

of the **WANG LANE**

11th AIRBORNE DIVISION



Sunday, 25 February 1945

Published by I & E Section

Page 1

TWO ARMIES OPEN NEW ROER DRIVE

Paris, Feb 24 - American First and Ninth Armies launched a large scale offensive across the Roer River before dawn today. Coordinated with Thursday's tremendous aerial onslaught against communication centers in Germany, the armies surged across the Roer River after capturing Julich northeast of Aachen. "The Roer River line has been breached," says General Eisenhower's communique. "Progress is good. Initial German resistance was light."

The offensive was preceded by a terrific artillery barrage lasting 45 minutes. Guns were massed at the rate of 300 for every mile, and one small area east of the river was hit with 17,000 shells in twenty minutes. Hundreds of Allied bombers and fighters joined in the attack.

(Continued on Page 2)

SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT CLEARED

GHQ, Feb 24 - Another island in San Bernardino Strait separating Luzon from Samar was seized yesterday as American troops occupied Biri against light opposition. The islet lies a few miles north-east of Capul, captured by our forces Wednesday. These latest actions clear the main direct route for shipping between the United States and Manila.

On Luzon, the Americans advanced towards the Marikina Watershed Reservation 10 miles east of Manila, capturing Taytay and San Mateo in Rizal Province.

INTRAMUROS ENTERED

37th Division Infantrymen are battering their way through a breach in the walls of Intramuros torn by our heavy artillery. The defenders, identified as naval personnel, are trapped in the ruins. Gen MacArthur declares destruction of enemy remnants "is in its final phases."

MARINE ADVANCE IS MEASURED IN YARDS

Guam, Feb 24 - As the battle for Iwo Jima raged undiminished towards the end of its first week, veteran 4th Division Marines on the American right flank crept 300 yards forward Friday to reach the southern edge of the Japanese fighter plane base in the center of the island.

Earlier, other Marine units using ropes and scaling ladders reached the summit of volcanic Mt. Suribachi after 28 hours and planted the American flag on its cone. Heavy machine gun and rifle grenade fire were encountered in the advance, which bypassed large pockets of defenders resisting from caves.

MANY JAP DEAD

717 enemy dead were counted on Suribachi slope in addition to 1,222 elsewhere, for a total thus far of 1,939.

Although the Navy has been pounding the Mountain continuously, the well-protected Japanese must be dug out of their underground caves and blockhouses individually before conquest is complete.

(Continued on Page 2)

FLASH!

GHQ, Feb 24 - In a special dispatch late Saturday night, General MacArthur announced that parachute troops had landed behind Jap lines to liberate more than 2100 internees at Los Banos prison camp.

TURKEY DECLARES WAR

Ankara, Feb 24 - Turkey today declared a state of war existing with Germany and Japan effective 1 March. The declaration followed a warning by Britain, Russia, and the United States that only those countries who declared war before March 1 would be regarded as "associated nations" on the side of the Allies. The Turkish government admits that the declaration was made under pressure of the Big Three. Turkey has a standing army of several hundred thousand.

THE STATIC LINE

Published by I & E Section, 11th Abn Div.
This paper receives ANS & CNS material.

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TWO ARMIES OPEN

(CONT FROM PAGE 1)

South of the new offensive, the Third Army continued its advances north of the Saar Basin and captured five more towns. Advancing three miles to cross the Saar River at several points, General Patton's force is 4 1/2 miles south of Trier. 80,000 Germans were killed or captured by the Third Army in clearing the Eifel mountain sector.

The Seventh Army is now battling in the outskirts of Saarbrücken, while in the north the Canadian First is making progress toward Kalcar.

NEWS BULLETS

POA - American naval units supported by aircraft yesterday shelled Paramushiro in the Kuriles Chain. Paramushiro lies 100 miles south of Siberia's Kamchatka Peninsula and is site of enemy naval and air base guarding northern approaches to Japan.

Chungking - Chinese troops have been driven from all points on the Hankow-Canton Railroad on which they recently held a 25 mile stretch, it was admitted today.

MARINE ADVANCE

(Continued from Page 1)

Since the summit was taken, however, enemy fire on our troops in the central part of the Island has decreased.

A group of Japs was discovered swimming in from the west coast in an attempt to get behind our flank. The attackers failed to reach shore.

Flow of supplies to the Marines is increasing, although correspondents report the front lines safer than the beach, every inch of which has been plotted on Jap artillery charts.

The Marines are encountering more mortar fire than in any other Pacific battle. Much of the fighting now in progress consists of mortar duels with small enemy pockets.

Guarding against possible Jap reinforcement attempts, U.S. carrier planes ranged north to strike at the Bonin Islands.

REDS ENTER BRESLAU, APPROACH GORLITZ

Moscow, 24 Feb - Two Russian armies carved new gains in Germany's crumbling eastern defenses today. Marshal Konev's First Ukrainian plunged into encircled Breslau and captured 20 city blocks. To the west, another arm of the Konev force is fighting on the approaches to Gorlitz, second largest city in Silesia and approximately 120 miles deep in the Fatherland.

To the north, Marshal Zukov's forces cleared Poznan, last big Polish city held by the Nazis. 48,000 Germans were killed or captured in the action which opens the main rail and highway supply line to troops attacking Frankfurt. In Pomerania, other Russian troops captured Arnswalde, seven-way road junction, 38 miles southeast of Stettin. No mention was made of fighting in East Prussia in Stalin's communique.

BARRY FITZGERALD MAKES 'OSCAR' NOMINATION LIST

Hollywood - 1945's tussle is on for the "Oscar's" awarded by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the "bests" in filmland. Nominations for the famous Academy statuettes have been announced and the final vote will be proclaimed March 15 at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood.

Outstanding feature is the double choosing of Barry Fitzgerald for "Going My Way" as a candidate--first for the "best performance by an actor" and second for the "best supporting performance." Other leading actors apart from Fitzgerald are Charles Boyer in Gaslight, Bing Crosby in Going My Way, Cary Grant in None But The Lonely Heart, and Alexander Knox in Wilson.

YES, BETTE MAKES IT AGAIN

Leading actresses are Ingrid Bergman in Gaslight, Claudette Colbert in Since You Went Away, Bette Davis in Mr. Skeffington, Greer Garson in Mrs. Parkington, and Barbara Stanwyck in Double Indemnity.

Supporting actor nominations include Fitzgerald, Clifton Webb for Laura, and Monty Woolley for Since You Went Away. Also rate-tops as support are Ethel Barrymore (None But the Lonely Heart), Agnes Moorehead (Mrs. Parkington), Aline MacMahon (Dragon Seed), and Angela Lansbury (Gaslight.)

Best Motion Picture of 1944 nominations comprise Double Indemnity, Gaslight, Going My Way, Since You Went Away, and Wilson. Only five were selected this year instead of the usual ten.

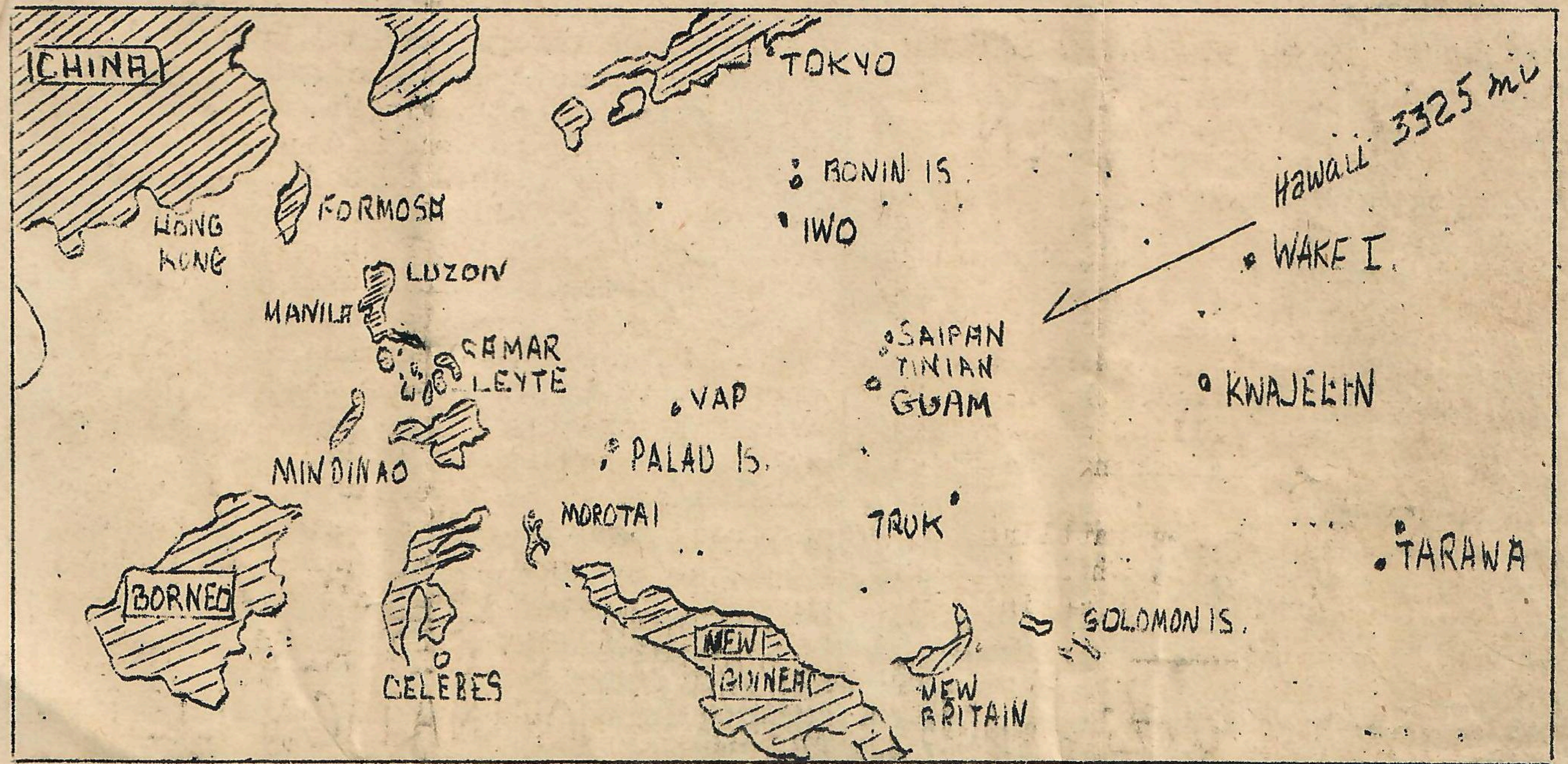
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THE STAMPE LINE

