

WASHINGTON Calling

A Weekly Sizeup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

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by making this a party issue. Democrats believe soldier-vote controversy will bounce back on Republicans later.

ODDS FAVOR postponement of selection of new senate Republican leader to succeed late Charles McNary until after November election. Decision will be made at a party conference next Wednesday. Acting Leader White of Maine will continue in that role if selection is postponed.

HOUSE NAVAL affairs subcommittee, back from tour of U. S. bases in South Africa and Caribbean, will recommend that we give or lend part of our naval vessels to Latin American republics after the war, with stipulation that warships be manned and maintained for joint hemisphere defense. Committee men say it's solution for swollen navy which we won't want to retain in peacetime.

OPA to Seek More Funds

OPA WILL ask congress for more funds to enforce price regulations but won't abolish—as many ration boards have advocated—the system of price investigations by volunteer assistants. OPA plans to concentrate price compliance drive at wholesale level, believing pressure can thus be diminished on 1,750,000 retail outlets, which would be difficult to police.

CONGRESS TRAINS its sights on completion of annual appropriation bills and other "must" measures by June 1 to permit recesses for national party conventions. Leaders also are holding out promise of week or 10-day vacation for Easter.

Note: Congressmen, no strangers to crowded conditions, will feel at home if they attend Chicago conventions. Arrangements committees, still at sea on how visitors can be handled because of severe hotel-room shortage, are telling them they'll have to double up.

WATCH FOR renewed pressure on WPB to expand civilian production, on heels of Truman committee report which, in effect, spanked WPB for its policy of using cut-back unemployed to supply labor shortage in critical areas. Donald Nelson contends reconversion period is still far away, puts its after the collapse of Germany.

PRELIMINARIES in war labor board's big steel-wage case indicate the administration may move eventually toward upward revision of little steel formula. This would vindicate F. D. R.'s most faithful union supporter, Philip Murray, and also help stem a widely reported political defection among rank and file in C.I.O. as well as in A. F. of L. and rail brotherhoods.

Note: Republicans, seeing a chance to split the labor vote this year, plan to go along those lines. A labor committee named at the Mackinac conference may ask leaders of several union groups to take part in preliminary platform discussions.

Political Pressure on Army Camps

ARMY SEES old peacetime handicap again looming on horizon. For years it had to quarter small units at posts kept open only because of political pressure. Result has been that troops get no adequate large-unit training. Now these pressures are being felt again, with senators and congressmen protesting against possibility of closing various war-emergency camps.

WILLKIEITES claim 40 "loyal Willkie men and women" on G. O. P. national committee. Their first act, if Willkie is nominated, will be to oust Harrison Spangler as chairman.

Rep. Charles M. LaFollette of Indiana created a stir among the more cautious Republican colleagues by announcing his candidacy with the statement: "I am for Willkie for President and if there are those who do not agree with this stand, let them enter the primaries and not wait and fight their own party candidate in the general election."

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS are clamoring for right to send their own publications to fighting men on all fronts; charge that other conveyors of news misrepresent their case. War department foresees similar demand from churches, industry groups perhaps; shudders at thought of transportation difficulties.

NUTRITION IN WAR plants get surprising results. Where well-planned, well-balanced meals have been put before workers, 56 per cent changed their eating habits, ate more vegetables, milk, raw salads. One textile mill in Alabama upped production 10 per cent two weeks after starting nutrition program. West coast iron works decreased labor turnover from 12.5 per cent to 4.9 per cent; cut absenteeism from 9 to 4.1 per cent.

Strong management groups, feeling their representatives on war labor board are being outmaneuvered by labor members, partly because the latter gave more time to it, are making plans to throw in reinforcements, work out a way to assure closer contact between their board spokesmen and industry in general.

'Funeral Flippery' Absent in Services for Irvin S. Cobb

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those dismal numbers run up by the undertakers' dress-making department. "It come back and ha'n't em," he said.

The humorist said that his ashes be laid at the roots of a dogwood tree in Paducah "at the proper planting season. Should the tree live, that will be monument enough to me."

Paxton said that Cobb's wishes will be carried out.

"We won't hold a celebration because Bill (a youthful nickname for Cobb) didn't mean exactly that. There will be no tube roses or lilies."

Cobb suggested that if someone felt moved to say a few words, that would be all right and he suggested for the job—"Well, say, Tom Waller."

Waller Will Speak

Waller, a lifetime friend of the humorist, will speak. He said he will describe Cobb as he knew him when the two were barefoot kids together and tipped over outhouses and fished in the streams.

