WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS—

Nazis Fall Back in Belgium As Yanks Stem Offensive Threat; Living Costs Show Small Gain

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysis and not necessarily of this newspaper.

Lt.-Gen. Mark Clark, commander of all Allied forces in Italy, points out former German positions on Gothic line to delegation of visiting congressmen.

EUROPE:
Bulge Shrinks

With 26 of the U. S.' 44 divisions reported in action against the German leader in Belgium, Nazi Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's great winter blow appeared blunted, with field dispatches indicating that he was pulling his lines back.

But four miles from the Meuse river and 23 miles from Sedan at the peak of their offensive, the German lines shrank sharply as Lieut. Gen. George Patton's 3rd army swung up from the Saar to attack from the south and Lieut. Gen. Courtney Hodges' 1st army recovered its balance to slash in from the north.

Von Rundstedt's withdrawal movement was favored by the rapid retrain, for, in surprise of the 1st army on December 16, he chose the rough and hilly Ardennes countryside.

As Von Rundstedt tried to pull in his forces under the heavy pressure of the 3rd and 1st armies, he sent out swarms of Nazi planes to blind at airdromes behind the lines in an attempt to prevent the support Allied air arm from raking his moving columns. Even so, assuming U. S. fighter-bombers and bombers signed up enemy armor and trucks.

With U. S. pressure on the Saar relieved by the switch of Lieut. Gen. Patton's forces, the Germans went on the offensive against Lieut. Gen. Alexander Patch's 7th army on the southwestern end of the front, sending small guns against stiff Yank resistance.

Ruin of a City

As both sides disregarded a plea from Pope Pius XII to withdraw from the city and spare mankind the horror of bombardment, house-to-house fighting reduced the once beautiful Hungarian capital of Budapest to a shambles, with fanatical Axis troops resisting Russ advances.

Budapest's streets reverberated with gunfire, as self-propelled artillery and tanks rumbled down thoroughfares, swung sharply around corners, and opened point-blank fire on opposing units. Sharpshooting from cellars, Axis troops linked themselves up by breaking holes through adjoining walls.

Hitler Talks

Declaring "... in this war the German people cannot be reconciled to their knees by strength of arms nor will there again be a 9th of November, 1918 ..." a subdued but defiant Adolf Hitler told a gathering Reich on New Year's day that the end of the war will not come before 1946, unless by a Nazi victory.

Said the fuehrer: "... Except for the Jews, nobody in the Allied camp knows for what he is fighting. But the aims for which we are fighting are clear to all of us. It is the survival of the German people, it is our fatherland, it is our 2,000 year old culture, it is the children and grandchildren of our people ..."

Referring to the attempt on his life last summer, Hitler said: "... The 20th of July brought about at the fronts and military consequences ... Nevertheless the day has become a turning point in Germany's destiny because the attempt to annihilate the German people's social state by a plot hatched at the most bitter struggle has failed ... and I am in a position to assure you that this was the last attempt of its kind ..."

'Forgotten Front'

With all attention focused on the great battle being fought in western Europe, Italy, it seems, is the "forgotten front" of the present world war.

Despite the overshadowing of the Italian sector, it is still one of the most bitterest of the war, with Allied gains measured in yards and at a heavy cost of men against a fanatical foe cleverly dug into the mountainous terrain, and giving ground only after painful approaches to his position.

—ADVERTISING PAYS—

FOOD STOCKS:
At Pre-War Levels

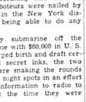
Although not as high as in similar periods since 1942, food stocks through the first three months of 1945 should be sufficient to provide civilians with supplies equal to the prewar levels, the U. S. department of agriculture reported.

Potatoes and butter supplies will be below prewar figures, the USDA said, with meat, lard and fresh vegetables about average, while stocks of fluid whole milk, canned dairy products, eggs, fish, margarine, cereals, dry peas and citrus fruits should assure high consumption rates.

Although at prewar levels, supplies of meat during the first three months of 1945 will be substantially below corresponding wartime periods, USDA said, with less investment, less production and less military requirements cutting into supplies.

LIVING COSTS:
Small Gain

Effectiveness of the nation's price control in combating inflation is reflected in the fact that although national income rose to 155 billion dollars in 1944 and there was a sharp reduction in the stocks of consumers goods prices only increased 2 per cent, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins declared.



Frances Perkins

Because of substantial boosts in 1941 and 1942, however, when a rising business activity brought up the general level of depression prices, she declared, they increased 28% per cent since the outbreak of war, Miss Perkins said.