SUNDAY SPECIAL



PACIFIC WAR ENTERS NEW PHASE

Turn another page in the Pacific War chronicle to a new chapter - "The Attack on the Japanese Mainland."

The carrier strike on Tokyo, the opening of Manila Bay and the invasion of Iwo Jima mark a new and perhaps final stage in the war with Nippon. From here on in, we can mount a steadily increasing naval and air attack on Honshu and the home Islands which may be in itself enough to bring Japan to her knees.

NIP NAVY HIDES

Biggest mystery of World War II is the failure of the Japanese Navy to come out and fight for its country's very existence at a time when three separate American Naval task forces were accomplishing decisive missions. Vice Admiral Mitscher's carrier force lying in waters only 300 miles off Tokyo was never even approached by a Jap surface vessel or plane. The enemy elected to make his stand in the skies over Tokyo, losing 659 aircraft destroyed or damaged to a total of 49 for the Americans. And while this futile effort was being made, bombs were raining down on the Capital, hitting shipyards and factories vital to the Japs' dwindling war effort. Follow-up raids by Marianas-based B-29s farthered the destruction.

Main story of the week is being written indelibly in blood and sacrifice on the hard lava of Iwo Jima Island, 750 miles southeast of Tokyo. The battle is Saipan and Tarawa rolled into one, a gory knock-out fight in a tiny eight square mile area for airfields from which we can launch a continuous stream of bombers and fighters against the heart of Japan. Already the battle is described as the toughest in Marine history, with the hardest struggles still lying ahead.

The price we must pay for Iwo is high, but achievement of the objective will find us sitting on Tokyo's doorstep. Imagine for a moment the alarm with which Americans would view an enemy invasion of Bermuda, with its threat to Washington and the East Coast.- And yet Japan is placed in an even more crucial spot, for the whole country is now well within our striking range.

NEW FLEET BASE

With Bataan, southern Manila and Corregidor mopped up, the American Navy will soon have the finest harbor in the Orient at its disposal. Manila is less than 2,000 miles from Tokyo, and its strategic location commanding supply lines on the

(Continued on Page 6)

The
SPORTS
CORNER (ANS)



In case you're interested, when the McPhail, Topping, and Webb syndicate bought the Yankees, the price of \$2,800,000 was split this way: McPhail put up \$300,000. Webb came in for a million. That left a million and a half for Topping to tote out of the family tin mines. And McPhail winds up with a ten year agreement as boss of the syndicate....Rumor has it that Topping may also move his Brooklyn Pro-football outfit to the Yankee Stadium. If he does, watch for Dan Reeves to move the Cleveland Rams to Brooklyn....McPhail, incidentally will retain Joe McCarthy, all of which goes to squelch those Leo Durocher rumors....Buck Shaw, former Santa Clara mentor, turned down job as head football coach at UCLA. Leading candidate is now Bert Larcherrie, L.A. high school coach. Jumping on the bandwagon are alumni of U.C. at Berkeley, asking for ousting of Stub Allison in favor of someone with a more open attack.

Current Notre Dame basketball team is highest scoring unit in Rambler history with an average of 60 points per game though they've dropped four contests....Proleague Football champs, Green Bay Packers, announced the signing of Bruce Smith, Minnesota All American halfback of 1941....Eastern Hockey League has been invited to send a team to San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver this spring, as the first step by the West Coast to prove they play high class hockey out there. L.A. is considered almost a cinch for a National Hockey franchise after the war....Byron Nelson has not done worse than tie for 2nd in the winter tournaments so far this year. He tied the PGA tournament score record with 264 for 72 holes at Corpus Christi open, but it won't enter the records as the Corpus Christi course is a few feet short of the 8000 yard minimum....Sugar Ray Robinson has signed for a Garden fight late in February with middleweight Jake LaMotta, the only man who ever defeated the welterweight belter. It will be their fourth meeting with Robinson holding two previous decisions to one for LaMotta.



Whats Cookin' ?
IN THE WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT
- ANS -



RKO's "Invisible Army," which stars John Wayne, is being rewritten to incorporate the drama of liberation of Jap-held prisoners when the 11th AB and all moved into Manila...Lewis Stone, Fay Holden and the gang are making another in the Hardy Family series, without Mickey "Andy" Rooney, who is with the GI's in France....Fred MacMurray and Lynn Bari are teamed as Capt. and Mrs. in "Eddie Rickenbacker".....Fred Allen, confining himself to guest appearances on the air, keeps up the Jack Benny feud. Said he went to see Benny's latest picture which had 52 featured players. The ticket cost \$1.10. "At that rate," quipped Fred, "Benny was worth two cents."....Monty Woolley and Gracie Fields are together again in "Molly and Me."

BROADWAY

"Up In Central Park" with music by Romberg has settled on the big street for a long run. Noah Beery, Sr. plays Boss Tweed in the period piece...Artie Shaw is back on Broadway with a new band to cut in on The Voice's bobby soxers...which reminds us that we are still sweating out his 2nd physical examination....Gloria Swanson, old time screen star, made a long deferred Broadway debut in "A Goose for the Gander." Critics took one long gander at it and gave it a ducking....Already well-shaped Nancy Walker, that 'thing' in Best Foot Forward, is shaping up as a first class comic and running away with clever new musical play "On the Town." She is a tough taxi driver on the make for a sailor...Gypsy Rose Lee is dividing her time between caring for a new born son, sewing black ruffles on a pair of panties for a vaudeville tour, and toying with the outline of another one of those mysteries. Says Gypsy, "I'm going to make a living even if people start taking sex with an aspirin."....Gypsy is also considered for play "Loveless."

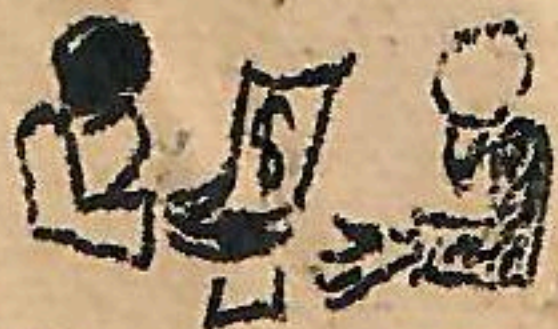


THAT HOME FRONT

HILLSBORO, N.D. - Most unusual spectacle was seen in this locality as farmers harvested and threshed grain crops by combines in mid-January. Unusually mild temperatures and little snow permitted farmers to save 1944 crops they were unable to harvest last fall because of insufficient labor.



PORTLAND, Ore - Sinatra's swooning bobby-soxers got a local rival when a middle-aged woman emerged from a theatre where Victor Mature was appearing and shouted, "I've seen him! I've seen my idol!" Then she walked right through the fishpond in the lobby, knocked down a War Bond booth, and moved on starry-eyed into the street.



BOLTON, Miss - Congregation of the Negro Baptist Church here, about 100 members, contributed \$50 in a special collection to the congregation of the white Baptist Church to help build them a new church.



BATTLEGROUND, Wash - Rugged is the word for Elmer Carlson's bull. The 800 pound Guernsey fell through the cover of an abandoned well and dropped 53 feet into a few inches of water. With the help of an auto wrecker they finally hoisted the animal out. Released from the hoist, he merely snorted, trotted over to a nearby haystack and began eating.



PITTSBURGH, Pa - Housewives are getting out the rouge pot to fool the OPA. Butchers say that blue ration tokens are being coated with rouge and offered - sometimes successfully -- for red tokens.



WINTER PARK, Fla - Henry Ford, P. T. Barnum and Sir William Osler are the latest additions to Rollins College's "Walk of Fame," a campus path flanked by stones from the birthplaces or homes of the world great. It now has over 600 markers from 29 countries, with no two stones alike.

