, probably the short-stocking damsels would be pulling buttons off Tim's vest, too, and saluting him with a little appropriate screeching.

But up to this moment, Whelan has all his buttons and may be found this week at the Locust in a different role, pacing backstage or peering from the front of theater, where his new comedy "Dinner for 3" is now being served in the dining car.

"Dinner" is definitely a Chef Whelan special. He is its author, director and producer. And if a member of the cast couldn't make it some evening, Whelan undoubtedly could fill in as understudy. Such triple responsibility is nothing new for this Hollywoodian now on lend-lease to the East. On the West Coast, Whelan has shouldered at least two out of the three jobs in 20 of his most recent pictures. He was producer and director of "Higher and Higher," the Sinatra special; he was director and author of "Swing Fever," starring Kay Kyser. Whelan also wrote and directed the English-made picture "Sidewalks of London" with Charles Laughton and Vivian Leigh.

In fact it was Whelan whose efforts on behalf of London picture studios helped to popularize English cinema in this country. He wrote and directed many English pictures which introduced such players as Vivian Leigh, Lawrence Olivier and Flora Robinson to American audiences.

Whelan's British associations probably account for his un-Hollywoodian appearance. He is a conservative dresser whose ties are as quiet as his softly enunciated speech.

Although Whelan has long been known in Hollywood for his happy faculty of attracting new personalities to the films, he confesses that he was more than a little nervous when he came East to persuade Sinatra to make a picture.

A Natural Actor, Too

"But after I met Frank," he says, "I knew there were no difficulties that couldn't be surmounted. He was such a good sport."

"Frank is a natural actor, too," said Whelan. "He learns fast and, unlike most people, his inexperience has a charm of its own. His naturalness is an asset and the simplicity which the camera catches comes through as a quality that is genuinely appealing. Frank will go far on the screen." Whelan and Sinatra hit it off well from their very first meeting. However, the singer complained because the director continued to refer to him as "The Voice." Frank had his revenge when he arrived at the studio one day with a brown leather script binder for Whelan on which was engraved "The Brain."

While "The Brain" is here with "Dinner for 3," he hopes to find some new talent. "I discovered a few youngsters on all my other trips East," he said, "and there's no reason why I shouldn't take several potential stars back with me this time."

However, Whelan will have to work fast. His studio insists that its producer-author-director return to Hollywood just as soon as "Dinner for 3" opens on Broadway.

## Makeup Box

According to Dorothy Kilgallen, Dennis King, Jr., and Jayne Cotter, of "Kiss Them for Me," which made its pre-Broadway bow here a fortnight ago, have the usual spring symptoms. . . . Katharine Alexander, who has a featured part in "I'll Be Waiting," due here next week, returned from Hollywood last week after completing the mother role in the picture carbon copy of "Kiss and Tell."

Walter Winchell's daughter Walda, who had a small part in "Up in Central Park" under the stage name Tony Eden, now is making her real Broadway debut in the new Talulah Bankhead show, "Foolish Notion." . . . Motion picture outfits have been bidding for the film rights to "Anna Lucasta," Negro drama now packing them in in New York, and it is rumored that Greta Garbo is interested in heading the white film cast.

Billy Redfield, who played the lead in the recently closed "Snafu," has been signed for the movie version with a contract said to run to four figures. . . . And Richard Hart, who plays the witch boy in "Dark of the Moon," has a Metro lease waiting for him within 30 days after that show closes on Broadway. . . . Reginald Denham and Mary Orr, authors of "Wallflower" (the Meyer Davis show), waived \$1628 in royalties in St. Louis last fall to make up for operation losses and the Dramatists' Guild has ruled that Producer Davis must pay them. Incidentally, Variety says that show lost over 50 percent for its angels despite a \$75,000 film sale.

