

Hoosier Vagabond

By Ernie Pyle

WITH 8TH ARMY BEACHHEAD FORCES IN ITALY, March 31. (By Wireless).—The Anzio beach-head area is practically all farms. Much of it lies in the famous old Pontine marshes. I've looked these up in Baedeker, and found that the Romans have been trying to drain them since 300 years before Christ.

Even Caesar took a shot at it, and so did many Popes. Mussolini was the last one to give the marshes a whirl, and so far as I can see he did a pretty good job of it.

On these little farms of the Pontine marshes, Mussolini built hundreds of modern (in the Italian manner) stone farmhouses. They're all exactly alike, except for color, and they stifle the countryside like dots on a polka-dot dress.

Despite its flatness, the area is rather pretty. It doesn't look like marshland. It is green now, and will be greener in a few weeks. Wheat is coming through the ground. There are rows of cedar trees throughout the area. Spots of uncultivated ground are covered with waist-high oak bushes, resembling our hazelnut bushes in the fall, crisp and brownish.

Some Won't Leave

NOW AND THEN, you see a farmer plowing with German shells landing right in his field. We've tried to evacuate the people, and have evacuated thousands by boat. Daily you see our trucks moving down to the docks with loads of Italian civilians from the farms. But some of them simply won't leave their homes.

Now and then the Germans will pick out one of the farmhouses, figuring we have a command post in it, I suppose, and shell it to extinction. Then, and then only, do the Italian families move out.

One unit was telling me about a family they tried in vain for days to move. Finally a shell killed their tiny baby, just a few days old.

Here in the battle zone, as in other parts of Italy, our army doctors are constantly turning midwife to deliver babies.

Farmers frequently do dry-cleaning with gasoline for our officers, and they say the job they do would pass inspection in any New York tailoring shop. Soldiers throughout the area get the remaining Italians to do their washing. Practically every

Inside Indianapolis By Lowell Nussbaum

BERNARD J. DOYLE, secretary-treasurer of the J. B. Lanigan Furniture Co., is the early riser in his family, or so we're informed. And that situation is the basis for a story Bernard has been telling his friends. According to the yarn, Bernard bounded out of bed one morning recently and became impatient when Mrs. Doyle sought to catch another 40 winks instead of arising and getting breakfast. But Mr. Doyle was equal to the occasion. Stepping to the window, he said: "Oh, look! There are three paper cleaners getting ready to go to work at the Campbells' home." Mrs. Doyle jumped out of bed. "I must see if I can get them to come here next," she said, hurrying to the window. And then she saw that it was just a trick. How's that for a mean husband? ... Among the hard to get items nowadays are tire pumps. The available supply is negligible, and there's an ever increasing demand for them as tires get thinner and thinner and puncture more frequently. Practically none of the modern cars—those manufactured in the last half dozen years—came equipped with pumps. It used to be that when a motorist noticed his tires need air, he just jumped in his car, drove to his favorite filling station a mile or two away, filled the tires and drove home. But that was before the days of two gallons of gas a week.

Readers, Beware!

YOU'D BETTER watch your step tomorrow. In case you had forgotten, it's April 1, familiarly known as All Fool's day. If you see a package on the sidewalk, don't kick it. There might be a brick in it. And again it might not be a trick package. And it wouldn't hurt to be a little careful in your telephoning. For instance, you may find a note telling you to phone MA. 0466 and ask for Mr. Kerr. If you do, you're likely to get a reply something like this: "Mr. Kerr? There's lots of them here. This is the dog pound." We can't tell you all the April foolers to watch for, but that will give you an idea. ... The old purse-on-the-sidewalk gag used to be one of the favorites on April 1. Phil Brown, who used to be with Roltare Eggleston, who was quite a magician, as well as theater manager, back in his day, recalls such a joke played by some of the boys hanging out in the Denison hotel poolroom. From the alley exit of Keiths, Rollie saw an elderly woman bite on the joke, so he determined to turn the tables. Picking up a handful of dollar bills from the cash drawer, he sauntered across the alley and innocently picked up the purse. And then, as the jesters started to roar, he deftly palmed the dollar bills, pulling one after another from the supposedly empty purse. And then it was his turn to laugh. ... Speaking of magic, Toner M. Overley, manager of the Better Business Bureau and fast becoming one of the town's better amateur magicians, frequently dines with a bunch of cronies at the round table at Stegemeyer's. Back when he first took up magic, he used to try out his tricks on his luncheon mates. But recently he has quit that. Yesterday they kidded him about turning professional and becoming too good for his old friends. They got him so rattled that when he got ready to leave, he couldn't find his hat anywhere. Finally, in his embarrassment, he started to scratch his head. And then he discovered he had put his hat on his head several minutes before. Or maybe it got there by magic.