"Even though the price rise is less than half as great as during the First World war," Miss Perkins stated, "an advance of nearly 30 per cent is dangerous. The rise in cost to families with very low incomes has been severe ... and because of the disappearance of low-priced merchandise and because of the rise in food prices ...."

PACIFIC:
U. S. Goals

Even as U. S. aerial forces stepped up their attacks on enemy shipping and installations in the Philippine islands preliminatory to a resumption of the offensive, Japanese in that last great bastion were being maintained. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz told a Pearl Harbor press conference that it would be necessary to occupy Japan to win the war.

"I think that the only sure play is to assume we must invade their home islands and line up our forces accordingly," the admiral said.

With American advances in the Pacific, Admiral Nimitz indicated, Jap war industry was faced with strangulation through increased attack on its supply lines bearing raw materials from southern Asiatic conquests and through bombardment of factory areas.

To step up such bombardments, Admiral Nimitz reported that new bases in the Philippines was a landing on the Chinese coast to establish air bases for hitting the enemy's homeland.

MISCELLANY

Again, shipbuilding leads all heavy industry in the earnings of its workers, the average hourly wage rate in the industry being about $1.32, while weekly earnings in a recent month were $63.60 on an average work week of 47.6 hours. Payrolls for the year in private shipyards will approximate $5,762,000,000 shared by workers in almost every state.

BUY U. S. WAR BONDS

U. S. SPENDING:
At Peak

With the government spending 59 billion dollars on the war alone, total U. S. expenditures reached 97 billion dollars in 1944 to establish an all-time record, preliminary figures showed. This compared with the outlay of less than 10 billion dollars in 1939.

In addition to spending more than at any other time in the nation's history, the government also collected more at 45 billion dollars and borrowed more than 53 billion dollars. For the first time, three war loan drives were held in one year.

Deducting the amount collected from that spent, the government wound up the year with a deficit of 52 billion dollars, to bring the total national debt up to 222 billion dollars. The 1944 figure of 52 billion dollars, however, was about 14 billion dollars less than the deficit in 1943.

TRAIN WRECK:
48 Killed

Slowed up by a freight train stalled by mechanical trouble, the Southern Pacific railroad's Pacific Limited with 200 persons aboard was creeping through the early morning over the Salt Lake marshes near Ogden, Utah, when a 20-car mail and express train roaring behind crashed into its rear, throwing coaches along the 40-foot causeway like jumbled links in a chain.

Casualties showed 48 persons killed and 81 injured as rescue workers cut through the twisted wreckage to remove the victims, many of

Injured soldier lifted from train wreck.

whom were service personnel en route to duty after spending holiday furloughs.

Because of the shallow marshlands below the causeway, automobiles, diesel and fire trucks had a scene, complicating rescue operations, and injured were removed by train for treatment.

NAZI AGENTS:
Seized by FBI

Trained in the ure of high explosives, photography, and radio operation in Germany and Holland, seven Nazi saboteurs were nailed by FBI agents in the New York district before being able to do any damage.

Landed by submarine off the coast of Maine with $90,000 in U. S. currency, forged birth and draft certificates and secret inks, the rural saboteurs were making the rounds of New York and Jersey in an effort to pick up information to radio to Germany at the time they were nabbed.

According to the FBI, one of the saboteurs had served in the U. S. navy, seaman named William Curtis Colepaugh, alias William C. Caldwell, who was discharged from service early in 1943 because of surgeries he had had previously to undergo.

Arrest of the two saboteurs brought to 33 the total apprehended by FBI agents after landings from submarines, and all having been caught previously after alighting in Florida, with six of them subsequently executed.

MANPOWER BARREL:
To Scrape Bottom

Uncle Sam will have to scrape the bottom of the barrel for manpower to meet production and military requirements in 1945, War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes told a New Year's press conference, declaring that there would be "no slackening in" orders, employment ceilings and restrictions on civilian output may not be sufficient to meet all labor needs.

With the army increasing its call for replacements and thus further draining the manpower pool, Byrnes said the drafting of the nation's 8,000,000 4-F's for industry or essential military duty would help maintain war production and release more active servicemen for fighting. Because the largest remaining source of young men is in agriculture, he said, the basis for farm deferments may have to be further limited.

Terming government seizure inadequate, Byrnes asked for a strengthening of the War Labor board's authority to enforce its decisions on both capital and labor, so as to prevent the loss of production through work disturbances.

MEDICAL MARVEL

Weighing but 1½ pounds at birth, tiny Elizabeth Ann Seyman, born in San Diego, Calif., here grows to 3 pounds, 6 ounces within 65 days in one of the strangest cases in medical annals.