OBITUARY

MARTIN, Joy - wife of Smilin' Jack, somewhere in a South American jungle after a long illness. Joy was the daughter of millionaire Silas Beaverduck and was estranged from her husband for several years, during which time she lived in a jungle and was known as the "Jungle Princess." Please omit flowers.

"SHAKY" - Suddenly and violently while attempting to escape from Dick Tracy. Working through "Snowflake," whom he hypnotized, this character made millions through burglary and fraud. Inasmuch as the body has not been recovered, there will be no funeral services.

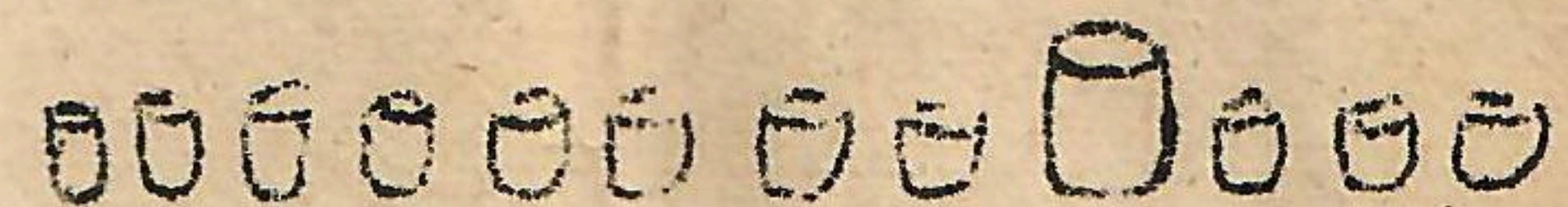
KENT, Clark - Woops, wait a minute - Superman got away again. Our mistake.



DETROIT, Mich - Possibility of flying buses and taxicabs at fares not to exceed those of present day ground vehicles was unfolded by James R. Kendrick of Lockheed Aircraft. He claimed 24 passenger busses could be built to return between one and two million dollars within a normal 10,000 hour life. "Aircab" hops as short as five miles could be made for five to 10¢ a mile.

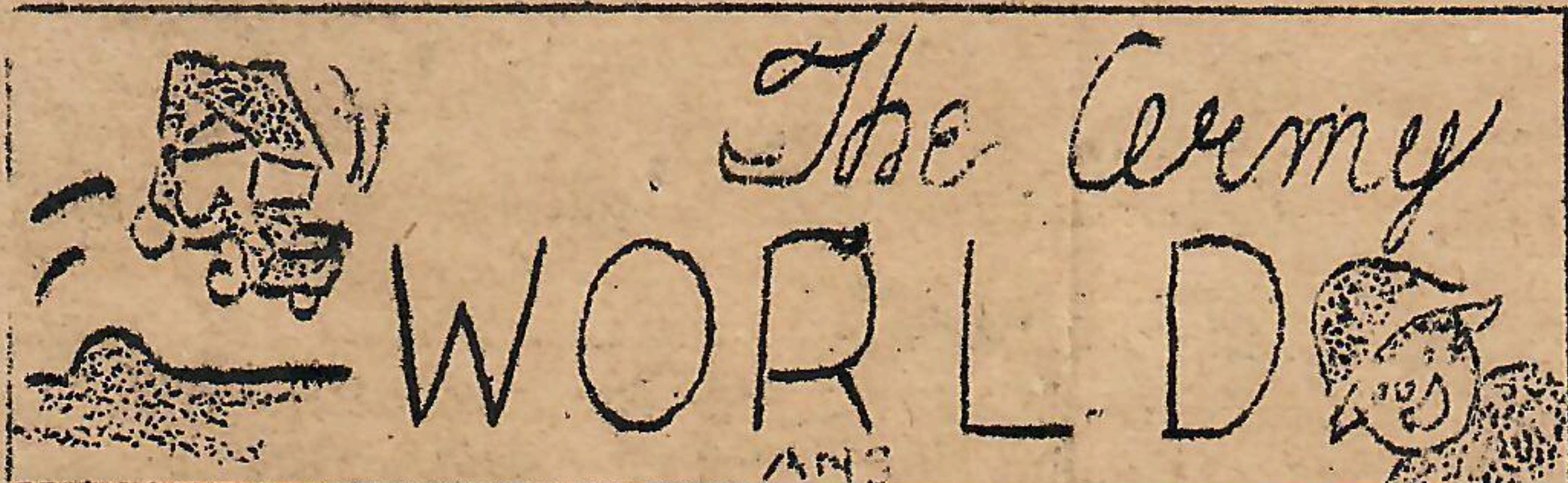


ATLANTA, Ga - Even a jail sentence shouldn't keep a fellow from making a decent living. Charlie Hill, 40, who's serving a 15-year term for burglary picked the lock of his Wilkes County convict camp each night, burglarized homes and stores, and then reentered the prison. He stored the loot in his locker and under his bunk, apparently intending to sell it to other convicts.



SAN ANTONIO, Tex - To speed up the collection of dimes for the infantile paralysis drive, a local hotel put up a glass jar for each state. There was also a 49th jar labeled "Brooklyn." The jar was added at the request of Brooklyn serviceman who asked, "Don't you know that Brooklyn is a state by itself?" "Know which collected the most? That's right."

PITTSBURGH - Mrs. E. R. Portas says she found an application to marry another woman in her husband's pocket. And so divorce.



A new type of range finder, the M-10, which gives deadly accurate control of 40 mm antiaircraft fires, has just been announced. It uses two telescopes to give two target images, one red and one blue. The gunner gets his bead by superimposing the two images until a natural color target is spotted. All firing data is supplied electrically and the entire battery of guns is aimed automatically. Ordnance claims it will be effective against robot bombs.

Did you know that your DSC's, Medals of Honors, and Purple Hearts are made by the U.S. Mint?

The following figures on the haul of prisoners by armies on the western front seems to substantiate reports that our 1st and 3rd have seen the most slugging. From D-Day—

U.S. 1st Army	241,217
U.S. 3rd Army	132,811
Canadian 1st	118,911
British 2nd	100,625
U.S. Seventh	85,968
French First	77,742
U.S. Ninth	61,708
Other French	20,000

The Seventh hit Southern France and missed Normandy, and the Ninth was just recently announced, so that accounts for the difference.

Proud boast of the men who built the Ledo Road, now supplying China, that theirs was "the toughest road construction job ever undertaken" is backed by W.D. release that they moved 13,500,000 cubic yards of earth, enough to build a solid wall 3 feet wide and ten feet high from New York to San Francisco.



PACIFIC WAR

(Continued from Page 4)

China Sea furthers the isolation of Japan from Asia. With this objective in mind, General MacArthur's Philippines-based bombers are coordinating with Admiral Nimitz's carrier planes and the 14th Air Force based in China to blast the China coast and cut the Jap supply route to her troops in the Outer Empire.

TURNING POINT

It was a good week in the Pacific — and a turning point. Perhaps the Japs were happy too. Holed up in the tunnels of Corregidor, in the ruins of Intramuros, and in the craters and caves of Iwo Jima, the Sons of Heaven were fighting to the last in traditional fashion, carrying out an expressed desire to die for their beloved Emperor.

BOOKS

Current Big Three lineup at nation's book stores is as follows:

FICTION		NON-FICTION	
Cronin's <u>Green Years</u>	Pyle's <u>Brave Men</u>	Winsor's <u>Forever Amber</u>	Brook's <u>World of W. Irving</u>
Graham's <u>Earth & High Heaven</u>	Welles' <u>Time For Decision</u>		

A.J. Cronin's story of a struggling young author is believed to represent his own experiences...The Winsor classic continues unabashed with Hollywood climbing on the bandwagon. 20th-Fox has announced a four million dollar technicolor screening a la Gone With the Wind and is planning a national search for an Amber. Looks like the Hays office will be staying up late.....
John Steinbeck's latest Cannery Row has climbed to seven on the sellers within two weeks of release. Many believe it's his finest, others compare it with Tortilla Flat, all agree that the story of whiskey loving workers is his most uncontroversial...Ernie Pyle's Brave Men has already been filmed and is waiting release...Lloyd Douglas will publish The Big Fisherman this spring. It is, naturally enough, the story of Simon Peter, and may finally knock the Robe from the popular sellers. It's number four again.....
 ...Publishers are planning wide increase in mysteries this year. Increased interest is official reason, but critics believe current mystery writing tops other types.

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NEW MODEL P-38 CAN DO ANYTHING

(ANS) -- A newer, faster P-38 Lightning-nicknamed the "On To Tokyo" model--has just been announced by War Department.

The new pursuit-bomber -- known officially as the P-38-L, carries a heavier bomb load than the early B-17 heavy bomber. Its fighting range has been boosted from 1,700 to 3,000 miles by auxiliary droppable gas tanks, and its fire power has been increased. The ship could be able to operate from bases on Iwo without difficulty.

575 MILES PER HOUR

According to the Army, the "On To Tokyo" model can carry 4,000 pounds of bombs -- that's 50 percent more than its previous top bomb load -- and its speed is in excess of 425 miles an hour. In power dives, it can hit a speed of 575 miles per hour.

