

Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 18.—To many people it may seem almost sacrilegious to write grievedly about the death of a dog, when humans are dying violently all over the face of our earth.

If it does seem so I can only say that I am sorry, but I can't help it. For our dog Piper is dead.

Piper was the Great Dane. He was the dog that came to be a member of our family only two months ago. Immense and ungainly and lovable, he was still really a child when he died. He was nine months old.

Piper stood as high as my waist and weighed more than 100 pounds, even though he was not fully grown. His companionship was perfect, from the very start. Through the grotesque folds of his old-mannish face you could sense his joy at being with us.

His understanding of things was almost uncanny. He had not had a minute of training when he came to us. He had never lived in a house. Yet his instincts were so sensitive that he never even had to be housebroken.

The first day we had him I said to him, "Piper, lie down." Then I lay down on the floor to show him what I meant. That single lesson was all it took. From that moment on, I could have told him to lie down in the traffic of Central Avenue in Albuquerque, and he would have done it.

A Goodnight Habit

WHEN WE WALKED across the mesa, he always walked close beside me, pushing against my leg. When I took off the leash, he wouldn't go away.

Inside Indianapolis By Lowell Nussbaum

RED TAPE is being slashed right and left, believe it or not, as the City Hall, C. of C. and Street Railways co-operate in arranging to turn several thousand tons of abandoned streetcar rails into badly needed scrap iron.

It's estimated that about 6000 tons of high grade steel lay buried in the City's pavement. Of this, 4000 to 4500 tons can be removed readily. To follow the regular routine of studying the problem, drawing up plans and specifications for resurfacing the torn up street, advertising for bids, etc., it would take until mid-summer to get the rails out.

But there's a war on, and industry, including several of our Indianapolis plants, are crying for scrap steel. They need it NOW, not next summer.

So, instead of following the usual process, the Indianapolis Railways, owner of the rails, is shopping for someone to remove the rails. That will cost probably \$15,000 or so. They can sell the rails for a neat sum—maybe \$90,000—and the difference, maybe \$75,000, can be turned over to the City to apply on the cost of laying foot-wide concrete strips in the present pavement to replace the rails.

And the C. of C. is negotiating for sale of the rails directly to a couple of Indianapolis steel-using plants.

Scarce Buying

THERE'S NO EXCUSE, of course, for "scarce buying" and hoarding at any time. But store keepers are especially pushed over the heavy purchases of cocoa and soap. Government reports indicate an ample supply of cocoa in the country, and recent increases in the production of glycerin would seem to destroy the last remaining reasons for filling the cellar with soap. Conserve these products, to be sure, the Government advises, but for reasons of economy and not because of impending shortages.

While we're on the subject, there's been a toilet paper buying spree in some sections of the City. Sev-

Washington

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—This frantic scramble to find scapegoats upon whom to blame our wave of disasters probably is inspired more by panic than by common sense.

There is reason for alarm. But we are likely to do better for ourselves by trying to find out what needs to be done than by wasting too much energy in chasing scapegoats.

I find myself fixing on two points.

First, the united nations simply will have to arm themselves more strongly before we can hope to stand up to the enemy at every point. There has been blundering, but if no one had blundered at all during the last year we still would have had hard going. Japan might not have had it so easy if Pearl Harbor had not been so disastrous to us. Still, even when we had our whole navy in operating condition, our military people were begging for more time because they did not feel strong enough to go to war against Japan.

Our side is short of planes, tanks, navy, shipping and all the accessories. We cannot have enough force on hand standing ready at every point at which the enemy might attack. Until our Navy has recovered its strength we cannot hope to take the offensive, because in the fighting off our own shores shipping and a navy that can protect it are necessary. You can't get fighter planes across the ocean without ships.

Production Is the Key

AMERICAN PRODUCTION and training of American manpower, both military and industrial, are necessary before the balance can be turned. If not another single blunder is made, the united nations cannot go definitely on the offensive until American forces come more fully into play. So the future of the war is to be decided here in this country, in the factories and the training camps.

My Day

By Eleanor Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, Tuesday.—I had the pleasure yesterday of seeing Mrs. J. Hamilton Rhodes, who came down from New York City to talk over some aspects of merchandising in Latin America, brought about by the recent South-American fair held in New York City. This was most successful and created tremendous interest. There is much more we can undoubtedly do along these lines.

In the evening I went to speak to a small group called the Monday Evening Club. I found to my pleasure that Dr. Winifred Gullis, who has been speaking as a representative of the British Government, was the other speaker.

She told of what had been done in England for the benefit of the civilian population.

