

# WASHINGTON

## Calling

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

(Continued From Page One)

service forces, and the navy supply organization, to halt reconversion of war industries, is responsible.

They had to buck WPB and other agencies after Gen. Patton's dash across France created false optimism.

What the military is concerned about now is not tomorrow's output but production of munitions early next year.

Note: Look for Gen. Somervell to get a fourth star, soon, now that Gen. Marshall has been lifted to five-star rank. Somervell's deputy was recently given the same rank. Somervell holds lieutenant general.

ON THE EASTERN FRONT the Russians apparently are probing their way forward—as contrasted with all-out offensives.

But even if they have no offensives in progress, they are believed to be immobilizing about two-thirds of the German army.

The rest is in contact with our troops on the western front and in Italy.

Leite Behind Schedule

MEANWHILE, our progress in the Philippines is several weeks behind schedule.

One reason, congressional sources believe, is the lack of airstrips on Leyte, which might have been used by our land-based planes.

This deficiency has now been overcome. But until it was, operations there had to be protected by carrier-based planes.

JOHN L. LEWIS has been playing "hard to get" with the A. F. of L.

He's wheeling for the best terms possible, but that ponderous filtration will end in accomplishment (that's John's word for it).

Reason is A. F. of L. sorely needs John in his fight against C. I. O. dominance; John and his Mine Workers just as urgently need A. F. of L. backing.

Spearsheading the fight for higher wages, with seven million A. F. of L. members behind him, Lewis will be in position to become again America's foremost labor spokesman. John has many friends and much influence in various C. I. O. unions, which he founded, and will likely draw many into A. F. of L.

State Department

LOOK FOR announcement of sweeping state department reorganization, as soon as Secretary Stettinius' six well-buffed aids have been confirmed.

Stettinius has long favored modernization of department. Reorganization experts have been working night and day on plans, which are almost ready.

State department has long gone to congress with a modest budget, stressed its various economies. Now it's likely to ask generous appropriations to bring it out of the 19th century class.

Meanwhile, state and commerce departments head into a clash over supervision of foreign trade promotion after the war.

Foreign economic administration is to be liquidated, but state department faces new threat in commerce's preparations to re-establish itself abroad.

In some quarters, there's talk of new branch of cabinet level to combine functions of FEA, Export-Import bank, and state, commerce, and treasury foreign trade units.

One Thousand Club

MEMBERS of the One Thousand Club—who contributed at least \$1000 each to Roosevelt's campaign and were promised the White House doors would be open to them—will eat below the salt, if they eat at all, at the

HOUSE REPUBLICAN members of the joint senate-house survey and study committee to be set up under the Maloney-Monroe resolution will be Reps. Dikens (Ill.), Plumley (Vt.), and Michener (Mich.).

Rep. Mike Monroney, co-author, will be one of the Democratic members. Six senators, three from each party, will serve, with Senator Maloney as chairman.

REP. CLARE BOOTH LUCE contributed \$700 to the campaign funds of each of her five Republican colleagues up for reelection with her in Connecticut.

Only one beside herself—Rep. Joseph E. Talbot—pulled through. Rep. William J. Miller, world war I aviator who lost both legs in an airplane crash, sent the \$700 back.

PURSE SNATCHED

Mrs. Virginia Kemery, 1107 Park ave., reported to police that her purse, containing over \$45 in money and valuables, was snatched on 11th st. east of Central ave. last night.

HEADING "The donors' list today is just G. M., with \$43; the second floor, office, U. S. Rubber Co., \$30.50, and Alpha chapter of Beta Chi Theta sorority, \$25.

THERE ARE two ways you can help Clothe-A-Child: You can send cash contributions to The Indianapolis Times, 214 W. Maryland st. Experienced shoppers will take the children to the stores and provide them with the warm clothing they need.

Or, if you prefer, you may shop for the children yourself. All you have to do is call Riley 5551 and ask for Clothe-A-Child. Specify the day and hour you wish to shop and The Times will have the child (or children) if you wish to clothe more than one at the Clothe-A-Child office, corner W. Washington and Senate at the appointed time. The child's parents will remain at the office while you go to the store—any one you prefer—and make the purchases.