Greatest improvements on the new model, say engineers, are the special wing flaps which enable the pilot to dive at speeds heretofore impossible. They control the flow of air below the wing without reducing the overall speed of the plane.

40,000 FOOT CEILING

In addition, the new P-38-L has a service ceiling of 40,000 feet, a stalling speed of 75 miles an hour, mounts four .50 caliber machine guns and a 20mm. cannon all in the nose instead of the wing, and can carry rocket mountings if desired.

Used for all kinds of missions, including treetop and masthead level strafing, tank smashing, photographic reconnaissance and bomber escort work, rocket firing, and glider towing, Lockheed now claims that the new model is the most versatile of all war planes.

— 10 BEST MODELS —

(ANS) Nation's magazine illustrators picked the movie stars most suitable for various types of sketches as follows:

- "Ideal small town girl" -- Jennifer Jones
- "Streamlined beauty" -- Esther Williams
- "Exotic, orchidacious" -- Hedy Lamarr
- "Startled fawn who tries her wings--" -- Judy Garland
- "Wind-blown" -- Katie Hepburn
- "Musical comedy or nightclub star" -- Ginger Rogers
- "The lorelei of Army" -- Lana Turner
- "Ideal for posing with cold bottle & a bird" -- Greer Garson
- "Dramatic double-take, two page spread" -- Bette Davis

The Foxhole Quiz

-ANS-

Any G.I. should be able to answer at least five of the following questions "as any fool kin plainly see." Can you? You won't have to look far for answers.

1. Who managed the Philadelphia Athletics before Connie Mack took over?
2. Baby chicken is a chick. Baby goose is a gosling. What's a baby pigeon?
3. When a farmer says his cow is FRESH, what does he mean?
4. There are nine planets. Name them.
5. Who was the last Republican President to serve two terms in the Whitehouse?
6. How many different Allied armies are now striking against the Germans on all fronts?
7. What was the song that Betty Grable made famous in a bathtub?
8. Who is the director of the Selective Service System?
9. Carol Ann may be Charlie Chaplin's daughter. Who is her mother?

* * *

A popular dame
Is Susie Snoots
She plays strip-poker
In one-piece suits A. Times

* * *

A cute little trick from St. Paul
Wore a newspaper dress to the ball,
The dress caught on fire,
And scorched her entire
Front page, sport section and all.
Army Times

* * *

A boy in long pants got on the street-car for a nickel; a lad in short pants got on for 3¢; A gal got on for nothing. Don't get noseey, bub; she had a transfer.

Answers: 1. No one, he's managed the Athletics over since they entered an League. 2. Squab. 3. He means she has just had a call. 4. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto. 5. Misses S. Grant; 6. 4 on Eastern, 7 on Western, 2 on Italian; 8. My Heart Tells Me; 9. Gen Lewis B. Hershey, of course.

TRUMAN TROUBLES SECRET SERVICE

Washington, It won't be long before President Truman gets a good talking to by the Secret Service. He, not being a man to worry folks unduly, likely will assent smilingly to their pleas for a little less moving about. But until the new Chief Executive gets used to the constant companionship of the Secret Service, there may be some new gray hair among those traditional guardians. When Pres. Truman makes up his mind to go somewhere, it takes more than arguments to stop him. And to the Secret Service agents, there is nothing so disturbing as a President on the move.

Russ to Paint town Red

San Francisco, A shipload of vodka, caviar and other Russian delicacies has been sent to San Francisco by the Soviet Government. They're for entertainment by the Russian delegation at the Peace conference. "It looks as though gay Soviet parties are in the making" said the AP. "Seems certain the Russ' delegation will set the entertainment pace."

* * * * *

First over the Czechoslovakian border, GIs stuck up a notice: "You are now entering Czechoslovakia, by courtesy of the 358th Infantry." Beneath it was added: "You may now fraternize, by courtesy of the same outfit."

This paper may be mailed



QUOTATION of the WEEK

"We are going to use every airplane we can against Japan. Even if it takes every plane now in Europe."
-- Gen. H. Arnold, CG U.S.A.A.F.

NEVER TRUST A TEST TUBE

Freeport, Ill - A 47-year-old woman in Freeport was named on Federal charges that she obtained money from a young soldier she had never seen by claiming she was the mother and he the father of two test tube babies that never existed. She obtained the soldier's name through a Lonely Hearts Club and began corresponding with him at his camp in California, representing herself as a 24-year-old woman and "something to look at." She induced the unwitting GI to become a party to the test tube experiment via mail. Recently the soldier became suspicious and discovered she was the mother of only one child -- a 21-year old son.

TWO WHEELS IN 5 YEARS

New York, (CNS) An "American Victory" automobile has been announced by builder John O. Heinze, 72, who worked for five years on the idea. The car features an unconventional arrangement of one wheel at each end of the frame and two on each side -- paddle wheel style. Synchronized front and rear steering mechanism allows the car to turn in its own length with front and rear wheels turning 60° either direction.

FLIP CHICK SLIPS

San Francisco (CNS) - "Hello, short and smooth, let's rip a hip," a teen-aged bobby-soxer said to Cpl Bill Peterson shortly after his return from the Pacific. Bill looked at the girl blankly, then replied: "Toxang yasame scocie shigots!" The bobby-soxer retired in confusion. "All I said," laughed Bill, was "Lots of rest and no work" -- in Japanese.

Port Chester, N.Y. - Reuben Wolf found grinning set of false teeth in the front seat of his car when he started to drive home the other night. He told the police his car was toothless when he left it the previous day.

The STAFF LINE



11th AIRBORNE DIVISION

Sunday, 13 May 1945

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Page 1

NEW LANDING ON MINDANAO

Manila, 12 May - In the third amphibious operation of the Mindanao campaign, elements of the 40th Division have landed on the north coast in the rear of enemy troops in Butuan province. The Japanese were caught by surprise and landing casualties were light. The objective of the new landing is to trap the main Japanese garrison on the island between the north coast and the 31st Division, now driving through the central valley.

31st Division troops yesterday cut the last eastward escape route of Japanese forces opposing the 24th Division in the Davao area. The 24th was reported to be gaining steadily against stiff resistance in its fight to drive out enemy forces near "Little Tokyo," but infantrymen face the tough job of driving enemy out of caves and other underground positions.

ARMOUR CRACKS NAHA DEFENSES

Guam, 12 May - American tanks on Okinawa yesterday carved out a 500 yard gain and plunged within 1000 yards of Naha City. Resistance before our armour was described as "desperate."

Earlier, F/A Nimitz reported a crossing of the Asa River estuary by 6th Division marines in a drive toward Naha. Still before the 6th Division is the wide, winding Asato River. On the left flank of American lines, infantrymen of the 77th Division won new ridge positions overlooking the city of Shuri.

Most of Okinawa, only 325 miles from Japan, is now operating as a base command. Maj. Gen. Fred Wallace, commanding the base, says his first job is to take care of the 105,000 Okinawan civilians already under Allied jurisdiction. He will also direct the work of turning the 65 mile long island into an island forward base.

MINE BLOCKADE STRANGLES JAP HOME WATERS

Guam, 12 May - In the largest mining blockade in aerial history, B-29 Superfortresses today are closing the harbors of Japan's principal cities.

Maj. Gen. Curtis LaMay, Chief of the 20th Bomber Command, announced that in a dozen mine laying missions during the past month the giant bombers have "polluted" the waters of Tokyo Bay, Nagoya Harbor, the Inland Sea, and Singapore Harbor.

The 20th Bomber command has dropped its mines on Japan's sealanes while fleets of other B-29s carried out diversionary raids against homeland factories. Each Fort carried 10 tons of mines.

NEW 300 FORT SMASH

Another crushing Superfortress blow was struck Nippon's homeland Friday when two fleets of bombers hit Kyushu airfields and an important naval base on Honshu. An estimated 300 planes took part in the mission, but results have not been announced.

In Thursday's record 400 plane assault against lower Japan, excellent results were attained against meagre resistance - smoke rising well above 5000 feet from flaming targets. All 400 Superforts returned to bases after round trips of 3000 miles.

"The Burma Roundup"

Calcutta, 12 May - Adm. Louis Mountbatten's "Burma roundup" of isolated Japs parallels prewar Asiatic animal hunts through the same area. Small liaison planes range over enemy controlled country driving individual Japs into groups by dropping hand grenades. British ground troops establish a semi-circular, well concealed perimeter and wait. Showers of grenades from the planes herd the forces of Nippon into the heart of the ground tenacles. Then the Tommies close in.

THE STATIC LINE

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Editors Sgt. James R. Squire Sgt. Franklin Escher, Jr. Ass't Cpl. Henry W. Youds

I & E OFFICER Major WILLIAM J. SCHLOTH

GERMAN OCCUPATION PLAN ANNOUNCED

Washington, 12 May - A special intelligence section will generally supervise the entire "de-Nazification" of Germany, it was announced by Sec. of War Henry Stimson. Announcing plans for United States occupational government, the Secretary said that each of the four major powers will administer a separate zone. Gen. Eisenhower will be the American representative on the control council. The U.S. control machinery will be divided into branches similar to the present German government's division of authority. There will be 12 major divisions, three of which will be military. Other branches will include Ministers of Economics, Reparations, Prisoners of War, and Manpower. A large Intelligence Department force will supervise the government.

