

A, free, responsible and aggressive Press is democracy's first line of defense

Knocking on Wood

with JOHN H. HARWOOD

OUR NEW BATTLESHIPS

Sketchy reports from Washington and elsewhere indicate that our new battleships are really something, and quite able to cope with armor-piercing shells, torpedoes and bombs. The airplane is definitely not yet master of the seas, and able to force all surface vessels to run for cover, correspondents say.

All of which is very interesting and could be true. Our naval architects have designed thicker and stronger armor to resist the terrific wallop of an armor-piercing shell; they have constantly made up for more difficult for torpedoes to strike a crippling blow; and there is no good reason why they can't build a battleship capable of stuffing off 1,000 pound aerial bombs. For every type of offense, there has always been some adequate sort of defense. The convoy is the answer to the submarine (our trouble has been lack of enough escort ships); a heavy gun seems to be the answer to the tank, which in turn was the answer to the machine gun bullet. So, it is logical to assume that our designers can come for a time, at least, to the airplane by putting thicker and better armor in vulnerable areas astern, and by covering the battleship with more and better anti-aircraft guns.

At the other hand, one wonders whether the airplane, which can be developed much faster than the battleship, will not be supreme in the future. It is possible that we will have a fleet of bombers and dive bombers which are armored, and which can travel farther and faster and can carry bombs and torpedoes weighing well—any weight you want to set—10 tons. To have you to be in with such an increase in offensive power, the battleship builders would be left far behind.

Today, of course, the airplanes can pack no such wallop, and carriers seem to be highly vulnerable things, with the result that our new battleships may blot Japanese out of the water and force zero pilots to do anything about it.

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP

It will probably be some months before the full significance of the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting is felt, for undoubtedly, they and their chiefs of staff must have planned the next steps of strategy. Action will not come until the necessary materials have been accumulated—it took months before General Montgomery got enough equipment to blast Rommel, and he got a preponderance of strength, the jig was up, and the final blow was struck.

Establishment of "unconditional surrender" as the only terms the Allies can offer the Axis makes it possible that the war may last longer, for Nazis and the German Army staff know that Britain and America will make no deal, and that Russia, certainly, will give no

SALVAGE MEMO

TIN CANS—Rinse after using, remove label, open bottom end and flatten with foot. Place at curb for City collection the last week of every month. Keep dry; keep separate from rubbish.

WASTE FATS—Strain and keep cool. Turn in to your meat market when you have a few pounds. Rancid fats not wanted.

SCRAP METALS, GLASS, RUBBER—Leave in bin near Post Office or put at curb on your last City collection day of the month. Copper wires, car's plates and old keys may be left at the library.

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES—You can donate these to Salvation Army, which will call for them. Phone 4014. Scrap paper not wanted.

Five Brothers Lost On One Ship

The heaviest blow suffered by any single American family since Pearl Harbor, and probably in our naval history, is that experienced by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Sullivan, of Waterloo, Iowa, who lost five sons when the Cruiser Juneau went down in the blazing battle off Guadalcanal.

The brothers, it is reported, joined the Navy with the provision that they not be separated. Navy officials point out that this violated established policy which divides members of families in wartime service. The idea is to prevent wholesale grief for any family.

Axis Nations Degrade Women

In a recent address, Joseph C. Grew, former Ambassador to Japan, called attention to the status of women in enemy countries. The German women of today, he said, are held by public opinion, by official utterance and by law to be inferior creatures. Children are taken from their mothers by the Nazi party machine and taught to be immoral, fanatical ruffians, so that the boys might be the infants of today and the girls the mothers of the cannon fodder of 1970.

Continuing, Ambassador Grew said that the German women are privileged in comparison with the women of conquered countries in the heels of German invaders. The women of Poland, Greece and other conquered countries find terror, pain, unpeakable degradation and often death at the hands of the possessors of their countries.

In Japan, Mr. Grew pointed out, women never have achieved freedom. Japanese men always have had contempt for women, so that their soldiers have made "Japanese" a synonym for murder, torture and rape. "No other civilized people sells its young girls to panders with such openness. No other civilized people makes the mother the slave of her husband and the servant of her own sons."

The facts mentioned by the Ambassador are nasty and disgusting. Nevertheless, they bear repeating in order that women in this country and in other free lands may understand the meaning of this. In the face of such information, it is rather difficult to understand how any intelligent, cultured woman can fail to understand the necessity of using force to put down the aggression of such nations.

HOW MANY RESIDENTS OF THE BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD HILLS AREA REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE AND VALUE OF THE VARIOUS SCHOOLS AT CRANBROOK? HAVE YOU VISITED THEM? DO YOU KNOW THAT THE RECENTLY OPENED MUSEUM IS ONE OF THE BEST OF ITS TYPE IN THE COUNTRY?