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There's Only One Week Left For Helping the Youngsters

(Continued From Page One)

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# ELECTION AIRING STARTS MONDAY

Packed House Expected to Attend 'Whodunnit and Why?' Session.

(Continued From Page One)

Indiana politicians and seven U. S. senatorial investigators replete with legal counsel.

'Light Touch' for Capehart

When the senatorial investigators first dropped around three weeks ago they had another election in mind; namely, Senator-elect Homer Capehart's campaign expenditures. But this phase apparently was relegated to a back seat as the probe progressed.

Latest unofficial report is that Mr. Capehart will be touched lightly, if at all, by the public inquiry.

It's all under the auspices of the U. S. senate campaign expenditures committee. This body, under broad powers vested in it by resolution, can peer into just about any given situation relating to the election of a senator, President or vice president.

Briefly, the quiz session, to be conducted by Senators Ball and Stewart, will air the following allegations:

THAT thousands of would-be voters were disfranchised by a vote registration mixup which saw them challenged at the polls in droves.

Claim Records Removed

THAT registrations were illegally removed from master files under the jurisdiction of County Clerk A. Jack Tilson.

THAT State Attorney General James Emmert was "out of bounds" when he instructed county election boards not to permit voting by affidavit.

THAT the whole thing was a conspiracy to keep the Democrats from voting.

Republicans will testify that partisan politics had nothing to do with it. County Clerk Tilson will plead inexperienced and insufficient help.

Emmert to Cite Precedent

Attorney General Emmert will say his affidavit "veto" was prompted by legal precedent.

Everything will be transcribed and presented for review by the U. S. justice department and anyone else interested. The hearing itself cannot institute prosecution. That's up to the grand jury and district attorney.

If prosecution is unwarranted, it'll be just about the end of the big election investigation.

South and southwest, which contend that rate barriers against them must be reduced or eliminated, are hopeful of a favorable decision.

Battle for Influence

BATTLE FOR top influence in congress is already under way between the C. I. O. and A. F. of L. and will go into high gear when the new membership arrives in January.

Before November election, C. I. O. strength with congress was poor and A. F. of L. claimed C. I. O. endorsement was the kiss of death, even for legislation other labor bodies supported.

Tests in January will show whether this has been changed. First clash probably will come on A. F. of L.'s desire to amend the Wagner act for protection of its craft unions from "raids" by the younger organizations.

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# IN 48 HOURS—Son 'Missing,' 2d Hurt—and Then A Letter Came

By GEORGIA CLARK

IN LESS THAN 48 hours... an Indianapolis family was informed that one son was missing in action... Another was wounded for the third time... and finally received word that the missing son

was safe.

Last Sunday morning Mr. and Mrs. Ray Webb, 3141 Northwestern ave., believed that their oldest son, Pvt. Raymond Webb, was missing in action.

Later that day they received a telegram that their youngest son, Pfc. Rudolph Webb, twice wounded veteran of France, had been wounded again.

Then on Monday, through a letter received by Ray's wife, Mrs. Helen Webb, 1309 Congress ave., they learned that Ray was safe.

RAY WAS reported missing by the war department after action Nov. 14 in France. In the letter received by his wife he made no mention of any unusual activity.

The letter was written on Nov. 27. He spoke of Thanksgiving at the front and said they had turkey.

Rudolph received his third wound Nov. 27 in Germany, and according to the war department is in the hospital. He was fighting with the infantry and had been back on duty since Sept. 1.

RUDELPH was wounded the first time in July during action in France. He was in the hospital about a month. He returned to his group only to be wounded on French soil again two weeks later.

After getting back in action the second time he fought his way into Germany, where he again was wounded.

He already holds the purple heart with one oak leaf cluster and can look forward to a second cluster.

VICTIM OF SHOOTING BOOKED AS VAGRANT

Police today were investigating the story of Harry Hubble, who said that he shot himself accidentally in both legs and the left shoulder with a 22 rifle.

Hubble was found in bed at his home, 1222 N. Miley ave., this morning by police, who sent him to City hospital for treatment. He is being held on a vagrancy charge.