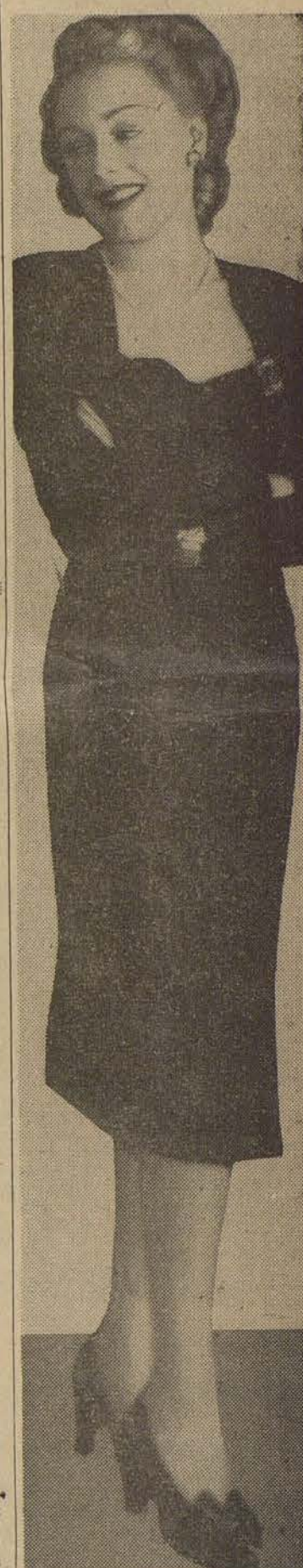
—S. R. O.

## Alfred Drake Reprises An 'Oklahoma' Favorite

Alfred Drake made his last appearance on Wednesday night as Barnaby Goodchild in "Sing Out, Sweet Land!" Drake left for Hollywood on Thursday and the "Sing Out" show closed its New York engagement last night. It will go on tour with a new lead. Wednesday night's performance of the show turned out to be a special occasion with added hokum supplied by the various members of the cast. The climax came in the speakeasy scene in the second act, when Drake sang "My Blue Heaven" to the gangster's girl. He was ready to go into his number when the orchestra, to his complete surprise, started to play "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," which had been his opening number in "Oklahoma!" To the audience's delight, Drake sang it all the way through before asking the musicians if they would play "My Blue Heaven" for him.



FROM JANE DARWELL, who arrives at the Locust on Easter Monday, April 2, as one of the featured players in the revival of Ibsen's "A Doll's House."



FROM VIRGINIA FIELD, who heads the all-feminine cast of "I'll Be Waiting," new comedy opening at the Walnut April 2.



FROM FRANK FARRELL, in the title role of "The Student Prince," Sigmund Romberg's tuneful holiday offering returning to the Forrest on April 2.

## The Stamp Corner

By EDWARD B. MAGUIRE

The latest U. S. philatelic "find" is the 1944 three-cent railroad commemorative printed on both sides.

Harold B. Newcomb, Jr., of Webster Groves, Mo., who first reported the error, has donated one of the 13 copies he has seen to the Red Cross 1945 War Fund stamp auction, to be held Thursday in Astor Galleries of the Waldorf-Astoria.

The value of such a stamp depends, of course, on the number in existence. At least 150, or a full sheet, evidently have been sold across the Missouri post-



ONE of nine new stamps from Greenland, the first since 1938.

office counter. Scott's highest priced rarity of this sort catalogues at \$2500.

### New Issue Shorts

Greenland—New pictorial set of nine values, the first in seven years: King Christian on horseback portrayed on 10 and 15 ore; seal on 1, 5 and 7 ore; dog sled on 30 ore; Polar bear on 1k; Eskimo in kayak on Arctic Ocean on 2k and eider duck on 5k. Southwest Africa—Error reported: "S. W. A." overprint inverted on 1s baby stamps. Vatican City—Promised peace set to consist of airmails and special deliveries. Designs to include portrait of Pope Pius XII, Papal coat-of-arms and air view of Vatican City. Egypt—Additions to Farouk head type: 2m orange and 22m blue. Chile—Three years late, the 100th anniversary of the death of the South American liberator, Bernardo O'Higgins, is marked by 30c red and black, portrait of O'Higgins; and 1.80p blue and black, Rancagua battle scene. . . . Aden—Addition to the pictorial set: 14a blue and brown. . . . Romania—New 10l red and 50l olive, portrait of King Michael.

Brazil—Centenary of Martin Francisco Ribeiro de Andrada marked by 40c blue with sideways design. . . . Liechtenstein—Additions to new pictorial set which gradually is replacing the 1937-38 series: 3r brown, Planken scene; 54r green, view of Bendern; 20r red, Vaduz; 25r violet, Triesenberg; 30r blue, Schaan; 50r gray-violet, Mauren. The Duke of Liechtenstein is portrayed on 2f brown and the Duchess on 3f green. Yet to be released are 10r, 15r, 40r, 60r and 90r values.

### Club Notes

Monday—Northeast Stamp Club, 2006 E. Stolla ave. John Thompson to head "Boys' Nite"; Conrad Beal to show his stamps. . . . Mizpah Stamp and Exchange Club, 6032 N. American st. Swap Nite.

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