Songs for 'Our Town'

ONE OF OUR feminine readers who thinks this is "much local value" but who wishes Tony Scherer and his pipe were back writing "Our Town" in this space, writes in to inquire just why the government considers chain letters "objectionable." We asked Paul Pfister, the assistant U. S. attorney. Paul said the objection is that someone—or rather a lot of persons—are going to be defrauded. The first few in the chain stand to make some money, but only at the expense of the suckers who take part later on. Who answers the question? ... Carl Dorich, the former C. of C. research director, now in officer training, is being transferred from Miami Beach to Harvard. ... Capt. Earl Hoff, the Times reporter, has been transferred from Florida to the Army War college in Washington for some special work. ... Mrs. Roy H. Coles, 315 E. 18th, is the proud possessor of an autographed photo of General Eisenhower. Her husband, an army colonel who died several years ago, was a close friend and West Point classmate of the general, and she still corresponds with Mrs. Eisenhower.

Cold Comfort

WASHINGTON, March 31.—There is much less comfort for Democrats in Oklahoma's special congressional election than their crowing indicates, and none at all in the New York primary where the left wing captured Roosevelt's American Labor party.

Officially the Democrats are saying the Oklahoma result indicates Roosevelt's re-election in November. They point out that, while they won that district in 1942 by less than 1 per cent, their edge Tuesday was almost 10 per cent. And both sides campaigned this time on the national issue. All of which is true.

They neglect to add, however, that this second congressional district of Oklahoma has had in the last 30 years Democratic majorities as high as 42 per cent and an average majority of almost 20 per cent. Only once have the Republicans won, and then by less than half of 1 per cent. That was in the Harding landslide. Even in the Hoover landslide the Democrats retained this congressional seat with approximately a 4 per cent majority.

Margin Cut 12 Per Cent

THE THEREFORE THE Democratic national managers were taking little chance, if any, in making this special election a "test." Even so they sent in their biggest campaign guns, including Senate Majority Leader Barkley. And both national and state Democratic machines put on the heat.

Despite the fact that it was a traditional Democratic stronghold, that they exerted every pressure, that they had a strong candidate, and that rain re-

duced the Republican farm vote, the Democratic margin of almost 22 per cent in 1940 was cut to 10 per cent on Tuesday.

That 12-point loss is much more than the Democrats can stand nationally in November. Nationally they cannot take even a 5-point loss in doubtful states and win.

Picture Unchanged

SO THIS Oklahoma result does not materially change the picture of a national Republican trend as revealed this winter in the special congressional elections in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Colorado and New York. In New York the Republicans polled more than the Democrats in a strong Democratic district, though the Democrat won with American Labor party.

Hence the national interest in the New York primary Tuesday in which the A. L. P. was split. The left wing, including the Communists, captured the party from the right wing, which threatened to walk out. In 1940 Roosevelt in New York state got only 2,834,500 Democratic votes against 3,027,473 Republicans, but won with 417,418 A. L. P. votes. In 1942 Dewey won the governorship with a vote larger than the Democratic and A. L. P. candidates combined. And last year in the special election for lieutenant governor, Dewey's candidate beat the joint Democratic and A. L. P. candidate by almost a third of a million.

Whether the A. L. P. split will give the Republicans New York state in November is anybody's guess. But the fact that President Roosevelt or any other Democratic candidate probably must carry New York to win, and that his chance there will depend largely on a third party under Communist control, appears to be a very heavy campaign liability.

My Day

WASHINGTON, Thursday.—So many things happened on my trip to the Caribbean and in South America that I did not have time or space to report them as fully as I wanted to.

I would like to go back now to some impressions of Jamaica. The great problem there is malnutrition, especially with the children, and yet, in spite of this, the women and small children walk along the road carrying baskets or large bundles on their heads, which gives them a very graceful walk and erect posture.

Much is being done by the government to teach new agricultural patterns and to get people back on the land. A campaign is on throughout the land to decrease illiteracy and volunteer committees have been formed in every parish to teach people individually to read and write. Of course this is an adult edu-

cation program of some magnitude. Part of the island raises good cattle for beef. Goats and little donkeys are on the roads. The donkeys carry big baskets and often a man or woman and child as well.

Both the governor and Lady Huggins have experience in living in the tropics and a great interest in the welfare of the people, and I was warned that Lady Huggins had a reputation for energy something like the one which I have acquired. I think we are both maligned!

However, all we have is an interest in human beings which keeps us going because it is always possible when you are interested to push yourself a little further!

In Puerto Rico, I was most particularly interested in a trip with Governor and Mrs. Tugwell to Arecibo, where we saw a new experiment in the use of the land. Much of the sugar cane land has been bought from the companies there and though a large part of it is still operated as one big property, now, after all the expenses have been paid, the profit is divided among all those who work it in common.

By Eleanor Roosevelt

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That's the second \$100 you've deposited this week. Mr. Gots—what are you doing tonight?

The Indianapolis Times

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SECOND SECTION

CITY CHURCHES PLAN SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK

Four-Day Series of Noon Observances Start at English Monday.

By EMMA RIVERS MILNER

Times Church Editor

While thousands of Indianapolis Catholics and Protestants are expected to attend the services in the English theater and downtown and neighborhood churches during Holy Week, there are current stories of individuals and small groups which likewise indicate great devotion.

Holy Week commemorates the sacrifice of Christ on the cross and brings to a close the Lenten season immediately preceding Easter, time of sacrifice and self-searching.

