

WASHINGTON

Calling

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

(Continued From Page One)

this year; will find the honeymoon—which has permitted them to proceed almost without question—is over.

Good Neighbor Policy at Home

MEANWHILE THE STATE DEPARTMENT, which lately has left the lash of congressional criticism, is now trying hard to improve its domestic relations.

Secretary Stettinius has started a policy of keeping senatorial leaders better informed about our foreign policies. Look for more frequent meetings between them, and more frequent appearances by Stettinius before foreign relations committee.

If the good-neighbor-policy-with-the-senate succeeds, it should minimize conflict when the United Nations organization treaty is presented to the senate.

That treaty will be a major subject on the agenda when the Big Three meet. After they agree, full-dress international conference will be called to do the actual treaty-drafting.

NOTE: Senators will be ready—If F. D. R. is to discuss foreign policy with him before he starts for the Big Three meeting. They feel he can avoid pitfalls if he consults with them ahead of time, lets them know what he hopes for, listens to what they hope for.

Real Push on for 4-F Draft

ON WORK OR FIGHT LEGISLATION: Chances for national service act, which would enforce sweeping, across-the-board powers over all workers, are slight. It would get more votes now than last spring, when congressional leaders convinced Jimmy Byrnes it couldn't pass, but still not enough.

But there's a real push on for legislation which would drive all physically deferred 4-Fs into war work or military work battalions. It probably will follow lines of last session's Bailey-Brewster bill, with some changes to remove labor's objections.

Labor feared low-pay war battalions would be put in industry side-by-side with well-paid union men, might be utilized to lower wages and working conditions.

Plan now is to make work battalions thoroughly unattractive by denying members veteran benefits, encouraging 4-Fs to go into war industry on their own.

Work battalions would be used in private industry only after agreement by management and labor that they were needed to meet critical war shortages, probably after certification by War Mobilizer Byrnes' office.

LOOK FOR DRAMATIC ACTION to correct the shortage of nurses for armed forces, possibly by executive action.

If Congress is asked for legislation, nurses will demand they be given full military rank, other benefits enjoyed by WAC, WAVES, etc., and servicemen.

At present, nurses have full rank for duration and six months, after that lapse back to "relative rank" which no one seems to understand.

Insurance Fight

ONE OF THE FIRST fights of the new session will be over proposal to exempt fire insurance companies from Clayton and Sherman anti-trust acts—a fight that insurance companies won in the house in the last session, but lost in the senate.

Chances are the house will pass the exemption bill again, without much fuss, but that there'll be a last-ditch fight against it in the senate, bolstered by recent supreme court ruling that such laws apply to insurance, too.

MOVE TO LIFT margarine taxes is being revived. Higher ration points for butter provide new argument, but dairy bloc seems strong enough to repeat last session's defeat. Fight will center in house agriculture committee, which licked repealer bill by close vote last year.

CENSUS BUREAU plans to interview 300,000 families in 400 typical counties this year, to find out their income and how they spend it.

Sample census of manufacturing, designed to get cross-section view of industry in peak war-time year (1944), will be conducted by questionnaires to 300,000 manufacturers.

TO PREDICTION that Senator Lucas of Illinois will get one of the Democratic seats on the senate foreign relations committee, add the prediction that other seats will go to Hatch of New Mexico, Hill of Alabama.

Canadians Get Plenty Cigarets

OTTAWA, Jan. 6 (U. P.).—

Want a cigarette?

The wartime prices and trade authority said today that Canada faced no cigarette shortage.

A WPB spokesman said that

an expanded Canadian tobacco industry made the dominion self-sufficient, and that facilities were still available for transporting smokes to all parts of the country as well as Canadian soldiers overseas.

"There's no need to worry about 1945," he told Canadian smokers.

NOTICE

OUR AD THURSDAY

NIGHT

FULL-FASHIONED

HOSE

Thirds—5c per Pair

Was Not a Mistake

5c PAIR

is Correct

We Have Plenty Left

Open Saturday

Night 'til 9

Erroymsen's

910-926 So. Meridian

1ST GAINS MILE ON WIDE FRONT

Nazis Show First Signs of Weakening in Battle Of Ardennes.