Irvin Shrewsbury Cobb was author, humorist, lecturer and newspaperman. He started as a cub reporter on his hometown paper to New York and became one of America's most beloved humorists.

Cobb's letter specifically requested that the Christian burial service "which in view of the language employed in it I regard as one of the most cruel and paganish things inherited by our forebears from our remote pagan ancestors" be avoided in any services for him.

Wants 23d Psalm

He asked, however, that "in justice to the faith of our dear mother... perhaps the current pastor of the First Presbyterian church would consent to read the 23d Psalm, which was her favorite passage in the Scripture, and is mine since it contains no choral, nor morbid musing about corruption and decay, and being merciful without creed or dogma carries no threat of eternal hell-fire for those parties we do not like, which, if one may judge by the people who are sure of going there, must be a powerfully dull place."

"Hell may have the worst cli-

NOTED AUTHOR VAN LOON, DIES

Historian Stricken While Talking to Wife About New Book.

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author had been discussing with her the progress he was making on a new book, "The History of the Eighteenth Century." The attack ended this talk.

Van Loon, who achieved fame through his self-illustrated historical works, was born in Rotterdam, Holland, in 1882 and came to the United States when he was 21.

After two years at Harvard university, he entered Cornell university where he took his A. B. in 1905. Six years later, he received his doctorate at the University of Munich. In the intervening years, he was an Associated Press correspondent at Washington and, during the 1906 revolution in Russia, at Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Warsaw.

Covers War Fronts

From 1911 to 1914, Van Loon lectured on history and the history of art at various American universities and in 1914 returned to the Associated Press for which he went to Belgium immediately after the outbreak of the first world war. For that service he covered the siege of Antwerp and later worked in England, France, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark until 1917, when he returned to the United States after an accident.

Van Loon turned to writing and lecturing following the phenomenal success of his sixth book "The Story of Mankind," in 1921, two years after he had become a naturalized citizen of the United States.

He was professor of history at Antioch college, Yellow Springs, O., in 1922-23 and associate editor of the Baltimore Sun, 1923-24. In 1934, he made a lecture tour of New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and South America.

Honors Come Fast

A member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, Van Loon was awarded the John Newberry medal in 1923, was made an officer of the Order of Orange-Nassau.

'Prophet of Paducah' Sought Dogwood Tree As Only Marker Above Cremated Remains

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mortal exit in a tall coat with white tie, and artificial pearl studs.

"I'll be done with after dinner speaking forever so why dispatch me hence in the regalia of the craft. When a man dies with his sins, let the sins die with the man. That's what I say, and it sums up, such speculation as I might ever have had touching on the future state, if any."

"For me a suitable epitaph would be: 'Anyhow, he left here.' But never mind that. It might offend some of the pious, and I'd hate to go on giving offense after I'd quit living."

Fertilize With Ashes

"When convenience suits, I ask that the plain canister—nothing fancy there, please—containing my ashes shall be taken to Paducah, and at the proper planting season, a hole shall be dug in our family lot, or elsewhere at Oak Grove, and a dogwood tree planted there with the ashes strewn in the hole to fertilize the tree roots. Should the tree live, that will be monument enough for me. But should my surviving relatives desire to mark the spot further, I make so bold as to suggest that they use a slab of plain Kentucky limestone set flat in the kindly earth, or a rugged natural boulder of southern granite bearing a small bronze plate on it and, if it seems pertinent, the year of my birth and the year of my death, which appears to be the custom although I could never understand why a gravestone should carry mention of the only two events in the career of the deceased with which he had absolutely nothing to do—unless he committed suicide."

"Also on the bronze tablet, or stone slab, as the case may be, and provided it doesn't cost too much, I'd like to have inscribed certain lines from the epitaph which Robert Louis Stevenson wrote for himself, to wit, as follows: 'These be the lines you grave for me, here I lie where I long to be... home is the hunter, home from the hill, and the sailor home from the sea.'"

Quotes From Memory

"I'm quoting from memory. If I'm wrong, will someone kindly correct me? Or, if a simpler single line bearing the impact seems desirable, I offer this one as suitable: 'I have come back HOME.'"

"And, thank you, no flowers. Does anybody feel moved to send flowers, I'd prefer that they give the money they'd spend to some local non-denominational charity. Cover the spot with leaves—Christmas berries from the flat lands and cedar from the friendly low McCracken county ridges if it be winter, and leafy bows from native pickery or hackberries or wild crab-apples if it be in other season."