It became evident that, without mentioning the Office of Civilian Defense, she was making a speech in favor of all the activities which deal with volunteer participation or civilian mobilization, and which had little or nothing to do with civilian protection.

It became increasingly clear that England had discovered that civilian protection could not exist without civilian mobilization, which brought about

When I ran, he ran. When I stopped, he stopped. He wanted only to please us.

When I was home, little Cheeta the Fox slept on my bed. And Piper, because he was too big to get on a bed, slept on a blanket on the floor.

At bedtime I would get both dogs settled, then turn out the light. But Piper, even though I had known him only a week, would always get up in the dark, nose his huge funny face into mine to make sure I was still there, and then he would go to sleep.

A Strange and Sudden Illness

PIPER'S ILLNESS was a strange and sudden one. It was an illness of paralytic-like seizures, and he suddenly grew terribly thin, and his jaws would not open for him to eat.

We had the good fortune to have a young doctor who truly loves animals. He doctored as devotedly as if he had been trying to save a son. The illness was diagnosed as a brain infection.

All this came to me in a letter from That Girl. In it she said:

"I wish I could spare you the shock and sorrow this will be to you . . . you loved him so, and were so proud of him."

"There was nothing really outstanding about him that words can identify; but there was a feeling of complete accord between us. He seemed to understand, without teaching, everything I said to him."

"On the last morning, about 5 a. m., I tried to get him to take some milk . . . he tried to raise his head, but he couldn't make it . . . I held his head and rubbed his legs . . . I was still rubbing him when he sighed a great sigh, and was gone."

And so ends in tragedy the short life and history of our Piper. We will attempt to replace him some day, but the time now is too soon.

A Model Assignment

AIR RAID DRILLS have more than passing interest for the students of the John Herron Art School. Director Donald Mattison and his staff have arranged for students to take refuge in the safest portion of the basement. Some students are training as incendiary bomb extinguishers, others will check upper floors to be sure they are cleared of students, while still others are learning first aid. But the job all the boys were bidding for was that of taking the life model to the bomb shelter. That matter still is unassigned. They've had two drills at the school already, but by strange coincidence, both occurred on days when they were using male models—not undraped females. Aw-shucks!

BEST DOUBLE billing of the week: "Marry the Boss' Daughter" and "The Stork Pays Off," tomorrow through Saturday at the Emerson theater.

THREE WOMEN, dropped in at County Defense Council headquarters and asked Mrs. Hortense Rauh Burpee, publicity director: "What do you have to do to go to Pearl Harbor?" "Why do you want to go there?" they were asked. "Well, just to see what's going on," the women replied. The visitors were pretty aggravated when Mrs. Burpee told them that about the only way they could get to Hawaii would be by swimming.

Second, the united nations are indispensable to each other. We cannot win without the help of the British, the Russians and perhaps the Chinese. They cannot win without our help. The Dutch may be knocked out as a factor. The others must stick it out together, or each will risk defeat separately. If they were knocked out one by one, it would be a question how long we could keep the war out of this country.

At Singapore, Japan is 3000 miles from home. It is another thousand miles on to Java, where Japan is aiming now. San Francisco is 4500 miles from Japan. The Atlantic is 3000 miles across, and less than 2000 in the South Atlantic jump from Africa to Brazil. Great distances can be overcome if you control the sea and the air, as is being demonstrated against us with savage definiteness now.

Hold!—While We Speed Up

JAPAN CONTROLS now the whole other side of the Pacific. Only Hawaii remains as a cushion. In the Atlantic we still have Britain as an outpost. Last week the Germans shook that outpost by running their fleet through the channel. If they add the French fleet to their own strength now about to be released for action on the Atlantic, we may expect to be hard pressed to hold open the North Atlantic.

If the British are having their Pearl Harbor, we have to remember that we need the help of every nation that will stay in the war. No matter how far the British are pushed back, whatever is left is that much help. Whatever is left of the Russians and the Chinese is a help. Resistance at any point, even the feeblest, helps to give us time.

We have to get some planes and some navy and some ships built. Germany and Japan are in a desperate race to knock out the other united nations before we have time to produce. Before the fires died down in Singapore, the Japanese had taken the chief Sumatra oil center. They are heading for Java. Germany is preparing to resume the offensive in Russia and on the Atlantic. Everybody has to hold as much as possible while we get up speed.

well being in the communities and a sense of security in the people.

In reading the papers this morning, I could not help wondering how the displaced men feel in industries all over the country. They are anxious to get to work but, for the time being, must wait for industries to be converted to new uses. Members of Congress and governors of states, talk about increasing the unemployment compensation to a possible \$24.