Confined to an incubator where physicians intend to keep her until she weighs 5 pounds, little Elizabeth has been relatively strong and able to kick about freely from birth, though only one out of a 100 babies a little over her weight have a chance of living at delivery.

Improved Uniform International SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By HAROLD T. LYNCH, D. D. Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for January 14

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JESUS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 2:12—4:11.
GOLDEN TEXT—Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.—Luke 4:8.

Ready for service—this is the main scene from our Lord's life which comes before us in Matthew 3. Thirty years had passed since His birth, but these are hidden in silence, save for one or two glimpses of Him in the temple which is given only by Luke.

These were not years of idleness or luxury. He was obedient to Joseph and Mary. He worked in the carpenter shop, He followed most closely the precepts made by Moses and recorded in the Old Testament. He lived a life of prayer. He was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. Then at last, at the age of 30, His public ministry was at hand.

Trials, sorrow and temptation were a part, the opening event, of that ministry. We find them:

I. Identified With Sinners (3:13-15)

John, the fiery forerunner of Jesus, had come with a burning message of repentance, and sinners were flocking to his baptism as a sign of their contrition.

Suddenly Jesus appeared. John recognized in Him as the "Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). What He offered Himself for baptism, John protested, saying that he was not in Jesus that He should need baptism.

There was one reason for Him to express in a special act His obedience, for He always did the will of His Father.

Why then was Jesus baptized? The Holy Spirit gives the general purpose for which He came into the world, and we have sinners there at His official entrance upon that ministry. He knew no sin, for sin was to become sin for us, took the sinner's place in humanity. He was to be the Lamb of Himself sinned, but because He was to become the substitute for sinners. What was a serious condescension and grace!

II. Approved as From God (3:16, 17)

The Holy Spirit, like a dove, rested upon Him. The dove is one of the symbols of the Spirit, and speaks of gentleness, meekness, purity, peace and love.

Out of the eternal dwelling places in heaven came the voice of the eternal Father expressing His approval and complacency in His Son. The person and work of Christ bear their own commendation of Him to us as divine. Here we have the Father's word, and the Holy Spirit's comment. What we have here is the

III. Tempted by Satan (4:1-11)

A time of testing was ahead. Jesus did not fear it, but He knew that He would not seek it either. He was led by the Spirit into this great conflict with the devil. Note that we need not seek nor put ourselves in the way of temptation, but when it comes we may meet it without fear. God is with us.

He was tempted as the Messiah and the Son of God, and in each case He drew from which we need to learn what to do when tempted. It was threefold: physical, spiritual and vocational.

1. The Physical Temptation. Forty days of conflict with Satan made His body hungry. Under such circumstances it was a terrible temptation to use His power to make bread. He could have done it, but He did not. One doesn't have to live, but one does have to obey and honor God.

Note how effectively Christ used Scripture (from Deuteronomy—have you read it lately?). It is the only sure answer to Satan's temptations, but you must learn it if you are going to use it.

2. The Spiritual Temptation (4:5-7). Satan would lead Jesus to act on the grace of God. If he cannot get you to abandon trust in God, he will urge you to go to some fanatical and unscriptural extreme in order to trust.

God always cares for His own when they are in the place where He wants them to be but He does not deliver us from foolhardy and unnecessary risks which we want to call "faith."

3. The Vocational Temptation. Christ had come into this world to wrest from Satan, the usurper today, is now the prince of this world (John 12:31), the kingdoms of this world. Satan suggested to Him that He could accomplish this simply by bowing down to him—thus escaping Calvary's cross.

Satan is busy urging men to take spiritual bypaths. He has the devil's short cuts, while skillfully evade and avoid the cross. They have a religion that is without the centrality of the cross, but, mark it well, it is not Christianity, even though it bears that name.

Jesus met and defeated Satan by the use of Scripture, and by honoring God the Father. Jesus' resistance of the devil caused him to go away. It still works. Read James 4:7. Then came the angels to minister to Him. Victory over the enemy of our souls brings peace and spiritual refreshment.

Buy More War Bonds.