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miles northeastward by opening a fresh attack below Stavelot.

Front reports of the new attack, linked with the east end of the previous 1st army push, said there was no news of its trend.

Supreme headquarters reported that the Germans had suffered 100,000 casualties so far in the Battle of the Bulge which began Dec. 6.

A possibility was seen that the relaxation of enemy resistance on the north side of the bulge represented a combination of two factors:

1. The drain of our hammer blows against their flank.

2. A shattering bombardment before dawn today by the Houffalize transport turntable at the center of the Nazi positions.

Consolidate Gains

About 1400 U. S. 8th air force bombers and fighters followed through on the British night attack with a widespread daylight bombardment of Rhineland rail and road bridges and communications centers.

S. H. A. E. F. sources said Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's armies were concentrating on consolidating their gains rather than moving ahead today.

Field reports showed considerable advances in several sectors.

U. S. armored columns, one from the northeast and the other from the northwest, struck over snow-covered fields to within 100 yards of the La Roche-St. Vith highway, a vital supply line to the Germans in the west end of the salient.

A front dispatch said the fall of the junction of that road and the Bastogne-Liege highway was expected within a matter of hours.

Armored units were advancing on from captured Odeigne to the northwest and from the hamlet of Fraiture to the northeast.

The Germans retreated grudgingly before the allied counter-offensive in the north.

The Germans were lashing back furiously at the American 3d army on their southern flank.

Headquarters revealed that the American 2d and 3d armored divisions, the 84th and 83d infantry and the 82d airborne division were spearheading the U. S. 1st army attack in the north.

(The 83d division was activated at Camp Atterbury, Ind., and trained there in 1942 and 1943.)

Perhaps 400,000 men and massive armored forces already were committed on both sides.

Field dispatches said the Battle of the Ardennes was moving swiftly toward its climax.

Did Break-through

The allies were hurling their greatest strength against the northern flank in a bid for a breakthrough that would splinter the Nazi pocket.

More than 100 miles to the southwest, the Germans were embarked on a second dangerous gamble.

A twin drive into the Al. corner menaced the entire 7th army front. The attack was countered effectively.

In that area, the Germans forced a crossing of the Rhine above Strasbourg.

They drove more than 10 miles through the 7th army front below Bitch to cut the important rail and road lines between Haguenau and Saarbrücken.

The German salient, now little more than half its original size, was compressing slowly under the converging allied blows.

The waist of the pocket was barely 12 miles wide between the 1st army spearheads in the Boise de Tave south of Grandmenil and Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d army forces north of Bastogne.

Montgomery's troops were fighting everywhere inside the Germans' main battle screen thrown across the northern flank of the salient.

Field dispatches revealed that the allies sprang a devastating surprise on the Germans in the form of a still-secret artillery weapon that inflicted heavy casualties in the opening stages of the counter-offensive.

Mystery Weapon

Developed by the U. S. navy, the mystery weapon was brought into action to stem a German counter-attack at Bette 60 days ago.

Within an hour the Nazis were in headlong retreat, leaving the battlefield littered with their dead.

Meanwhile, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's troops were locked in a furious struggle with counter-attacking German armored divisions in the Bastogne area at the center of the southern flank.

Driven back more than a mile from the Michamps area four miles northeast of Bastogne, the Americans braced on high ground overlooking Michamps.

On the Saar-Rhine front to the southeast Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th army temporarily regained the upper hand in the battle west of the Bitch salient.

The 7th cleared the enemy from their deepest penetrations at Aachen and Gros Redersheim, 12 and 10 miles west of Bitch.

About 25 miles east of Bitch, American forces withdrew from Wissembourg to avoid being pinched off by the German thrust.

The situation exists all over the Midwest, as well as in Indianapolis, and bottle factories are being flooded with rush orders for additional bottles.

Clogged-up trucking conditions make it impossible to transport the new bottles to all spots as soon as they are needed.

The tendency to allow bottles to accumulate seems to come with a cold spell, one dairy official said. He said that during the last week, dairy owners have been forced to interchange extra bottles daily to keep up their regular output.