The week begins with Palm Sunday which recalls the Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem when the people cast palm branches before him and shouted loud hosannahs.

The climax of the week will come

Good Friday, anniversary of the crucifixion, when the English theater and the churches will be so crowded that hordes will be turned away.

Contributes Share of Income

Among the Lenten human interest stories is that of 83-year-old Alexander McNutt, senior member of the Wallace Street Presbyterian church, who has given one-tenth of his income to the building fund church for the period of Lent. Mr. McNutt is a retired mail carrier who holds a gold medal for 50 years of service. He has made a habit each Sunday of walking the two miles from his home to church.

For 17 months, the Builders class of the Olive Branch Christian church has been arranging and building the Chapel of the Open Door which will be dedicated Sunday.

The class, comprised of young people between the ages of 22 and 26, has sent all its male members but two into the armed forces. Thus it follows that the chapel has been founded in honor of the church's service men and women.

On all sides, church people seem to link the sacrifice of the armed forces for a free world and the immortal story of Christ's gift of himself.

For example, the Roberts Park Methodist church will award its annual youth medals for Christian service Palm Sunday to Cpl. Wendell Lacy who has participated in five major sea battles and Miss Rosemary Chaplin, service center candidate and secretary at the Weir Cook airport.

Season for Confirmation

This season is also a time for recalling traditions and carrying out ancient ceremonies. Many join the church and are confirmed while children are dedicated to God and the religious life in the rite of baptism.

The case against Mr. Jennings and his six guests was dismissed in Municipal court Wednesday by Judge John McNells who gave police a scorching reprimand for their illegal tactics.

Police had used the name of

Stewart Donnelly, internationally-known confidence man, on the search warrant in the raid. Donnelly never had lived at the hotel and never had played poker there, it was revealed later.

Donnelly Arrested

However, Sgt. Charles Burkett, who led the raid on Jennings' apartment, walked into the Claypool lobby last night with his squad of raiders and arrested Donnelly.

They took him to the police station and slated him on a charge of vagrancy, fixing the bond at \$300.

Donnelly could not make the bond and is in jail awaiting trial.

Sgt. Burkett said Donnelly had no "visible means of support," hence his arrest for vagrancy.

Speakers Scheduled

Speakers and devotional leaders for the noon services are the Rev. A. C. Brooks, pastor of the Third Christian church, and the Rev. E. Wright, Brightwood Free Methodist church, Monday; Dr. Logan Hall, pastor of the Meridian Street Methodist church, and the Rev. Carroll J. Rockey, Bethany United Lutheran church, Tuesday; the Rev. W. F. Lahr, Second Evangelical and Reformed church, and the Rev. H. M. Myrick, Madison Avenue Nazarene church, Wednesday, and Dr. W. R. Montgomery, Brookside Park United Brethren church, and the Rev. Thomas R. Thrasher, the Episcopalian Church of the Advent, Thursday.

On Good Friday there will be

services for the three hours, noon to 3 p.m., the period when Christ hung on the cross, at English's, the First Baptist church, Christ Episcopal church and St. John's Catholic church. Various neighborhood churches will also hold services not yet announced in detail.

Scouts to Check Pedestrians Here

INDIANAPOLIS BOY SCOUTS

will make a second check on downtown pedestrians and motorists tomorrow to determine if they are observing traffic laws.

The check is in connection with

the Chamber of Commerce-police department-Hoosier Motor club campaign to reduce traffic deaths and injuries. Scouts in a check on Feb. 26 reported over 16,000 pedestrians who crossed either against the red light or in the middle of the block and 1000 motorists who turned into pedestrian lines without stopping.

RED CROSS GIVEN \$500

C. A. Sikes, Indianapolis manager of Eastern Airlines, today presented a \$500 check, a day's receipts at Weir Cook airport, to the Red Cross war fund. This plan, originated by Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, president of the airlines, is being conducted in all cities where an office is located.

RANKIN CHARGES RACKET

WASHINGTON, March 31 (UPI).—Chairman John E. Rankin (D. Miss.) of the house world war veterans committee charged yesterday that civil service job placement was becoming a "racket" and that veterans were not getting their share of government jobs.

Monday Speaker



The Rev. A. C. Brooks, pastor of the Third Christian church, will give the sermon Monday which will open the interdenominational, noon-day, Holy Week services in English's theater.

NEW SERVICE IN BLOOD BANK TO OPEN HERE

Red Cross Will Salvage

Red Cells Lost in Processing.

A new kind of blood bank service, supplying for transfusions the red blood cells salvaged from blood plasma processing, will soon be offered by the Indianapolis Red Cross Blood Donor center.

W. I. Longsworth, chapter chair-

man, announced today that the

local center was one of several

selected by the American Red

Cross to serve as a point of salvage

for the red blood cells which will

be used as a substitute for whole

blood transfusion in some kinds of

anemia.

Processed by Lilly

The selection of the Indianapolis

center was believed due to the fact

that blood donated here is processed

at Eli Lilly Co.

When arrested he offered to go

to jail as