Police officers said that Hubble told them he had been drinking and was sitting on the bed cleaning the rifle when he was shot.

UNWILLING FOR SIGNS PAYROLL TAX FREEZE

Roosevelt's signature—the social security tax would have risen to 2 percent each on employers and employees on Jan. 1.

It applies to the first \$3000 of an employee's earnings yearly. The increase sought by the administration would have yielded about \$1,500,000,000 in 1945.

The bill to retain the 1 percent rate was passed, 262 to 72, in the house and 47 to 19 in the senate. Most legislators had expected a veto. Mr. Roosevelt perhaps was influenced against a veto by the size of the votes in favor of a freeze.

Mr. Roosevelt expressed belief that congress "does not intend to jeopardize in any way the benefits rights which have already been built up in the past and which will continue to grow in the future."

His announcement, released by the White House in the form of a public statement, said he planned to submit soon "a comprehensive plan for broadening and improving the social security system."

"I have felt in the past and I still feel," he said, "that the scheduled rate increase, which has been repeatedly postponed by congress, should be permitted to go into effect."

Under the original social security act, the payroll tax was scheduled to jump to 2 percent on Jan. 1, 1942, but now for the third time the boost has been halted.

OFFICIAL WEATHER

U. S. Weather Bureau

(All Data in Central War Time)

Sunrise... 8:01 Sunset... 5:01

Precipitation 24 hrs. end, 7:30 a. m., trace Total precipitation since Jan. 1... 32.5 Deficiency since Jan. 1... 5.9

The following table shows the temperature

Albany... 37 21 Chicago... 35 19 Cincinnati... 43 19 Cleveland... 34 31 Evansville... 47 23 Ft. Wayne... 35 25 Indianapolis... 41 22 Kansas City Mo... 42 28 Louisville... 45 27 Minneapolis-St. Paul... 34 17 New Orleans... 55 47 New York... 37 21 Oklahoma City... 34 17 Pittsburgh... 38 22 St. Louis... 45 26 St. Paul... 34 17

STANDARD—Joseph Wigner, St. Survivors: Wife, Emma; daughter, Mrs. Esther Williams and Mrs. Gladys Mason; sons, Capt. Otho and Lt. Hallock.

VINCENNES—Mary Recker, St. Survivors: Sister, Mrs. Andrew Weiler, Mrs. George Little and Mrs. Joseph P. Duesenberg.

Relieve externally caused PIMPLES with BLACKHEADS CUTICURA

4th and Walnut Sts. Indianapolis, Ind.

Washington, D. C.

# 7TH CAPTURES LAUTERBOURG

French Border City Falls, Unhinging N. E. France Defenses of Foe.

(Continued From Page One)

vancing Americans, the Germans fought bitterly.

They were falling back gradually, however, into the Siegfried line defenses. At most points the forts were only a little more than a mile behind the Palatine frontier.

Patch's 103d division made the 7th army's initial crossing into Germany. It pushed over the frontier four miles west of the border for a total of 1:05 p. m. yesterday.

The 45th division, slightly farther west, crossed the frontier 45 minutes later after gains of more than six miles in as many hours. Though there was no definite confirmation, it appeared that both columns were one to two miles inside Germany at a point 35 to 36 miles south of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen.

Some 10 miles east of Wissembourg, the 79th division rolling down the west bank of the Rhine sent a patrol consisting of an officer and several enlisted men across the frontier near Lauterbourg, nine miles west of Karlsruhe. The group later returned to Alsatian soil.

Numerous pillboxes, including a line of bunkers camouflaged to resemble houses, were over-run in the advances. Climbach, four miles west of Wissembourg, was captured. One column was within a mile of Wissembourg itself.

The Germans poured a vicious barrage from fixed guns in the Siegfried defenses against the Americans. They failed, however, to halt the advances. Doughboys doggedly punched ahead through red-roofed villages and forest paths.

Supplies Rushed Up

Behind the lines, front dispatches said, supply units were bringing up thousands of artillery shells. A concerted assault on the Siegfried line at what may be its weakest point, seemed imminent.

