

DECATUR  
DAILY DEMOCRAT

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More relief for the tired business man: The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has a mechanical brain with 2,000 electron tubes, which will automatically compute anything worth computing.

—O—

It looks like those GIs in Manila really want to come home. They feel sure the war is over and they are anxious to start their plans for again living with their families and loved ones and getting to work.

—O—

The oldest residents in this community cannot remember a time when the temperatures registered over sixty in January and hung on for several days, but they have also become used to most any thing in the weather line in Indiana.

—O—

Slim Somerville who made millions laugh and who had a career that led him from the life of a hobo to top notch fame in the movie world was buried yesterday at Hollywood. He was eccentric, worked only when he felt like it and said he preferred fishing to the every day job on the "lot". He had fun in his fifty years.

—O—

The Very Rev. Hewitt Johnson of London has made a survey of the United States and says we are 100 years behind the rest of the world in every thing but religion and 150 years back of the world in that. That requires a lot of nerve from a Britisher where few houses even have electric lights or gas. The thing for the reverend to do is to hurry back to his 'omeland.'

—O—

The strike epidemic seems to be growing with the mild weather. More than a million workers are expected to lay down their tools, brush off the dust and walk out the next few days. These are the CIO workmen in the steel, electric and meat packing industries. Every effort to prevent the strikes is being made but agreements appear impossible and the nation may be in for one of its worst experiences.

—O—

President Truman will recommend a slash of twelve billion dollars on the budget for the next fiscal year and hopes to balance the columns by the end of the 1947-48 year. He will cut federal expenditures to the bone and otherwise work to get the government operating within its income again. That's a real task and the chief deserves much credit for tackling it. If properly supported he believes it can be accomplished.

—O—

An item from an Oregon newspaper reports that high costs of highway work plans. Recent bids for proposed projects were a million dollars in excess of estimates of the State Highway Commission.

And "these estimates had been pitched 50 percent above the cost levels of 1941 to make way for increased costs." Bids received ranged from 12 to 25 percent above the Commission's estimates. As a result, it was stated that "it is impossible to proceed with the road program on the basis of the bids received..."

—O—

Will 1946 do as much for the country as did 1846? A century ago, as the essayist and historian Bernard De Voto recalled in his book, "The Year of Decision", the Mexican war began, setting in

which brought Arizona, New Mexico and California into the Union. It also brought fame to two soldiers better known later, Jefferson Davis and Ulysses S. Grant. This year of 1946 finds a sever competitor in its century-old brother. And both may well be outstripped by the world-shaking happenings of 1945.

—O—

Can advertising make a best seller out of a book by an unknown author? Edwin Thurston Clarke, a New York broker, is trying to find out. His wife, Nancy Bruff, after several attempts at fiction which put him to sleep, produced "The Manatee", which, to Clarke's notion, had selling possibilities. He suggested that she put a Hollywood publicity man on the job with a two-year appropriation for \$50,000. So far the results are encouraging. Some 52,000 copies were sold in the first week, and the book was accepted for the Armed Services Edition.

—O—

Frank McConnell, 86, member of one of the pioneer families of this city, lived a long and busy life. As a farmer, retail merchant, wholesaler and realtor, he was active for many years and was popular among a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. McConnell was the organizer of the company which founded the McConnell wholesale tobacco company, built the McConnell apartments, remodelled several of the downtown business houses and took part in numerous business enterprises. He would have been eighty-seven years old during the month and was one of the oldest continuous residents of the county.

—O—

Each of us must eat 350 eggs this year, or about 50 more than last year according to the department of Agriculture, or the country is going to be swamped with hen fruit. It all comes from efficiency methods applied to the laying process. The hens have done too good a job and they are going to pay for this. As for many as 70,000,000 of them are to be slaughtered in the coming year to control the egg market and keep the American public from a too eggy diet.

Well, fried chicken and angel food cake, pretty rare during wartime, are good eating. And here's a chance to let the family gorge on them once more.

—O—

Every city, town and village in America is to ransack closets and attics from now to January 31 for wearable clothes, shoes and bedding to be shipped to war-ravaged countries the world around. This is the Victory Clothing Collection. No serviceable garment not in immediate use should hang in any American's closet. Never in the world's history has there been such need of clothing. Millions upon millions are in rags, barefoot, never approaching adequate covering. Here is an opportunity for Americans to demonstrate practical good will, to lay foundations in country after country for friendship, the basis of peace, and beyond this to share our blessings with people in terrible need.

—O—

Authorities learned that all tenants of the 12-apartment building had keys to the laundry room where, detectives said, the girl was butchered, shortly after she was taken from her bedroom early Monday.

An attorney for the flat janitor's union appeared before chief justice Harold G. Ward of criminal court today to ask for the release of Verburgh, his wife, Mary, and Smet in habeas corpus writs.

Atty. Joseph Ricker told the court the three should be released because no charges had been placed against them.

1. Suppose I am one of the taxpayers who must file a declaration of estimated tax on January 15, how do I estimate my tax for last year? Estimate your income for 1945 and then figure the tax by the same method you use to compute your exact tax on your annual return.

2. Are there any special worksheets or tables to help me estimate? You don't need any special sheets. Use a copy of the regular return blank, Form 1040.

3. If I use the regular return blank, Form 1040, to figure my tax, can I file that instead of an estimate form? If you fill it out like a regular return and use exact figures (not estimates), you can file Form 1040, and it will serve both as the declaration due now and as the return due March 15.

4. Part of my tax bill is paid

through the tax deduction my employer makes from my paycheck. Do I have to pay the estimated tax on top of that? You pay only the difference between the withholding tax and your total tax.

5. If I am changing an estimate and have already paid some installments, how do I take credit for those payments? If filing Form 1040-ES, write the total amount of your payments on line 5. If filing Form 1040, write the amount on line 7(B), page 1.

6. Suppose my estimate last March was far too high, and I have already paid more than my correct tax for 1945. Can I get a refund of the difference? Yes, by filing your regular return and showing the amount of overpayment in line 9, page 1, Form 1040.

(Tomorrow: How to avoid penalties on your estimate.)

7. A muslim pattern, such as dressmakers use, which was found in the sugar bag.

8. A bloodstained trach cart.

9. Bloodstains, bits of human flesh and hair uncovered in a stationary laundry tub in the basement of another apartment building.

10. A shopping bag full of bloody rags and a hacksaw with bits of flesh caught in the teeth, both found in a locker room in the same basement.

11. Between 15 and 20 small bones "about the length of a pencil" found in the boiler room of the apartment and believed to be splinters from the child's arms, which have not been found.

12. A woman found in another sewer.

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