

THE PRESS

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SEABEES WORK UNDER FIRE

The fighting, never-say-die spirit of America's workers was recently exemplified in the South Pacific, when a battle-scarred U. S. aircraft carrier was made ready for further battle by "Seabees," who made emergency repairs at sea while the carrier was steaming to the scene of another action. Part of the repairs were actually completed while the ship was in battle.

"Seabees" are men recruited for the Navy principally through the cooperation of AFL building trades unions. They are all volunteers, forming the Navy's construction battalion, trained to work and fight.

"Much of this work was accomplished at sea under the supervision of the officer in charge of the 'Seabees' and his forces during the stress of operations against the enemy," the carrier's commanding officer advised the Navy Department. "The emergency repairs accomplished by this skillful, well-trained, and enthusiastically energetic force have placed this vessel in condition for further action against the enemy."

Returning to a South Pacific port after an earlier battle, the carrier put in for repairs. A crew of 75 "Seabees" was put to work on her since adequate regular repair forces were lacking. While the work was under way, the carrier's commander received orders to put to sea immediately and engage the enemy.

There was no time to wait for completion of repairs. The carrier sailed for the battle area with the "Seabees" still aboard, and the men of the construction battalion kept right on working. Even after the carrier was in the midst of battle, the "Seabees" carried out their assigned tasks and effected all necessary repairs.

Maybe after they get through driving wells south of Hamilton, we will all wish we still had that lazy canal and the rippling waters of old Crawford's Run back with us once again.

FOR PLANT PROTECTION

Formation of labor-management committees on plant protection to safeguard war and essential civilian production against enemy air raids, accidents and fires is effectively urged

COMMENT ON WORLD EVENTS

THE PEOPLE OF DENMARK, realizing that Nazi war production must be disrupted, approve British bombing of Danish industrial plants, even though it means destruction and death, the information service of the National America Denmark association in New York reports.

Recently the R. A. F. bombed the shipyards of Burmeister and Wain, in the harbor of Copenhagen, very close to the city. Diesel engines, which the Nazis were using for submarines, were made in the works. Word comes from a trustworthy source that the works, as well as an important bridge, the Knippelsbro, were almost entirely destroyed, the fires being visible in Sweden; that only four people were killed—and that the Danes are overjoyed at the precision bombing of the R. A. F.

Yet there were few achievements in their industrial history of which the Danes were prouder than those of Burmeister and Wain where the Diesel motor was first fitted to a ship and where, since then, hundreds of fine ships were built.

For a long while the shipyard workers had sabotaged production as well as they could, by strikes and other means. There can be no doubt but that they are pleased with the effective assistance of the R. A. F., no matter what the consequences, the National America Denmark Association comments.

Any American who is tempted to froth when he can't get all the coffee or sugar or tires or gasoline he wants, should consider the case of the people of occupied Holland. The list of articles the sale of which is forbidden without special permit as reported in the Dutch press includes:

In a new seven-page Fact Sheet being distributed by the Office of Civilian Defense.

The Fact Sheet says:

"Although the primary responsibility for plant protection rests with management, a labor-management committee on plant protection composed of representatives of both management and workers should be formed in each plant. In those plants or departments where the workers belong to a labor organization, the union representatives should constitute the labor half of the joint committee."

Pointing out that plant protection covers more than preparation against air raids, the Fact Sheet closes with these words:

"Not only do air raids threaten American industry, but fire, sabotage, and industrial accidents do as well. Every week industrial accidents kill an average of 425 American workers, cripple or blind 2,200 others, incapacitate more than 45,000 and lose for industry and the Nation 6,000,000 man-days of essential war and civilian production. Comprehensive safety programs will reduce these losses."

Copies of the Fact Sheet may be secured by writing to the Labor Division, Office of Civilian Defense, Washington, D. C.

About the only difference noticeable in regards to liquor from two months ago, is the price and the labels.

WHAT NEXT?

Steering wheels for buses, trucks, tractors and other mobile equipment are now being made from a new type of plastic derived from California redwood. Developed by the Pacific Lumber Co., pulp is manufactured from waste pieces and shipped East, where plants are turning out many thousands of the finished redwood-plastic wheels.

The appointment of Robert Harmon and Ralph Lenehan, as chief and assistant chief respectively of the Hamilton Fire Department, meets with the approval of all who have known them as real fire-fighters.

WISDOM

Despotism can no more exist in a nation until the liberty of the press be destroyed, than the night can happen before the sun is set—C. C. Colton.

Gun Club Will Hold Important Meeting

Harry Hetterich, secretary of the Hamilton Community Gun Club, has notified the members by card of the important meeting which will be held by the organization, Wednesday, February 17th, at 8 p. m. The meeting will be held at Clarence (Butch) Weiland's Cafe, 412 Main street.

Earthenware, briefcases, buttons, antiques, materials made from animal products, ashtrays, bathing caps, bathtubs, bamboo canes, brooms, brushes, bread-slicing machines, small and large axes, celluloid derivatives, hat molds, cutlery, eau de cologne, photographic articles, all utensils of precious metals.

Also hair nets, hair wash, stoves, suitcases of real or imitation leather, hammers, horn articles, iron or wooden sports requisites, wooden domestic utensils, imitation jewelry, wooden or stone Japanese articles, lamps, coffee percolators, leather gloves.