People seem to forget that this unemployment compensation usually must cover the needs of families ranging from four to six members—rent, food, heat, light, clothing, recreation, education, medical care must all come out of this sum.

Could the Congressmen do it on any less? Could the governors do it on any less?

On the other hand, I think people have been making a hue and cry over something which has never been quite well understood.

Congress did not vote a pension to itself. It established a system of insurance, by which every person earning a salary in the Government would pay in a certain amount regularly and, after a given number of years of public service, would be entitled, according to the amount paid in, to a certain sum as a yearly pension.

This is nothing more than what we are trying to work out under the old age pension system.

PLANES GIVEN SAME PRIORITY AS WARSHIPS

Nelson Removes Obstacles To Goal of 60,000 For This Year.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (U. P.).—Military aircraft today moved up the priorities ladder to the top category of American war weapons.

Heretofore they have been considered less important than warships, tanks or trucks, ranking in most cases two and three steps below major land and sea weapons in the priorities schedule.

The performance of airplanes in all war theaters have brought angry demands from many quarters for revision of an "ancient" priority system.

Warning Is Heeded

For months aircraft manufacturers and Army Air Corps officials have been demanding that bombers and fighting planes be given the same priority rating or materials as warships and tanks.

War Production Board Chairman Donald Nelson did that yesterday. He allotted an A-1-A priority rating to aircraft materials and tools—the same held by warships, tanks and trucks since before Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Nelson's move appeared to remove a major barrier to President Roosevelt's program for the next two years which calls for construction of 185,000 planes. Industry spokesmen and air corps officials had warned that that goal might not be attainable under the old priority schedule.

Established by Board

The old priority ratings were established by the Joint Army and Navy Munitions Board. Except in extreme emergency cases all airplanes ranked below the A-1-A rating for naval vessels, tanks and trucks. The huge, four-engine bombers which have played such an important role in the battle of the southwest Pacific had an A-1-B rating. Most other aircraft were rated only A-1-D, and airplane engines, generally, were A-1-C.

Mr. Nelson explained, however, that for some weeks the WPB has been arbitrarily allocating materials for plane production on the basis of need regardless of old priority ratings, and that the new A-1-A rating would not increase the amount of material available.

He said that thus his reclassification would give only a "psychological push" to the aircraft industry for attainment of a 60,000 plane goal this year.

NOTED QUILTER DIES

CONNERSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 18 (U. P.).—Mrs. Ella Wills, 90, whose needlework and quilts brought her national acclaim in the Gay 90s, and who continued to take state prizes until she was 83, died yesterday at the home of her grandson, Dr. H. C. Wills. She was a former president of Lebanon and Indianapolis.

Gin Rummy—No. 2

Ten Cards to Each Player; That's How the Fun Begins

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

America's Card Authority

YESTERDAY I spoke of the popularity of Gin Rummy and explained the general character of all Rummy games. Today I will tell you how Gin Rummy is played.

The game has two players. Some groups play a four-handed or partnership game—which is actually two-handed games—as I will explain later. The full bridge pack of 52 cards is used. The cards in each suit rank as in bridge, except that the ace ranks below the deuce.

Ten cards are dealt to each player, one at a time, and the remainder of the pack is left face down in the center of the table. This packet is called the stock.

To commence play, the top card of the stock is turned face up and placed beside the stock, to mark a second pile called the talon.

The dealer's opponent has the right to take the first talon card if he wishes. If he says "no" or "pass," the dealer then may take this card if he wishes.

IF BOTH PLAYERS reject this card, the non-dealer takes the top card of the stock and places it in his hand without exposing it, and then discards any card from his hand face up on the talon. He can, if he chooses, discard the card just picked up from the stock.

The play continues in the same way. Each player alternately takes one card into his hand, either the top talon card if he likes it or the top card of the stock. Then he reduces his hand again to 10 cards by discarding one card onto the top of the talon.

If the entire stock is exhausted and neither player "goes down" to end the game, then the talon is turned over, without shuffling, to serve as new stock and play continues.

THE OBJECT of play, as I explained yesterday, is to form the hand into sets, each of three or more cards. If all 10 cards are included in sets, the hand is "complete." Here is an example of a complete hand: Three jacks, three tens, and the ace-two-three-four of hearts.

It is not necessary to complete the hand before going down. At any time that his odd cards total 10 points or less, the player may lay his hand face up on the table and so end the play. When and whether to go down is a matter

Dana Yields Its Good Earth to War