CHURCHILL SMOKES CIGARETTES Roosevelt smokes cigarettes! Stalin often is pictured with a pipe in his mouth; now if Gen. Chiang Kai-shek will only come along with a mouthful of chewing tobacco, we can label them the "Nicotine Quartet."

STUPID OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

An action of said Court, held at the Probate office in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 19th day of January, A. D. 1943, between the Hon. Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate, and the Estate of Anna M. Linton, Deceased.

George W. Linton, administrator of the estate of said deceased, filed a petition praying that the time for the presentation of claims against said estate be limited and that a time and place be appointed to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands against said estate, and before said Court.

It is Ordered, that two months from this date be allowed for creditors to present claims against said estate. It is further ordered, that the sixth day of April, 1943, be and the same shall be the time and place for the examination and adjustment of all claims against said estate.

ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate.

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WABECK STATE BANK OF DETROIT

BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABECK BUILDING

"I Can't Be Bothered"

In a certain city a woman asked her neighbor, "Do you save your empty cans for Uncle Sam?" And the woman told her, "I should say not! I can't be bothered about that!"

We did a slow burn. Here the whole world is at white heat . . . yet this woman "can't be bothered." . . . we send men to foreign battlefields—men who are dying to protect our American liberty—yet she "can't be bothered."

If this were the attitude of everyone in America we should surrender right now. We don't think it is. We think the home folks are backing up the men on the fighting fronts. It's little enough we ask of housewives—to prepare and save tin cans. The woman who "can't be bothered" is sabotaging the war effort; she's working for Hitler. She must be made to see that the cans she has, no matter how few, are a mighty important war contribution—and she must do her part.—Michigan Salvage News.

AS SUBJECTS, YOU HAVE TO TAKE OFF YOUR HAT TO THE GIRLS.

As has happened so many times in the past, girls lead the Baldwin high graduating class in scholarship. So we take off our editorial top to Jessie Bowers, valedictorian, and Narcee Ellis, salutatorian, of the mid-winter grade—not to overlook several other young ladies, and a young man or two.

WHEN FOOD RATIONING REALLY GETS UNDER way completely, the rural resident certainly will live a fuller life than his city cousin; which only proves that tillable land, after all, is life's most necessary resource.

"WHEN THE BOYS COME HOME" after this war, from among them is bound to rise a future great leader, or leaders—we hope so, anyway. Perhaps, then, he or they may translate into democratic, American action, some of the principles for individual freedom that he, or they, fought for in World War II.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher; PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager; JOHN H. HARWOOD, Managing Editor; HAROLD P. RUEBERG, Advertising Manager; CLAUDE E. WALKER, Production Manager.

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of the paper. All copy must be presented before noon on Wednesday. The right is reserved, however, to make such superficial changes in the work submitted as are necessary to the style of the paper and as are required by laws of the state. Brevity is a mechanical situation in the composing room; headlines written by those other than members of the staff cannot be used. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

People's Column

"UNCLE JOE" WRITES

Your Editorial (This and That) of Jan. 28, is probably the finest you have ever written and I recommend that all subscribers take the Jan. 28th issue and re-read your column.

Your question to Dr. Eichelberger, "Will you venture to state your belief as to the one thing that is the dominant cause of modern war," and his evasive answer, due probably to his employer's policy as well as to "people's peace," is indicative of the type of "nostalgic truths" we are taught to believe.

I wish it were possible for the editorial to be sent to every local paper in the country so that we in the smaller communities could organize and discuss a "people's peace" as well as "people's war." Your attitude that this is wholly an economic struggle waged by the few against the many, the speculative use of land and other natural resources, is 100 per cent correct.

Working on the theory that, "A hungry citizen (nation) is never a good citizen," you will have to agree that to have a world peace that lasts you must first have a world-planned economy that assures all nations and all people the Four Freedoms, which has certainly not been the case in the past. This is going to be hard to attain because it is going to call for a sacrifice among your international corporations which no doubt they will hesitate to make, and try to figure out another sugar-coated pill that will ease the pain (as in the past) but do very little else.

Personally, I believe it is up to the small town editors over the nation who are not "Edmondson" (or otherwise) controlled, to put on a truth campaign and bring this condition to light, so George lets you and I get together on this question, get the idea rolling and Buy Another Bond.

"UNCLE JOE" WRITES

TODAY

This is a worn-out slinky day. The sulky sky is dull and brooding. The trees are threadbare, sparse and scrawny.

So are the dead brown weeds and grass. My eyes are tired of dirty snow. The road is rough, half rut, half bare.

And people going past the house look up and stare. Winter has grown decrepit, mean and old. The day is disagreeable and cold.

And yet, if you were here, my dear, If you walked in right now, I'd say, "This is indeed a perfect day."

—Beatrice McDonald

AMERICAN PYRAMID

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AMERICAN PYRAMID

People's Column

"UNCLE JOE" WRITES

ITS APEX—OUR FIGHTING MEN.