ATHENS IS CLEARED OF LEFTIST TROOPS

ATHENS, Jan. 6 (U. P.).—British armored forces, completing the occupation of Athens, pushed out four miles in three directions from the Greek capital today on the heels of E. L. A. S. forces fleeing through the hills.

The city was free from flying bullets for the first time in weeks and civilians began searching for food and firewood. Relief officials were rushing soup kitchens into northern Athens.

Gets State Post



Maj. Elmer W. Sherwood

SHERWOOD NAMED ADJUTANT GENERAL

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In 1918. In world war I, he fought in six major western front engagements with the 150th field artillery (Rainbow division).

Following the war, he was graduated from I. U. in 1921.

The author of several books and numerous newspaper and magazine articles, he was formerly editor-in-chief of the National Legionnaire magazine, official American Legion publication.

Maj. Sherwood is married and has a daughter, Joan, a student at Wellesley college, and a son, Robert, a pupil at Shortridge high school. They reside at 5009 Washington blvd.

Sealed Package Short 5 Cigarets

HERE IS the latest fag famine story on the Indianapolis circuit: Mrs. Florence LeForge, 2175 N. Pennsylvania, was lucky enough to get a pack of cigarettes at her neighborhood grocery yesterday.

Opening the package she found only 15 cigarettes.

An amazed grocery manager heard Mrs. LeForge's shortchange complaint and gave her credit for five cigarettes, if and when another shipment comes through.

Since the stamp and cellophane were intact, the manager theorized that a mistake at the factory—or perhaps a flagless factory worker—was responsible for the mistake.

BYRNES ASKS BAN ON MAJOR CONVENTIONS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (U. P.).—War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes last night called for cancellation of all conventions scheduled after Feb. 1 requiring attendance of more than 50 persons.

He said he was certain that his appeal for curtailment of non-essential travel would receive public co-operation and that the government would take no enforcement measures unless the appeal is unheeded.

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NAZIS HALTED IN BUDAPEST DRIVE

Surprise Red Blow Checks Relief Army, Dooms Foe in City.

By BRUCE W. MUNN

United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Jan. 6.—Russian tanks and infantrymen fell upon the flank of the German relief army marching on Budapest today.

The Soviets rolled up the enemy's armored spearheads in a surprise blow that appeared to have sealed the doom of the axis garrison surrounded in the capital.

Wheeling down from the Vertes hills west of the city, the Russian flanking columns struck at a critical moment.

German tanks in considerable force had punched through the main Red army defenses at a number of points in an area 15 to 30 miles northwest of Budapest.

Entire Army Halted

Ripping across the enemy's right flank, the Russians swiftly rounded up and destroyed the panzer units leading the German drive. The entire relief army was halted.

A triumphant Red army communiqué said the Nazis had been stopped all along the line. There was no claim, however, that the enemy was abandoning its attempt to lift the siege of Budapest and rescue the tens of thousands of axis troops cornered there.

Berlin commentators acknowledged that fighting had "practically ceased" last night.

Indicating the ferocity of the battle, into which the Germans had thrown at least 300 tanks and swarms of planes, the communiqué said more than 3000 Nazis were killed and only 614 captured yesterday.

In addition, another 51 tanks and 29 planes were destroyed.

Nazi Plight Worsens

Inside the beleaguered capital, the plight of the German and Hungarian garrison was deteriorating hourly under the massed fire of thousands of cannon and rocket guns.

Soviet shock troops cleared the enemy from another 233 blocks on both sides of the Danube, giving the Red army control of about 1500 of the city's 2800 blocks. Their biggest victory was the seizure of the Budapest race track in Pest, on the east bank, which the Germans had been using as a landing ground for supply planes.

Despite the hopelessness of their position, the axis defenders still were putting up a savage and skillful battle.

ACTRESS WED TODAY

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 6 (U. P.).—Actress Leslie Brooks and Anthony Shay, former actor recently honorably discharged from the "marines," will be married today. They will go to Palm Springs, Cal., for a brief honeymoon.