TIMES SQUARE MEMORIAL

New York, Gen. Alexander Vandergrift, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, today unveiled a 50 foot statue in Times Square of the famous Iwo Jima flag raising. Gen. Vandergrift said the flag raising represented a meaning which includes the whole effort of the people of the United States. The 50 foot statue is a reproduction of the Pulitzer Prize winning photograph by Joe Rosenthal.

HIT PARADE

THIS WEEKS TOP TUNES: "Candy," "I'm Beginning to see the Light," "My Dreams are Getting Better All the Time," "Laura," "All of My Life," "Just A Prayer Away," "Dream When You're Feeling Blue," "Be Still for A Little While," "A Little On The Lonely Side."

HERMANN GOERING, interviewed by newsmen yesterday said the German High Command was completely suprised when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour in 1941

PERSIAN GULF TROOPS MOVED TO CHINA

Paris, 12 May - Large scale transfers of United States armed might from the European battlefronts is already underway. It was revealed today that service troops have moved from the Persian Gulf Area, where they helped supply Soviet Armies, to China. The troops were transported to Calcutta by water, to Ledo by railroad, and to Kunming, China, in a large truck convoy over the newly opened Burma-Ledo Road.

Some United States service troops are now en route to French ports for shipment to the Pacific and others have been alerted. The Service troops will be the first to go as they are needed to prepare the flow of combat veterans who helped defeat Germany. Combat troops will receive any necessary Pacific training in Europe while awaiting shipment.

POSSIBLE MASS TRIALS

London, 12 May - Four to five million Germans may be punished for war crimes, a Reuters dispatch said today. An Allied commission is now studying possible methods of group punishment. So great are the numbers of indicted Nazis that the establishment of large scale trial machinery is being speeded up by Allied governments. France yesterday demanded that German doctors who have performed "inhuman experimental surgery on Allied prisoner of wars" be tried as war criminals. The French also suggested the trial of Nazi scientist who had developed the flying bomb.

Handwritten scribbles above table. Table with columns: Nat'l League, R, H, E, American, R, H, E. Rows: BROOKLYN, ST LOUIS, NEW YORK, CINCINNATI, CHICAGO, PHIL., CHICAGO, BOSTON, CLEVELAND.

Table with columns: Nat'l Leading Batters, American Ldg. Btrs. Rows: Olmo, Ott, Holmes, Lyman, Cuccinello, Stephens, Dickshot, Etten.

Table with columns: Nat'l - HOME RUN HITTERS - Amer., Lgd. Base Stealer - Stole-10 bases. Rows: Ott 5, Lombardi 5, Weintraub 5, Stephens 4, Berry 4.

Stateme e/o PM, Ne been subs

The JUDAS STATIC LINE
Report from Germany

Germany,
April 17, 1945

Dear Fid --

Western Germany was beautiful with its castle and monument topped mountains, great forests and picturesque country side. We've come over excellent highways. Hitler's super-roadways called Reichsautobahns. Some of them are the last word in modern construction and design. We have been to a number of important places, most of which are in ruins. The city of Mainz on the Rhine was, I think the worst scene of destruction yet. Once the size of prewar San Diego, today there isn't a building in the city that isn't either totally or practically destroyed.

The number of German prisoners we are taking is fantastic. What is more fantastic is seeing German soldiers walking along the streets of the towns, wearing a white arm band denoting surrender. These, I suppose are stragglers that weren't picked up in our dash. They'll be taken care of eventually as soon as some outfit with facilities to do so comes along.

It is very easy to chalk up to propoganda the stories of horror and terror that come out of Germany, but this week we twice saw examples of the most horrible things imaginable. There are no words to describe or express it. We have visited two labor camps that held the Poles, Russians, French, Belgians, Czechs, Jews, German communists and yes, some Americans. Both camps are similar so a description of one is enough.

In the past three years, 200,000 have been confined in this one. None leave alive. When captured by the Americans there were some 20,000 remaining. Of that number there are 2,000 living skeletons lying on shelves in so-called barracks. They haven't the strength to move and were placed there to die. To see row on row of living dead is a sight that so sickens you it is difficult to refrain from crying and I don't mind telling you a good many of us were choked with emotion and more than once our knees grew weak. They have been starved systematically and scientifically and a few die hourly.

The shed in back was full of naked corpses, piled on one another- the bodies of those who died that day. In another section of the camp was a huge trailer piled high with the bodies of some who had been shot. On the ground is another pile. In the building close by are great ovens, built for the expressed purpose of burning human beings. One can still see skulls, hands, legs, spines, etc. in these ovens. In the basement are huge bins piled high with human bone ash.

One man, a Belgian, took us for a tour of the camp. He told us the S.S. troops were responsible for these scenes of horror, but that 90% of the Germans were as bad. 30,000 Jews had been killed several days before the Americans arrived. His last words were, "I hope you will tell the people of America what you have seen today." We will.

In rereading the above it sounds mild, Fid. As I say before there just aren't words to describe it.

This boy is in the office.

Best always,

Eck

Statements in the above letter were made by Cpl E. Linthicum, 3256 Sig Co, APO 403, c/o PM, New York to Sgt. W. Jones, 11th-Abn. The reports on Nazi prison camps have been substantiated by the Allied War Crimes Comm. & a Congressional Investigation.

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"Please, Hans - The time is past when you can woo me with a fish."

THE EVE POST

The Army WORLD

The Army is planning to drop airborne infantrymen and glider troops on 54 civilian and military airfields in the United States between May 15 and July 4. Objective? War bonds. The Army's latest techniques in airborne attack will be demonstrated to the American public as a feature of the forthcoming Seventh War Loan drive. Each unit will have 60 officers and men and eight aircraft. Scheduled events include dropping of supplies by parachute and the pick-up of a glider by planes in full flight.

THE "TROJAN HORSE"

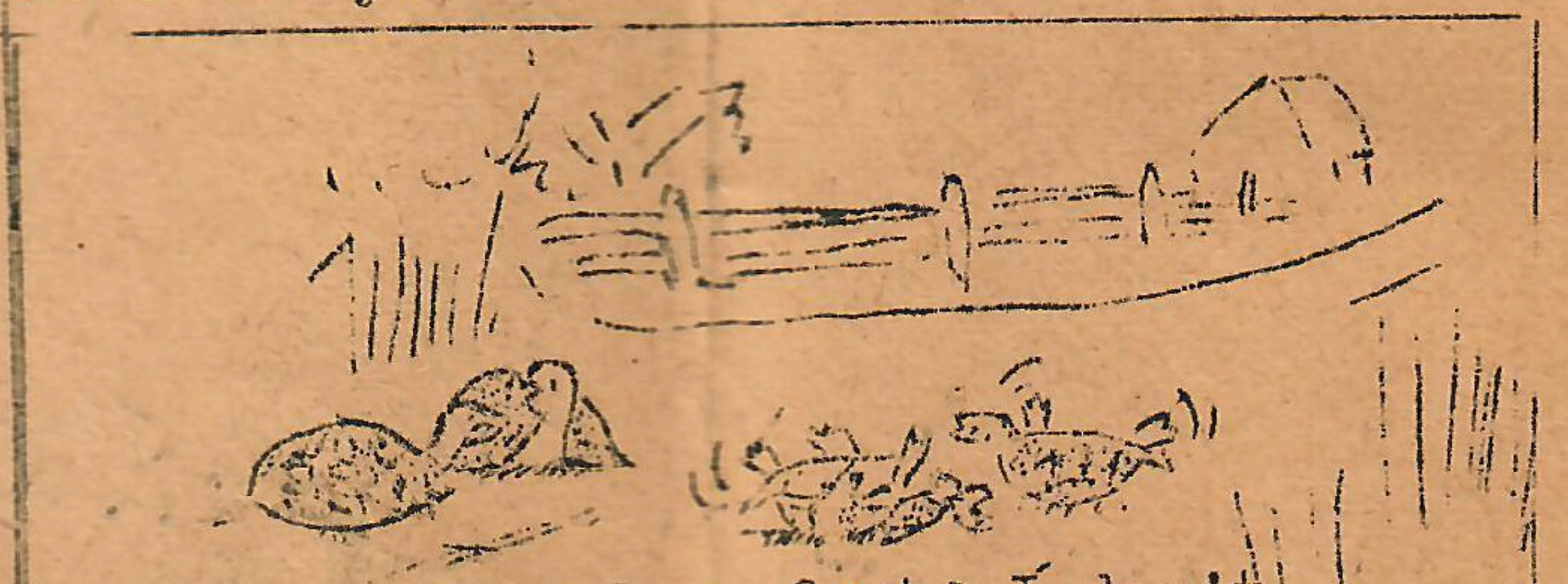
The biggest glider made in the United States, "The Trojan Horse," is being manufactured today at the Laister-Kauffmann Aircraft Corporation of St. Louis. This aerial giant, with a fuselage 67 feet long and a wing span of 105 feet, can carry 42 armed men. It can also carry a 155-mm. howitzer, several jeeps and even a two and a half ton truck.

From HARVARD to TOKYO

(CNS) - Innocent attempts of seven Harvard professors to rid their lawns of crab grass blossomed into a fire bomb which is now devastating Japanese cities.