The following data is required: Form W-2 from employers stating tax withheld; form 1125 sent by the collector showing tax reported and paid in 1942; the declaration of estimated taxes for 1943, if made, and a record of other income besides wages recorded in 1943.

TAX OFFICE PLANS LAST-MINUTE HELP

The internal revenue office on the third floor of the Federal building will be open until 9 p. m. Monday and Tuesday and until midnight Wednesday, deadline for paying income taxes.

Persons have been asked to use the east elevator if they want assistance in making out reports and the west elevator for access to the cashier.

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BRAZIL SOLDIER KILLED

BRAZIL, Ind., March 11 (U. P.)—The body of Cpl. William A. Pittman Jr. was being brought to Brazil today for burial. The 20th Clay county victim of the war, Pittman was killed in an accident near Camp Maxey, Tex.

"Hell may have the worst cli-

Accuses Judge Of 'Prosecuting' '44 Tag Cases

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appeared in court and Mr. Blue's deputy refused to issue the affidavits, the letter stated. Judge Niblack then helped out with three of the affidavits in the absence of a prosecutor. The cases were heard with Judge Niblack doing the questioning.

Mr. Blue said the defendants were found guilty and sentenced to \$1 and costs, which were suspended.

"Should you persist in your activity of making these arrests, I shall be obliged to consider your actions as wilfully oppressive," Mr. Blue's letter stated.

(Holland) in 1937, and in 1942 was made a Knight in the Order of the Netherlands Lion.

His first book, "The Fall of the Dutch Republic," published in 1913, was an immediate success, and in rapid succession the following volumes, most of them illustrated by Van Loon himself, came from his pen:

"The Rise of the Dutch Kingdom, 1915, The Golden Book of Dutch Navigators, 1916, A Short History of Discovery, 1918, Ancient Man, 1920, The Story of Mankind, 1921, The Story of the Bible, 1923, Tolerance, 1925, America, 1927, The Life of Peter Stuyvesant, 1928, Man the Miracle Maker, 1928, R. V. R., the Life of Rembrandt Van Ruyn, 1931, Van Loon's Geography, 1932, An Indiscreet Itinerary, 1933, An Elephant Up a Tree, 1933, Ships, 1935, Around the World With the Alphabet, 1935, Airstreaming, 1935, The Songs We Sing, 1936, The Arts, 1937, Christmas Carols, 1937, Folk Songs of Many Lands, 1938, Our Battle, 1939, The Life and Music of Carl Michael Bellman, 1939, Pacific Ocean, 1939, Songs of America, 1939, Invasion, 1940, Life and Times of Johan Sebastian Bach, 1940, Good Tidings (with Grace Castagnetta), 1941, Van Loon's Lives, 1942, The Life of Simon Bolivar, 1943, and Thomas Jefferson, 1943.

A new book, "The Boy Who Escaped," the story of Gustavus Vassar, founder of the royal house of Sweden, was scheduled for early publication by Dodd, Mead & Co.

Van Loon was married in 1908 to Eliza Bowditch and in 1920 to Helen Griswell, whom he remarried after a marriage to Frances Goodrich. He had another son, Henry B.

'Prophet of Paducah' Sought Dogwood Tree As Only Marker Above Cremated Remains

happens the current pastor of the First Presbyterian church would consent to read the 23d Psalm, which was his favorite passage in the scriptures, and is mine since it contains no choral, nor morbid musing about corruption and decay, and being merciful without creed or dogma carries no threat of eternal hell-fire for those parties we do not like, which, if one may judge by the people who are sure of going there, must be a powerfully dull place, populated to a considerable and uncomfortable degree by pigs, time-servers and unpleasantly aggressive individuals.

"Hell may have the worst climate, but undoubtedly the company is splendid. The Catholics with their genius for stage management handle this detail better. The officiating clergyman speaks in Latin and the parishioners, being unacquainted with that language, are impressed by the mystery and the majesty of the rolling, sonorous period without being shocked by distressing illusions in harrowing references.

"For the wind-up, I'd be grateful if some of my colored friends sing 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot' and then 'Deep River.' I think I could count on Mattie Copeland of Jones street who for so many years was a loyal loving servant of my family to recruit the singers from the choirs of our colored churches.

Remembers Foker Pals

"I was almost overlooking one item: I take it that there will be no need for pallbearers, as the trade term goes. Pallbearers are another surviving relic of heathen practices.