Another patient in the same ward is Sgt. Clyde Cole of Texas.

In his southern accent he told how a sniper hit him on June 14 in France. He lay from 7 p. m. that day until 7 a. m. the next until medics came. He was too close on the front lines to be carried away sooner.

WAKEMAN not only has overseas veterans, but it also boasts of a few nurses with overseas experience.

First Lt. Margaret Sramcik of Seneca, Mo., is one of them. She landed below Oran, North Africa, just 10 hours after allied troops invaded the area.

"We took over the French hospitals, but there were no beds. We were from five to 10 miles from the combat area and nursed the men on the floor and on litters," Lt. Sramcik recalled.

THEN five days after the invasion of Sicily the nurses corps again moved in. It was a little rougher there. Lt. Sramcik "got rheumatic instead of romantic" and was sent back to the states to continue her nursing.

But while the nurses at Wakeman are doing more than their part, the army is asking for 10,000 trained nurses immediately and the navy for 4,000 by July 1.

In the Indianapolis area the quota for the Red Cross nurses' recruitment division was 100 for the past six months. Just 10 answered the call. Indiana's goal was 200. It recruited 72.

THE ARMED forces also are asking for more volunteer aids and WAC medical technicians.

These nurses' aids work without compensation, live in nurses' quarters, eat in the nurses' mess hall and nurse in the wards on day and night shifts. And these quarters at Wakeman are even more cozy than some homes.

The WACs get complete training at Atterbury in the medical technicians' school.

"WHEN the women in Indianapolis really understand the serious shortage of nurses for the army, they will come to the front and volunteer," said Mrs. G. D. French, chairman of the nurses' recruitment committee of the Indianapolis Red Cross chapter.

"The nurses' profession up to the present time has met the need. I don't think it would want to fall now."

F. D. R. Urges Mobilization Of All U. S. Men and Women

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declaration of the United Nations, he recalled, and this country will use its influence to see that those principles are fulfilled "so far as is humanly possible."

The President urged men and women in war jobs to stay in them. He summoned them in unessential occupations to get into the war effort now.

"The Lord Hates a Quitter"

"This is no time to quit or to change to less essential jobs," he said. "There is an old and true saying that the Lord hates a quitter."

Airplane production goals are going up. The army needs artillery, ammunition, cotton duck, bombs, tires, tanks, heavy trucks and model airplanes, including the B-29 model that is pasting Japan.

The navy is hampered by ammunition shortages and the production of "huge rockets" lags.

Labor shortages have delayed cruiser and carrier programs and production of some aircraft.

The President outlined all of that and then presented to Congress his request for all-out national service legislation backed by the demand of the army and navy heads themselves that Congress make good on the promise it made in joint resolutions declaring that a state of war existed with Japan and Germany.

The promise was that "to bring the conflict to a successful conclusion, all of the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States."

No Conditions on Plan

There were no conditions this time to his national service request as there were a year ago when the President made it part of a five-point program that he wanted kept together.

Recalling that his 1944 recommendation was not adopted, Mr. Roosevelt said:

"I now again call upon Congress to enact this measure for the total mobilization of all our human resources for the prosecution of the war. I urge this to be done at the earliest possible moment. It is not too late in the war."

"In fact, bitter experience has shown that in this kind of mechanized warfare where new weapons are constantly being created by our enemies and by ourselves, the closer we come to the end of the war, the more pressing becomes the need for sustained war production with which to deliver the final blow to the enemy."

Has Confidence in 'Em

The President, in a detailed review of the progress of the war, said our forces had "recovered" from the "savage attack" of Germany into Belgium and he expressed "complete confidence" in the supreme allied commander, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"Further desperate attempts may well be made to break our lines, to slow our progress," the President said in describing the present period as the most critical phase of the war. "We must never make the mistake of assuming that the Germans are beaten until the last Nazi has surrendered."

Expressing pride over progress in the war against Japan, the President said the American navy looked forward to any new opportunity which "the lords of the Japanese navy" would give them to fight it out again in the manner of the great battle last October in Philippine waters.

The President said "one of the most urgent immediate requirements of the armed forces" was more nurses.