Perfumes, fur, powders, porcelain luxury vases, travelling rugs, woven fabrics, roller-skates, garbage cans and barrels, toys, theatrical make-up, lamp standards, knives, toothpaste, toothpaste, bags, mincing machines, silver ornaments, pocketknives and feathers are equally "forbidden" articles.

While there are ration tickets which theoretically permit the purchase of candy or tobacco, there is no candy, although the Nazi authorities give repeated assurances that "some will be distributed as soon as possible."

Tobacco has become so precious a commodity, the old American custom of hijacking has developed a counterpart. Many Amsterdam tobacco shops report they are receiving tobacco packages either empty or filled with other material. One wholesaler in The Hague stopped supplying customers in Amsterdam after he lost 250,000 cigarettes to hi-jackers in a month.

THE CHERRY TREE

Where with our Little Hatchet we tell the truth about many things, sometimes profoundly, sometimes flippantly, sometimes recklessly. . . .

While American Federation of Labor officials were holding conferences with British labor leaders in Miami, Franklin D. Roosevelt was circling half the world to talk with British leaders, with Brazilian leaders and others. It was easily the most dashing gesture a president ever has made.

In those conferences there were decisions that will change the course of history. The whole episode was breath-taking. It had about it a galantry of the type almost entirely obliterated by modern warfare.

It is easily possible to criticize Franklin Roosevelt, but it would be a sad thing indeed if it were not he who holds down the presidential chair in these parlous and fateful times.

Stacked alongside what the president is doing and the way in which he is doing it, the petty politics and sniping attached to the Flynn nomination comes pretty near being a bit revolting.

If there were a little more evidence of something honest and big about the opposition that forced Flynn to ask that his name be withdrawn it would be different.

Just about the cleanest criticism of Flynn came from columnist Raymond Clapper. Pretty much all the rest of it can be stuffed into the laundry bag which holds little more than dirty politics.

What we need more than anything else in this hour is more men and women who keep a selflessly seeing eye on the ball and forget about whose bread gets buttered thickest.

It is or should be axiomatic that in this climatic struggle, with the stakes so high that they piece the clouds, we should have no time and no place for selfishness.

But there IS selfishness, some in high places, some in places not so high. The New Leader, for example, publishes facts about amazing and conscienceless profits, revealed officially in reports compiled by the OPA under Leon Henderson, who did NOT make public those facts.

The New Leader reports that there are four volumes in the reports on profits, with names, dates and places.

Since Mr. Henderson now is a private citizen it may be presumed proper to ask him why those facts were not made public and to ask further if anything was done about them.

The rubber situation becomes more cloudy and confused because of bickering and struggling for power.

In too many places we have cross purposes, bungling and selfishness. The president flies the ocean and about that gallant move there is something vividly inspiring. The very

THE MARCH OF LABOR



161 NEW CASES

The 1942 Christmas Seal Sale will fall about \$1,000.00 short of the goal of \$14,000.00 set for Butler County, according to a report given by Charles G. Greig, Executive Secretary of the Butler County Tuberculosis and Health Association, at the regular monthly Executive Committee meeting, held at the Hamilton Y. W. C. A. on Wednesday. Committees in charge of Mrs. Frank M. Suma, Hamilton, and Mrs. Ray Sebald, Middletown, are striving to wind up the Campaign within the next few weeks, the report stated, and it is expected that when all reports are in the goal will still not be reached. Many former contributors to the Association's program of tuberculosis clinics, education, and tuberculin testing have left the community for defense jobs elsewhere and have entered the armed services, it was said, thus cutting the expected income of the Association.

Mrs. J. Paul Albert, Oxford, Chairman of the Program Committee, announced that a new contract between Mercy Hospital and the Board of County Commissioners had signed for the operation of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium for the next three years. Added beds for the care of the tuberculous will be opened as a result of the passage of the one-fourth mill tax levy last election. Opening is being delayed, however, until the added quarters can be remodeled to care for the added bed space.

One hundred sixty-one cases of tuberculosis were discovered at the weekly tuberculosis clinics held at Mercy Hospital and the Middletown Hospital, it was reported by Dr. J. N. Christiansen, Medical Director of the Tuberculosis Medical Board. Seventy-nine of these people suffering from tuberculosis were reported at the Middletown Clinic, and 82 reported at the Hamilton Clinic. Both clinics serve rural areas.

Bales Will Hold Public Sale

Chester Bales, announces that he has decided to quit farming and will sell at his residence on the Winton road, one-half mile south of State Route 126 on Thursday, February 18, commencing at 12:30 p. m. good work horses, 20 head of cattle, 23 head of hogs, farm implements and feed. Harry Honerlaw has been engaged as the auctioneer.

Ohioan Named to Board

Middletown, Ohio. — Edward T. Gardner, President of the Gardner-Richardson Paper Company, has been named a member of the Board of Directors of the Diamond Match Company, New York.

Court Receipts \$1,587.55

Receipts of the Hamilton Municipal Court in January amounted to \$1,587.55 including a \$200 cash bond forfeiture and civil case costs of \$258.50, Harry Emerick, clerk, reported today.

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AND EXTRA FEATURES

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Hamilton, Ohio

At 8:30 P. M.

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YOUR SCATTERED
BILLS AND BRAND
'EM PAID

Come right in and get the cash . . . as much as \$1000 or as little as \$10. Buy what you need, pay what you owe. Repay us later, a little at a time. Balance your budget and step ahead in '43.

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