"Recalling how this pair of my friends could cuddle to their bosoms three of a kind in a dollar limit game, I'd nominate either George Goodman (OPA director for Kentucky at present) or Will Gilbert (retired druggist) as a dependable custodian of my mortal remains on the trip to the burying ground. Anyhow, properly rendered down, my ashes shouldn't much more than fill a mason fruit jar.

Among others, I'd like to invite to go along for the ride—provided they promise to be cheerful and bright—I think of Col. Gus Thompson, Fred Neuman (Cobb's biographer), Herbert Wallenstein, Jim Smith, Douglas Bagby, Ed Paxton, (editor and publisher of the Democrat). This last letter written to Paxton and Neuman, Capt. Louis Iger, Ed Scott, Jim English, Fletcher Terrell, Henry Well, A. R. Meyers, Dr. Warren Sights, Dr. Frank Boyd, Linn Boyd, Roy Nelson, Tom Waller, Jack Fisher, Roy McKinney, Morton Hand, James D. Langstaff, Henry Ward, Leo Keller, Elliott Mitchell, Rev. Curtis Fletcher, Luther Carson, Sam Langstaff, Charlie Bahkamp, Wade Sowell, Bob Moshell, and Charlie Beard (noted historian).

"If I have overlooked any suitable candidate I beg their pardon. Ladies also welcome with or without escorts."

"I rather figure some of my fellow-townspen might favor memorial exercises of sorts, either in connection with the funeral or elsewhere. Personally I have no objection, only desiring that no dismal note be permitted to ooze into the proceedings. Keep the thing cheerful boys and girls. If somebody feels called upon to speak, I'd like to suggest for the job—well, say, Tom Waller. He could be depended to do it, neither verbose nor lacrymose. Or if Waller isn't available there's Jack Fisher or Jim Wheeler or Roy Shelbourne. Only make it snappy.

"Well, I reckon that will be about all except that I extend, in passing, my affectionate and grateful regards to the gracious and generous folks who make up so overwhelmingly the dwellers in my home community and my native section. You've been mighty good to me and I appreciate it. Much obliged, you all, and goodbye and bless you and prosper you.

"Signed: IRVIN S. COBB, "At New York, "December, 1943."

TYNDALL DENIES POLICE SHAKEUP

No Officers to Be Demoted, Says Mayor; 'Satisfied' With the Setup.

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Jacobs, who is now working "inside" at the police department, to a more important job as head of the traffic division.

Also doomed to reduction under the suggested shakeup would be vice squad Sgt. John Foran, Ralph Bader and Charles Buckert.

As a whole, the "reorganization plan," it was learned, which, if followed, would strip Chief Becker's present control over field and traffic operations and those activities dealing directly with the public.

Meanwhile, the air of mystery and subterfuge surrounding the list increased as those holding the few copies extant pleaded ignorance of its origin. Among those are Chief Becker and members of the safety board. Mayor Tyndall, who reportedly handed the recommendations to the chief, was not available for comment and his secretary, Harry Calkins, refused to divulge the source of the document.

Safety Board President Will H. Remy minimized the importance of the latest development in the anti-Becker campaign by saying that "somebody's always suggesting changes in the police department."

There's nothing to that list. When we get ready to make some changes we'll make them."

The re-assignment schedule presumably was composed by anti-Becker forces within the Tyndall administration who have been pounding away at some of the chief's personnel and policy theories.

EVANGELIST TO TALK

The Rev. Jack Shuler of Los Angeles, young evangelist and former Hollywood actor, will speak this evening at the Youth for Christ meeting beginning at 7 p. m. in the Roberts Park Methodist church.

MUNN TO TALK AT ROTARY

Daniel F. Munn, Indianapolis, manager of the National Casket Co., Inc., will speak at the Rotary club luncheon Tuesday at the Claypool hotel. Mr. Munn is a member of the club.

Two Air Officers Missing After Missions in Europe

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is in the army air forces at Miami, Fla.

SECOND LT. KENNETH E. KEENE, 1210 N. LaSalle st., pilot of a B-24 Liberator bomber based in England, has been awarded the air medal and three oak leaf clusters and given seven days rest leave. He is the son of Mrs. Nettie Keene.

He wrote recently that he and his brother, Pfc. Robert L. Keene, also stationed in England, had spent two leaves together. Both men are Technical high school graduates.

FIRST LT. JOHN D. ABRELL, former Indiana university student, has been awarded an oak leaf cluster to the air medal as a pilot of the Flying Fortress "Junior." The 22-year-old flier is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Abrell, Greencastle, and the husband of Mrs. Phyllis Abrell, Bloomington, Ill.