Dr. Louis Feiser was working on incendiary bombs when his grass was plagued. He decided to use fire to burn away the weed. He then tried blowtorch, kerosene, plain gasoline -- but the crab grass resisted stubbornly. Finally Feiser found a substance that thickened the gasoline until it jellied. The lawn blazed furiously and the crab grass vanished.

From that the scientist and his six assistants developed the first successful formula for transferring ordinary gasoline into a vicious incendiary jelly, resembling orange gelatin. The invention is the Army's latest fire bomb: M-69 Oil, Incendiary.



"It all happened so fast, I don't know whose fault it was."

POSTWAR FLEET LARGEST IN WORLD

(ANS) - A combat fleet three times the size of America's prewar total, to number 1,191 fighting ships, has been submitted to Congress on recommendation of the House Appropriations Committee.

The fleet would be used to control the western Atlantic and the Pacific.

The reason for the increase, it was disclosed, is that the U.S. will end the war with 1,528 combat ships, escorts, and submarines. Of these, 337 obsolete ships will be scrapped or otherwise disposed.

The number of fighting ships to be retained - 1,191 - contrasts with the 342 which the nation is recorded as having shortly after Pearl Harbour.

Susie has a nice new skirt,
So neat, so bright, so choosy;
It never shows a speck of dirt,
But, gosh, how it shows Susie!
-Digest & Review

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IS STILL SECRET,
LACE - BUT YOU
HAVE A LOOK
AIRPLANE



Copyright 1945 by M...

THAT HOME FRONT

NEW YORK, One bus company tried to solve the transportation jam with this sign: "Move to the rear. This bus is so constructed that the rear end will arrive at your destination at the same time as the front end."

ROCHESTER, MASS- "There's gold in that thar field," someone cried, and the rush was on. Dozens of war workers at a nearby defense plant left their lunches and rushed to an adjoining vacant lot. In a matter of seconds, dirt was flying in all directions. Police appeared on the scene and they too joined in the digging. In a matter of minutes, the assembled "gold" miners unearthed 40 packs of cigarettes.

SEATTLE, WASH - Did you ever see a dream walking? They did. Two young women reported to the police that they dreamed a young man entered their bedrooms, uncovered the feet of one and kissed the other. They woke to find it was true. Miss Claire Rotering said she awoke after her dream to find her shoes sticking out from under the bedcovers. Miss Francis Keller said she awoke after the kiss to see a man in the room. After the man finished his cigarette, he left - taking \$117 with him.

CAMBRIDGE - The ribbon-line street that runs alongside two of Greater Boston's largest meat slaughter houses is named Gore Street.

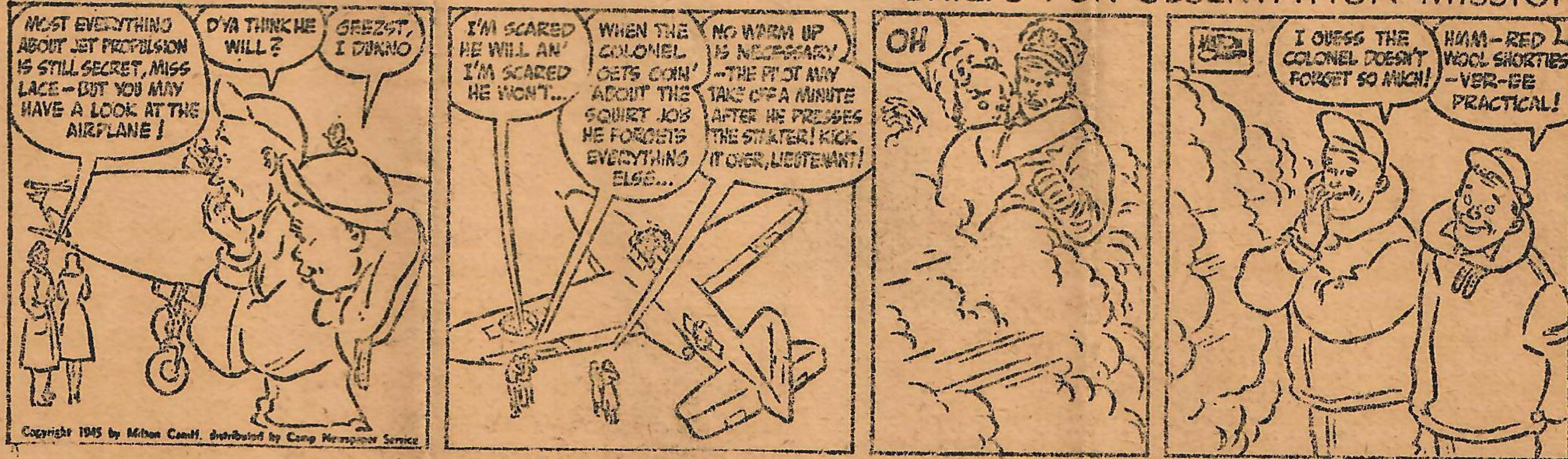


SAN FRANCISCO - Two lady street car conductors were arrested here recently. One had blasphemously bawled out a passenger. Another had slugged a passenger in the nose when asked to stop the car.

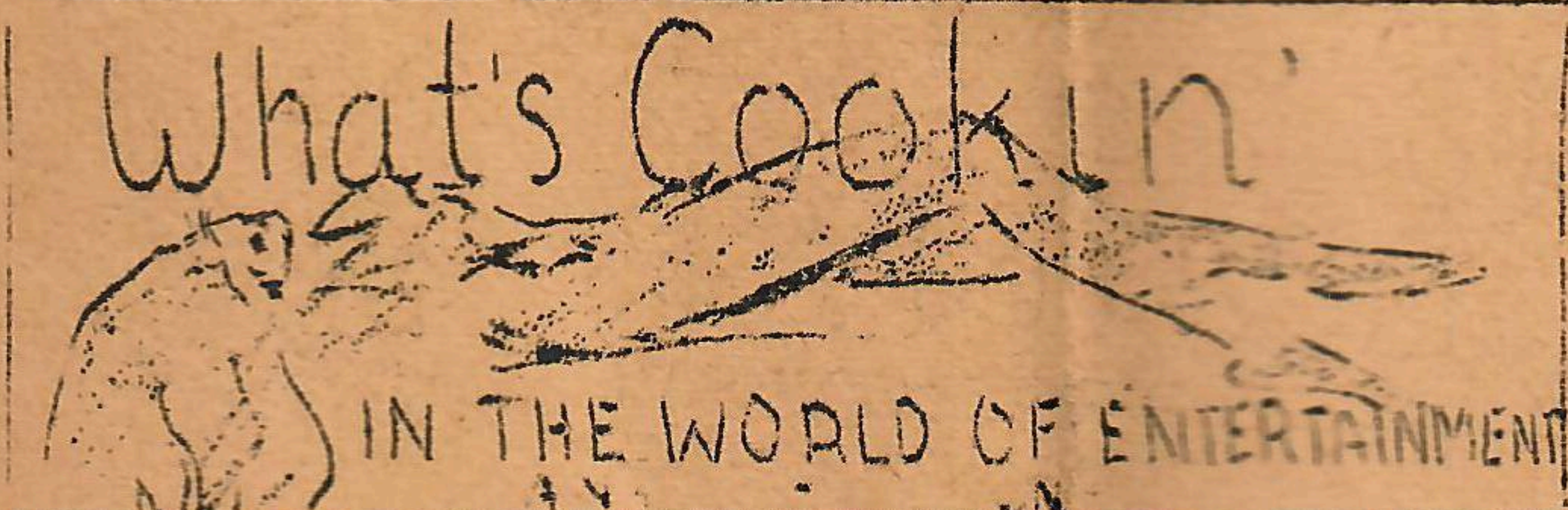
HELENA, MONT - An ad in the lost and found column of the Helena Independent said: "Found - a single key on ring with leather tab. Owner can recover on identifying same and shooting craps for one quart of straight bourbon. Bring loaded dice to match ours."

LOS ANGELES: A world's fair to celebrate California's Gold Rush will be hold in 1949.

MALE CALL by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates" BRIEFS FOR OBSERVATION MISSION



Copyright 1945 by Milton Caniff. Distributed by Camp Newspaper Service



When "Carousel" opened late in April, critics immediately compared it to "Oklahoma" and some said the new musical drama was even better. Despite songs, sets, & ballets -- it's essentially a tragic story -- an adaptation of Molnar's "Lillian."

When Milton Berle went into the Automat, he saw a man putting nickel after nickel into the coin slots of the pie windows. After the man had collected about 15 pies, Berle asked politely, "Don't you think you'd better quit now?" The drunk replied, "What? Quit now, when I've just hit a winning streak?"

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has received a number of offers to go on the air, and according to radio folk, if she can find a suitable sponsor, she will head her own program in the fall.