NEWS IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION
By W. W. REID

Six church leaders, from six different nations, presented a series of missionary dramatizations from Toronto, Canada, on Sunday, Jan. 7, initiating a trend 'in religious broadcasting that in the world will lead way from sermons and addresses as the only means of presenting church activities on the air. The dramatizations were presented over the C B S "Church of the Air" program at 1 p. m., EWT, in connection with the annual meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, then in session in Toronto. They were based upon presentations made by Moderator Jesse H. Arnup of the United Church of Canada; Miss Mabel E. Emerson, of the American Board, Boston; Bishop Edwin F. Lee of the Methodist Church in Singapore and Manila; Robert H. Goforth, M.D., of Hiraj Medical Center, India; Tung-Yueng Fong, Chinese educator, and Miss Simone Cauvier, a native of Sierra Leone, West Africa.

"The alternative to the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, as revealed by the coming conference of nations, is the return to the old order of international organization the alternative to no world security at all," said the United Nations for International Friendship Through the Churches Conference of North America, composed of many leaders of churches throughout the country, urging the United States government to give assent to the proposals, and to permit its representative on the Security Council to pledge its support to the use of force to stop the aggression of nations.

"The threat of conscription as a permanent institution is today the heart of the issue," declared Dr. Roy G. Ross, the American Friends Service Committee executive secretary, in Philadelphia. "Wherever conscription has flourished, freedom of the press, of speech, and of assembly has been curtailed, and free pulpit. Those freedoms which we have known in this country, and are under attack in two-thirds of the world today, are inseparably bound up with conscription."

Dr. Ross declared that democracy and conscription are incompatible, and which I believe in God. We must choose between them. Democracy is based on the Bible teachings. Dedicate Saturday Night to the study of the Bible. Read it with the help of concordance and in reverence to know the message of God to man.

BIBLE QUESTIONS
ANSWERED BY THE
VOICE of PROPHECY
INTERNATIONAL BIBLE BROADCASTER

Question—What about the Bible statement in the first chapter of Genesis that all living things always bring forth after their kind?

Answer. It is scientifically true. Dr. Millerurey Conquered, in the Society for the Study of Creation, the Deluge, and Related Sciences, offers a wealth of the views of top-flight bird-gists during the last twenty-four years, says that the trend is more and more toward recognition of the immovable fact that each species has been created by the direct act of God. "Have you any knowledge of plant men ever been discovered?

Ans.—In the Science column of Time magazine for July 3, 1944, it was reported that a discovery in Java had discovered such bones—supposed to be of men "much larger than those of men."

Q.—What is meant by the "white horse" in Revelation 21:8 it is called the "pale horse" in which the wicked "have their part." In 2 Peter 3:7 it is called the "present heavens and earth" and also Malachi 4:1.

A.—That is meant by "white horse, the Lamb's wife," in Revelation 21:8?

A.—The answer is in the next verse: "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that holy city, the Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." Revelation 21:10.

Q.—What does the last word in the Bible mean?

A.—The last word in the Bible is "amen," which means "be it so" or "let it be so."

Q. — Who were the Edomites, and where is Edom?

A.—The Edomites were the descendants of Esau, the elder brother of Jacob. Edom is a rocky district southeast of Judea. See Genesis 36:18, 43.

Q.—Can God see us in the dark as well as in the daytime?

A.—Hear what the psalmist in Psalm 139:11, 12: "If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee."

Rt. Rev. Albert Ward Donaldson, the BIBLE QUESTION COLUMN, The Voice of Prophecy, Box 55, Los Angeles 53, Calif. Bible questions of general interest will be answered in this column as space permits.

The American Way
GOD MUST PREVAIL
By George Peck

By DR. ALFRED P. HAAKE
EDITOR'S NOTE: Alfred P. Haake, Ph.D., is a noted Economist, Business Consultant, Lecturer and Author.

The spreading curse of the world is Statism — a pagan doctrine that denies God is the ultimate Ruler and Refuge. It is the doctrine that underlies Communism, Nazism, Fascism and the various forms of socialism found in the world today. It leads to totalitarianism and the substitution of Government for God.

Under this doctrine the citizen, or subject, has only such rights as the State, or ruling government, accords to the individual and these rights may be curtailed and even revoked at the will or pleasure of the State, usually exercised by individual dictators who run the government.

Since the Government, under Statism, presumes only such rights as it will accord to the individual, it is in direct conflict with our own American doctrine that man is born with rights direct from God, and that these rights are inalienable, that its citizens cannot destroy those rights. Instead a dictator is appointed who tells us what rights we may exercise or how much freedom we may have, and are renewed as occasion from time to time arises, or as the dictator sees fit in government.

Indeed, in the absence of God, there is no basis for freedom. Freedom is the very breath free in the Bible, definitely stated in the Bible, and contains very valuable instructions regarding the future of Russia as well as the future of Russia as well as the future of Russia as well as