Most of them were expendable left behind as rear guards while crack regiments pulled back into the Siegfried line. Among those captured were a number of youths wearing the armbands of the Volksturm.

Some 25 miles west of Wissembourg, 7th army forces were finding the road junction of Bitch, eight miles south of the border, a hard nut to crack. Enveloped on three sides, including the north, the Germans continued their bitter resistance from a ring of steel and concrete forts. Some of the forts had been built to resemble farm houses, but with walls six to nine feet thick.

IKE CLOSES SCHOOLS IN OCCUPIED REICH

All schools in occupied Germany will be closed "until Nazism has been eliminated," a proclamation by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower broadcast to the German people said today.

In keeping with the allied policy to "eradicate Nazism and German militarism in all their aspects from the German educational system," the shutdown will be complete except for boarding schools and orphanages.

Elementary schools will be the first to reopen, the proclamation said. Steps to reopen secondary schools and institutions of higher education "will be taken as soon as practicable."

German teachers will be instructed to eliminate from their teaching anything which:

ONE. Glorifies militarism or exponents the practice of war or of mobilization and preparation for war, whether in the scientific, economic or industrial fields, or the study of military geography.

TWO. Seeks to propagate, revive or justify the doctrines of Nazism or to extoll the achievements of Nazi leaders.

THREE. Favors a policy of discrimination on grounds of race or religion.

FOUR. Is hostile to or seeks to disturb the relations between any of the united nations.

REPORT TIRPITZ, CASUALTIES

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 16 (U. P.)—Reports from the Norwegian underground said today that 42 German officers were killed and 1100 sailors killed or injured when British planes sank the battleship Tirpitz.

State Deaths

BROWNSTOWN—Judge John C. Brannan, wife, Mollie; daughter, Patricia and Jacqueline; brother, Thomas.

CANNELTON—Mrs. Gertrude Thiry, 65, survivors: Husband, Ed; son, William; mother, Mrs. Annie Heck; brother, William Heck.

FRANKLIN—Lewis H. Thomas, 75, survivors: Daughters, Mrs. Nellie Warren and Mrs. Eva Haley; son, Ralph.

GOSWELL—Mrs. Carrie L. Jacobs, 72, survivors: Husband, John; daughters, Mrs. Joseph Landon and Mrs. L. H. Van Dusen; son, Nicholas.

CLIFFORD—Ernest Beesemer, 82, survivors: Daughter, Mrs. Arden Martin.

HUNTSBURG—Mrs. Jennie Wesel, 72, survivors: Husband, Charles; sons, Kenneth and Sgt. Clarence; brother, Henry Hummel.

NEW ALBANY—Herschel Orimes, 55, survivors: Wife, Lena; daughters, Mrs. C. W. Fisher, Mrs. Margaret Leach and Mrs. Uba; sons, Mrs. Uba Brocker and Mrs. James Durall; brothers, Mack and William.

STENDAL—Joseph Wigner, 84, survivors: Wife, Emma; daughter, Mrs. Esther Williams and Mrs. Gladys Mason; sons, Capt. Otho and Lt. Hallock.

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# Yanks 130 Mi. From Manila In New Mindoro Landings

(Continued From Page One)

If successfully completed, however, it virtually would split the Japanese empire.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported in his communique that the invasion had cut the Philippines in two and "will enable us to dominate the sea routes which reach to the China coast."

Mindoro's Location

Mindoro's west coast lies along the South China sea opposite French Indo-China.

Both the China coast and the Japanese fortress island of Formosa are only 750 miles from Mindoro—within easy range of American Flying Fortresses and Liberators if based there.

Fighters flying from Mindoro could range over virtually the entire Philippines archipelago.

MacArthur reported that at least 250 Japanese planes were destroyed in combat and on the ground.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced at Pearl Harbor that carrier planes alone had destroyed 224 aircraft. It was not clear immediately whether these were included in the total announced by MacArthur.

The Japanese managed, nevertheless, to get some planes off their craters, burning fields.

The invasion armada, under Rear Adm. Arthur Dewey Struble, chief of staff of naval operations during the