PERSONALITIES

Roy Rogers, Republic's "King of the Cowboys" will report to his draft board soon. Ditto Jon Hall...The gal said most likely to succeed with Clark Gable is still Virginia Gray....Joan Leslie makes "Janie Gets Married" - original Janie, Joyce Reynolds, has retired....Martin Block's latest discovery is Harry Frine, 25 year old baritone.... Maj. Edward Bowes has retired from radio participation....the Hollywood press says Dorothy Lamour and Rosiland Russell are feuding - their Easter hats were identical.Gene Tierney's next is the thriller, "Dragonwyck".....Martha Raye has announced a forthcoming Pacific tour.

THE LATEST

Woody Herman's record of "Caldonia" is the next big juke box favorite, experts on juke boxes say....Just when things were settling to a humdrum routine, a young woman with bare feet leaped into the scene and swept all honors at a Toscanini concert by giving an unscheduled one-woman ballet performance. The orchestra was playing, "Invitation to Dance."....Song title to end all - "Snake A Little Salt on the Bluebird's Tail" in the forthcoming Abbott & Costello picture...Marc Platon and Barbara McVoy who are scripting the life of Tchaikovsky, have been receiving letters from servicemen requesting them to include the 5th Symphony.....Rumor has it that the famous "Music for Margaret" program which broadcast propaganda to the Germans was none other than Marlene Dietrich, on a permanent overseas USO tour for duration.

TECHNICOLORED SONG TOPS FILM LIST

Beginning with this issue, The Static Line will attempt to evaluate the week's pictures in accordance with the following scale:



A SONG TO REMEMBER - Cornell Wilde & Merle Oberon in a fictional biography of Chopin. Jose Iturbi's music, but stay home if you like it hot. Technicolor.

BRAZIL - The weeks unknown quantity with Virginia Bruce. Doubtful.

PRINCESS & PIRATE - Bob Hope's technicolored pirate picture.

LOST IN A HAREM - If you don't like Abbot & Costello you might look at Marilyn Maxwell. We've had it before.

LAKE PLACID SERENADE - Skating by Vera Hruba Ralston with Vera Vague. Republic.

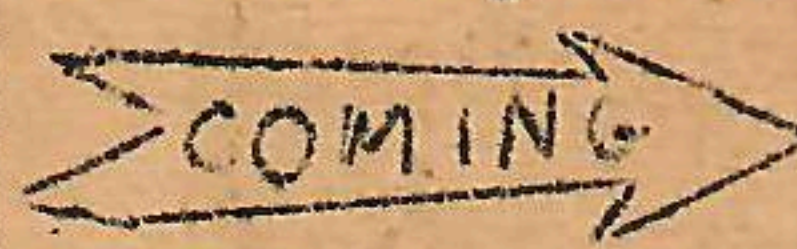
EXPERIMENT PERILOUS - Hedy Lamarr & Paul Lukas in a gaslight thriller.

TAHITI NIGHTS - Hollywood's version of tropical life. Jinx Falkenberg.

THE WEEK'S SCHEDULES

Date	BRAZIL	TAHITI NIGHTS	BLONDE FEVER
Sunday	Div Hq	187th	Div Arty
Monday	221st	152nd	457th
Tuesday	511th	Div Arty	675th
Wednesday	188th	457th	674th
Thursday	408th	675th	127th
Friday	187th	674th	
Saturday	152nd	127th	

Date	PRINCESS & PIRATE	LOST IN HAREM	EXPER. PER.	SONG TO REMEMBER
Sunday	511th		675th	
Monday	188th		674th	
Tuesday	408th	Div Hq	127th	
Wed.	187th	221st		
Thurs.	152nd	511th		
Fri.	Div Arty	188th		Div Hq
Saturday	457th	408th		221st



Starts Friday, May 25th
A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN

AMBITIOUS CALIFORNIA

San Francisco, a campaign to make San Francisco permanent headquarters for the proposed International Organization similar to Geneva, Switzerland following the last war, has been started by the Lyons Club of the "Golden State." State legislature is considering offering proposal.

ALBERT D. CHANDLER baseball's new Commissioner

(ANS) Stocky, jovial Albert D. (Happy) Chandler, Senator from Kentucky, has been appointed Commissioner of Organized Baseball to succeed the late Judge Landis.

The new commissioner has been interested in baseball ever since he was old enough to play on the corner lot. In high school he started out as a catcher, but switched to pitching and the outfield at Transylvania College, Lexington, Ky.

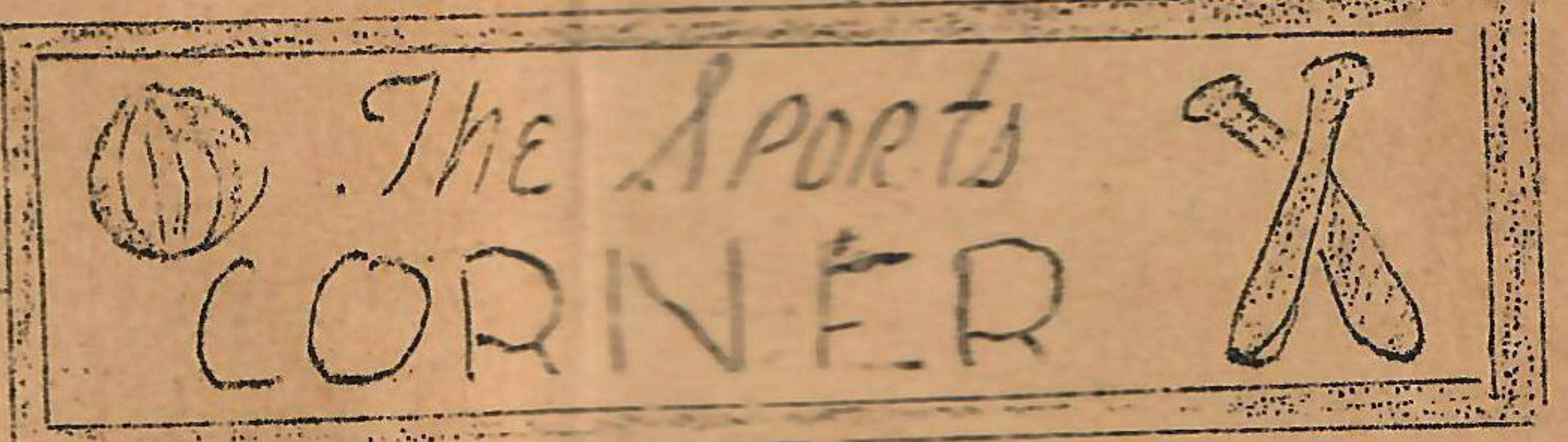
One year the five foot, ten inch Senator had a modest .467 batting average and pitched his little school to a 10-4 victory over the University of Tennessee.

"12 OUT OF 15"

In 1920, he pitched 13 games, winning 12, for a semi-pro team at Grafton, N.D. That won him a berth with the Lexington Reds in 1921 and the Lexington Club of the Blue Grass League in 1922.

"Happy Chandler" turned from athletics to politics in 1929. He became Governor of Kentucky in 1935 and was sent to the U.S. Senate in 1939.

With the appointment of the horse-loving, liquor-obtaining Senator as commissioner, baseball enters a new era. Chandler says he must be guaranteed the right to rule as sternly as Landis did -- but he'll find that impossible. With one sweep of the pen last winter, baseball brass hats clipped off a good deal of the power with which the commissioner's office was equipped.



The merger of the Brooklyn pro football Tigers with the Boston Yanks and the decision to play all games but one in the Hub City was only a temporary lull in the battle of the Tigers to get into Yankee Stadium as home ground. Tom Gallery, Tiger manager said, "In 1946 we will operate in Yankee Stadium either as a member of the National League, or, if necessary, as a member of one of the new circuits."

One of the reasons the Coast Baseball League thinks it should be another major loop or at least have a couple of teams in the big time is that four of the PCL clubs of 1944 outdrew a team in the majors. It drew more than double the attendance of the American Association, the mid-western AA that used to be considered the circuit that played closest to major league ball.

PERSONALITIES

Sammy Snead and Byron Nelson will play their 72 hole charity golf match either 26-27 May or 23 June.... Jimmy Goodrich, one-time lightweight champ, now runs a high-class gin-mill outside Buffalo, New York... Stanley Frank, the former New York Post sports columnist went overseas for a few months to report on whether soldiers have any interest in athletics, says that 90 percent of the men in foreign service don't give a hoot about any kind of sport. His recent speech to the effect brought such a gang of letters and comments, that Frank is now winding up on the straight news staff of the Post.