ITS BODY—THE ENERGY AND DETERMINATION OF EVERY AMERICAN: FARMER, WORKER, DOCTOR, BUSINESS MAN, MECHANIC, HOUSEWIFE—ALL OF US.

ITS BASE—OUR HOMES, FARMS, RAILROADS, FACTORIES; OUR RESERVES IN WAR BONDS, SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, LIFE INSURANCE, INVESTMENTS, AND OUR GREAT NATURAL RESOURCES.

ITS FOUNDATION—OUR BEDROCK AMERICAN IDEALS OF FREEDOM AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.

IT IS STRONG—AS EACH PART IS STRONG.

New Books at Baldwin

Culbertson on World Federation

ABOUT THE WRITER

(Editor's note—Mrs. Burlingame, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, was in Europe with the Versailles settlement for a year and a half, and was being written, and spent two years in Czechoslovakia doing work of rehabilitation immediately after the First World War—hence her interest in peace and the United Nations, a resident at 436 Bonnie Brae, she has lived in Birmingham for the past few years. (Mrs. Burlingame has two sons.)

Ely Culbertson's plan for World Federation does not require the relinquishing of any sovereign right except the right to wage war. Probably this right becomes less and less important to the people of the world.

We know Mr. Culbertson as a great bridge player. His book, entitled, "The Strange Lives of 'One Man'" which one of the literary critics called "one of the greatest autobiographies of all time." He was born in the Caucasus where his American father was working on the railway oil field. He has studied at six great universities and is an economist and specialist in mass psychology.

The world federation plan which he has developed is a blue print for world co-operation, peace and order. He feels that it should be inaugurated now so that our war objectives will be clear and remembered when the peace is expanded to include the nations of the world. We have seen how our last peace plan has been frustrated by the peace situation now developing in Africa. Big business does not object to a plan, nor does War. Why then, do the Americans and the United Nations not be seeking the framework for peace?

Mr. Culbertson asserts that the two great dilemmas of the world are the quota system and the dilemma of establishing an international government strong enough to maintain order in the world and still respect the sovereign rights of nations. Second, how to disarm individual nations and create a universal police force which will not become an instrument of tyranny.

He divides the world into 11 great regions which will reduce the cumbersome of 70-odd independent nations. Each of the regions will be autonomous and will retain certain cultural and historic ties as well as mutual interests. These regions will be put together loosely by a regional government which in turn will have representation in the world federation government. This government will have only one power which it can enforce—a universal police force, the prevention of war.

The World Police Force assigned to the Federation is to be raised by the quota system. Heavy weapons will be the exclusive monopoly of the world Federation. The quota system for the Federation is probably the greatest contribution made by Mr. Culbertson to the world peace plan. It will consist of national contingents held in reserve in the country of the origin of the quota. The whole world federation and the first to move against aggressors. No other force will be volunteers, well-educated and well-paid.

Many details and some essential of this plan would do much to be changed and the plan itself proposed.

POINT SYSTEM RATIONING

A greater war effort will mean less food and consumer items in coming months—but those items that are available will be distributed as evenly and fairly as possible. Handling food over long distances is to be curtailed. That's where patriotism and honesty for those families already feeling the spring fever urge to plan and later obtain a more effective Victory Garden.

Not volume alone is involved, Bowers points out. Commercially produced produce must be reduced to the point where it is possible to handle it. That's where patriotism and honesty for those families already feeling the spring fever urge to plan and later obtain a more effective Victory Garden.

More than the rationing of food is involved in the importance of gardening in 1943, says Perry Bowers, vegetable gardening specialist at the college. "Eighteen per cent of the foods produced in the United States were used by the government in 1942 for the food for lend-lease shipment. The 1943 program indicates government needs a minimum of 25 per cent and a possible 50 per cent reached by the end of the year."

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"A Junior Album" . . . Presenting young people of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and vicinity . . . for them and the youth of America, we strive for Victory and a just peace!



TOP CENTER: Victoria, and (below) twins Sandra and Jennie. DORIS JEANNE, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Nunneley, Biograph road. LEFT: Donna Jeanne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Matzell, Cranbrook House, Bloomfield Hills. SUSAN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Feag, Foxcroft, Lawrence, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stobbs, 804 Henrietta. RIGHT: Roger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stone, 1206 Eaton. JAMES, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Shannon, Wing Lake. JOHN, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Powers, 445 Arlington. (This feature arranged by Beatrice Zwahe Stone, Birmingham.)



RATIONING SPURS THEM

Spring fever came early to Michigan gardeners this year. In fact the milder weather and blizzard weather when new food rationing appeared imminent and gardeners remembered what they had been able to produce during 1942 in back yards and farm quarters.

Lighter per cent of the Birmingham garden club is already planning for the spring. The horticulture department at Michigan State College indicate the intensity of the interest in the production of food, home processed, the government has said, does not curtail any family share in what they will be able to purchase at food centers after more complete rationing is in force.

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