He received the award after combat in 10 attacks on Nazi military and industrial targets in Germany and other Nazi occupied countries, according to an 8th AAF release.

WOUNDED

The war department today confirmed the previous report that Pvt. Paul Richards, son of Mrs. Daisy Richards, 1022 Epler ave., an infantryman, had been wounded Jan. 25 in Italy.

Out-state men listed as wounded in the Mediterranean area are 2d Lt. Howard F. Michael, husband of Mrs. Margaret E. Michael, Linden; Myron W. Reed, son of Mrs. Mary

U. S. REJECTS EIRE'S PLEA FOR TWO SHIPS

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meet Ireland's 20 per cent deficit in her wheat crop.

The request for expulsion of axis representatives from Eire was accompanied by an American statement saying that the presence of the axis agents constituted a "danger to the lives of American soldiers and to the success of allied military operations."

Eire's stand was revealed yesterday with the publication here of an exchange of notes between Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Eire's Prime Minister Eamon de Valera.

Unless world opinion causes de Valera to change his attitude, it was believed here that the present situation would remain unchanged. This reasoning was based on the fact that the United States note, sent on Feb. 21, merely requested that the German legation and Japanese consulate in Eire be closed.

It promised, at the same time, that if this request were denied no military or other measures would be taken to force Ireland to accede to American proposals.

This explicit language served to set at rest rumors rampant in Eire that the allies might move in by force of arms and take over the country.

WOUNDS FATAL TO 4TH ORGY VICTIM

RIVERSIDE, Cal., March 11 (U. P.)—Second Lt. Beaufort Swancutt was "somewhat improved today," but his commanding officer, Capt. Aubrey Serfling, was dead, the fourth victim of Swancutt's wild shooting orgy Sunday night at the Camp Anza officers' club.

Mrs. Serfling, who had been at her husband's bedside since arriving from Preston, Minn., Thursday, was unable to speak with him before his death last night.

Dorothy Douglas, the 19-year-old girl over whom Swancutt went into a jealous frenzy; Louridine Livermore, 18, her girl friend, and Policeman Arthur Simpson, were killed when the lieutenant went berserk.

A Stockholm dispatch to the London Daily Mail quoted "reliable reports" that Hitler had ordered immediate preparations for the evacuation of all remaining factories, government ministry and civilians from Berlin because of the intensity of American daylight air raids and British night assaults.

The raids followed attacks Monday night on railway yards at Trappes, 15 miles southwest of Paris, Tuesday night on railway targets at Le Mans, 110 miles southwest of Paris, and Thursday night on an aircraft factory at Marignane, 12 miles northwest of Marseille, all without the loss of a single plane.

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LT. JOHN E. MAGUIRE JR., 26 (above), bombardier on the Flying Fortress "Liberty Run," was reported missing over Denmark Feb. 22 on his 10th mission. He is the husband of Mrs. Dorothy VanHorn Maguire, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Maguire Sr., 903 N. Oxford st.

E. Reed, Monon, and Robert F. Spencer, brother of David E. Spencer, Charlestown; Sgt. Arthur J. Mitchell, son of Mrs. Alta V. Mitchell, Whiting; Cpl. Edward J. Karski, husband of Mrs. Jean Karski, Gary; Pfc. Charles E. Taylor, husband of Mrs. Winnifred J. Taylor, Mr. Vernon, and Pvt. Warren E. Peters, husband of Mrs. Evelyn L. Peters, Highland.

SGT. GLENDON R. HINSHAW, a marine, Mooreville, was listed as wounded by the navy department.

Yank Air Fleets Over Reich Again

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confirmation was not forthcoming at once.

The daylight operations followed a widespread attack by British night bombers on aircraft and ball-bearing plants in central and southern France.

Rome Is Raided

In the Mediterranean theater, American medium bombers made their seventh raid on Rome in eight months yesterday. Mitchell's Raiders bombed the Littorio rail yards on Rome's northern outskirts and the Thurtina yards in the capital's eastern suburbs, ripping up tracks and smashing rolling stock.

American fighters escorted the British-based 8th air force heavy bombers in their forays over Germany and the Pas de Calais coastal area of northern France today. Later, formations of twin-tailed Lightning fighters roared over across the Straits of Dover for additional raids.

Hit Central France

R. A. F. Lancasters utilized a full moon last night to pinpoint their targets at three aircraft factories and a small bearings plant in central and southern France, while twin-engined Mosquitoes attacked at western Germany. Only one plane was lost in the night's operations, which marked the fourth time in five nights that the R. A. F.'s heavyweights have hit France.

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