LEAGUES AND INNOVATIONS

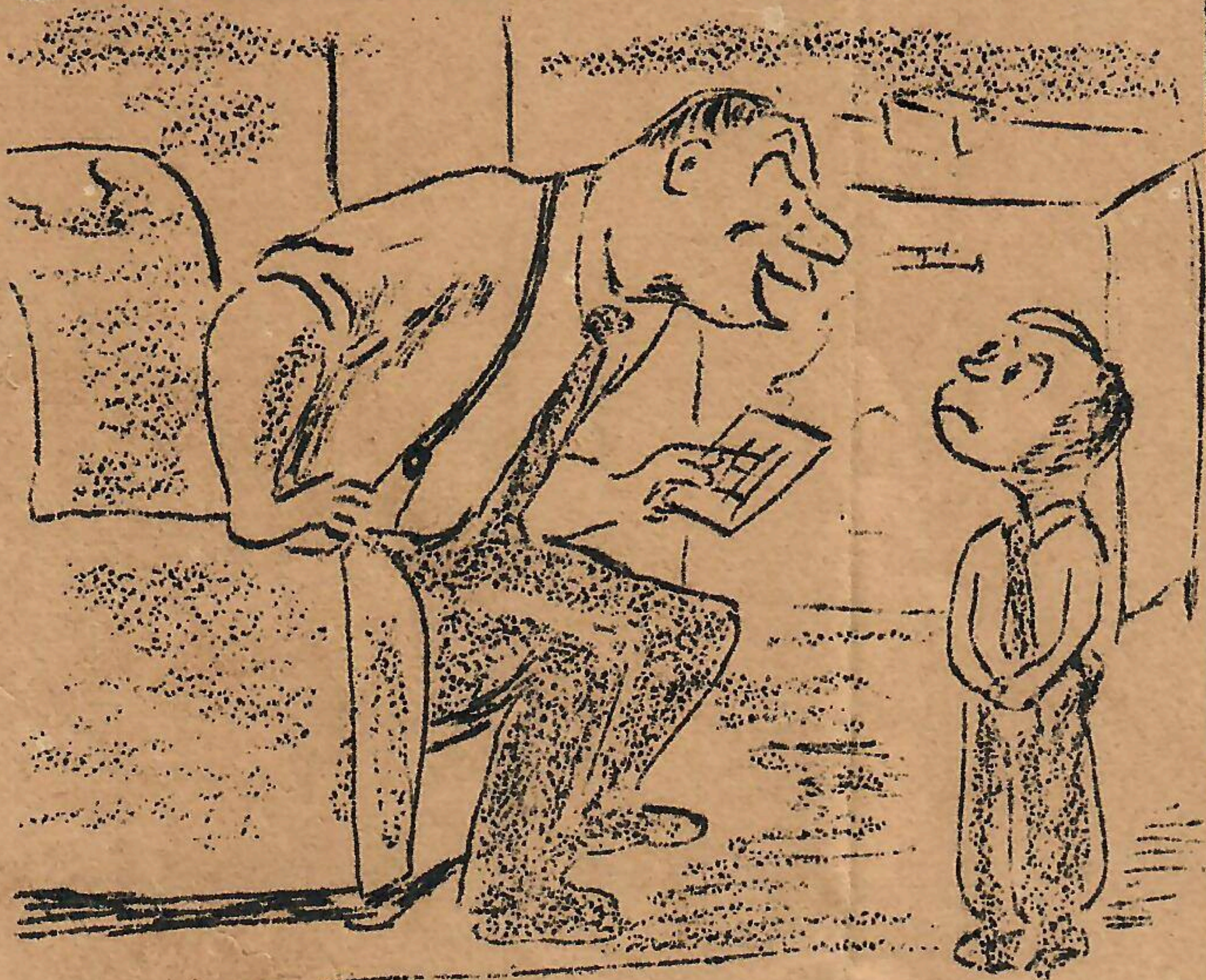
New Jersey has passed a new law allowing men from that state in the armed service to hunt and fish within the state without a license.... Joe Louis is now a T/Sgt. Only a couple of weeks ago, the papers were conducting a series of drives asking why Joe couldn't be commissioned. Louis himself made calls on the various editors and asked them to kindly leave that to him as he had no desire to be commissioned.... Billy Jurges' holdout session with the New York Giants cost him the Field Captaincy and the extra half grand that went with it. Mel Ott has been handling that job in addition to his playing-manager chores and may not appoint a new field leader this year.... West Point is plenty hot at the NY Giants for selecting star Barney Poole in the annual draft in hopes he will flunk out.

THE WOLF

by Sansone



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"Too bad the Boarda Education don't give marks for pitching pennies and window breaking!"
 — NEW YORKER —

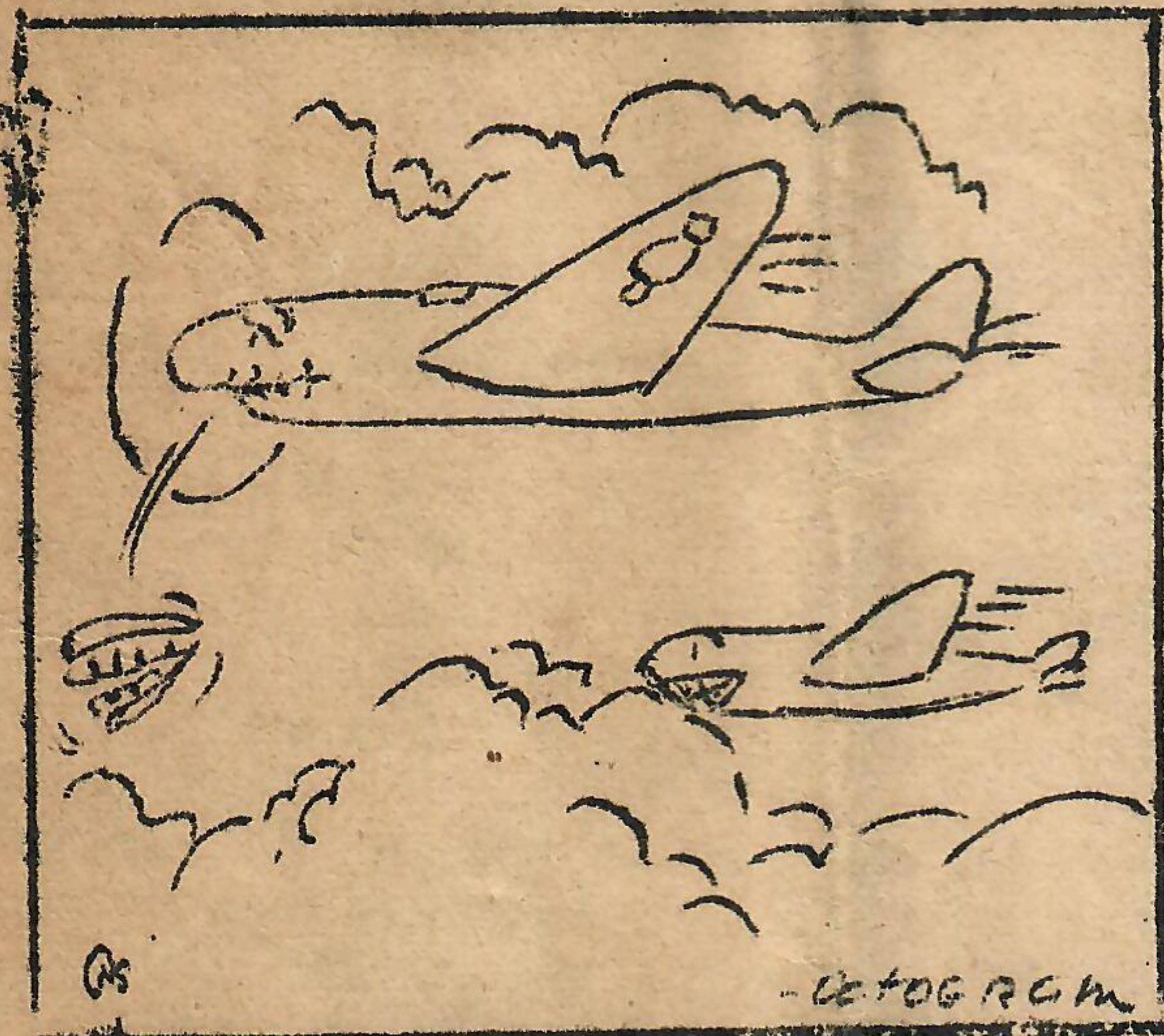
Private: "My girl friend has been a chor-
 us girl in New York City for two years."

Pfc: "What shows?"

Private: "Practically everything."

With bathing suits as they are, a cutie
 in one has everything to gain and nothing
 to lose.

Sweater girls make excellent school
 teachers. They outline things so clearly.



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Test Your Ignorance

by S/Sgt M. J. Scura

ACROSS

DOWN

- 1. Something you don't want to get
- 10. staffs
- 14. a color.
- 17. something delicious
- 21. Discombobulated.
- 26. Baby goat.
- 29. A cow chews this.
- 33. Conjunction.
- 34. Clara Bow had this
- 36. Eleanor hates it.
- 39. Publicity man (abbv)
- 43. The trouble with men.
- 48. Prefix meaning out.
- 50. The sixth note.
- 52. Direction (abbv)
- 54. Reckless.
- 59. Pinup star of Summer Storm (abbv)
- 61. _____ blanche.
- 67. Type of engr. (abbv)
- 71. Sensations of the Luzon campaign.
- 2. Stepped
- 3. File.
- 4. adj. suffix
- 5. To inspire confidence.
- 7. Period of time.
- 8. To plant anew.
- 9. 11th took it.
- 16. He argues with umpires.
- 18. Strike.
- 22. A state (abbv.)
- 29. Arrived
- 36. Astonishment
- 47. The "9 old men" vetoed this.
- 55. Military law (ab)
- 59. Hawaiian garland
- 61. What newlyweds do.

ANSWER IN
 TOMORROW'S
 STATIC LINE

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This copy of The Static Line may be mailed as a souvenir.

FROM _____

TO: _____

STAMP