WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Yanks Clash with Japanese in Major Battle of Philippines; Act to Solve Manpower Problem

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

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Captured enemy film shows Adolf Hitler, surrounded by his party officials, trooping ruins of German village devastated by war.

PACIFIC:
Decisive Battle

Three years before, Gen. Douglas MacArthur had left Luzon in a small torpedo boat in the dead of night, with the Japanese breaking the last shred of U. S. resistance in the Philippines.

But he returned in a brilliant comeback, pulling hard on his corncob pipe at the rail of an American warship, one of 800 vessels in a 70-mile-long convoy which poured thousands of troops and tons of supplies on the sandy beaches of Lingayen gulf in northwestern Luzon, 120 miles from Manila.

Coming shortly after the U. S. conquest of Leyte island to the southeast, General MacArthur's latest invasion was a bold stroke, setting the stage for the decisive battle of the Philippines. Japan's last great defensive bastion before the Allied mainland, a battle in which the enemy was expected to commit 300,000 troops.

Significant was the fact that smaller war expenditure will result in decreased tax payments and reduced operations and bring revenues down to less than $71 billion dollars, the president said the national debt will reach 252 billion dollars by 1946.

Fleet Aids

Preceding the Yanks' landings, U. S. warships subjected the crescent-shaped Lingayen beach to a murderous three-day barrage, and mine sweepers ploughed in to brush away surface obstructions.

Lack of heavy enemy resistance to the landings, and the absence of any formidable beach defenses, indicated that the Japanese command resolved to reserve its forces for concentrated onslaughts inland instead of spreading them along the shores.

Heavily reduced by previous sustained U. S. army and navy air force raids, a paralyzed Japanese aerial fleet offered desperate resistance to the spearhead of the huge invasion convoy steaming toward Lingayen, with preliminary reports indicating 79 enemy planes shot down by fighters and anti-aircraft fire.

MANPOWER:
Act on Shortage

In efforts to solve the nation's critical manpower problem brought to a head by the President's appeal for a national labor draft in his 17th annual message to congress, the government moved swiftly to channel workers into essential war plants and provide additional men for the services.

F. D. R. Asks Labor Draft

Although asking for a national labor draft to "make sure that we have the right number of workers in the right places at the right times," the President specifically recommended action to route 4,000,000 4-Fs into war work and induct others into the services.

Although generally opposed to a national service act, but at the same time anxious to solve the manpower problem by less drastic means, congress considered legislation to compel 4-Fs to go into essential work or face induction into labor battalions without servicemen's benefits. With 20,000 nurses needed now and recruitment drives having failed to enlist sufficient numbers, the lawmakers also reluctantly backed the drafting of nurses.

While congressional machinery ground into action, selective service sought to keep registrants in essential work by asking local boards to induct anyone leaving a deferred position without their consent, and lowering physical standards to provide for the drafting of such individuals.

Meanwhile, selective service's order for the induction of deferments of approximately 365,000

Including authorization of 72 billion dollars for war purposes, the President asked for an 87 billion dollar budget for the 12 months ending June 30, 1946, 12 billion dollars below his request for the present fiscal year.

young farmers between 18 and 25 years of age was attacked by agricultural leaders on the ground that induction of substantial numbers of this group would seriously impair food production, particularly of pork, beef and dairy products.

EUROPE:
Nazis Pull Back

Making use of a raging blizzards and ghostly battle-fields piled high with snowdrifts, German Field Marshall Von Rundstedt slowly pulled his recent crushing Nazi legions from the big Belgian bulge under the unrelenting pressure of Allied armies slashing in from the north, the west and the south.

Once but 4 miles from the Meuse and 22 miles from the historic gateway to France, the German forces, originally said to number 200,000 men, gradually gave ground as the Allied armies, spearheaded by American and British infantry in the south, cut into their lines, severing important supply roads and threatening to entrap the enemy's armored divisions in the western portion of the bulge.

As the Allies delivered their triphammer blows against them, the Germans, who frequently counterattacked to relieve pressure on their lines, were loured upon to withdraw to a new defensive line around St. Vith, but four miles from the German border.

Resisting quietly to the Germans' diversionary thrust in Alsace, the U. S. Seventh army was ordered to nip the enemy's attempt in the bud as quickly as possible with air and reinforcements from the French First army rushed to the defense of the Strasbourg area.

Eastern Front

Long dormant, the Polish front became the scene of rapidly recurring Russian movements on the road to German Silesia, 120 miles below Warsaw, but claiming to have set back Moscow's winter offensive plans by going onto the attack themselves in Latvia and East Prussia.

Prompted by inaction on the eastern front, however, continued to center in the Hungarian theater, where strong German armorers force struck at Russian lines north-west of Budapest, and the Reds fortified to offset this heavy pressure by pushing forward just above the border in Czechoslovakia.

In bitter fighting in encircled Budapest, the Russians reported their block-by-block conquest of the once beautiful but now smouldering Hungarian capital, with Isaias and self - proclaimed gain rumbling through the battered streets and troops firing from jumbled debris.

Murky Weather

Few observers back home realize how short the days and how long the nights are in central Europe at this season of the year. Aachen, largest German city yet taken by American forces, and typical battle line marker, lies near the 51st degree of north latitude. Although in that zone in late December and early January about eight hours elapse between sunrise and sunset, effective daylight usually is cut sharply at both ends of the day by heavy fog.

—ADVERTISING PAYS—

MEAT

With the government stepping up its purchases of all kinds of meat, both rationed and unrationed civilian supplies in the early part of this year will average slightly less than 2½ pounds per week compared with more than 3 pounds at the same time in 1944, the American Meat Institute predicted. In addition to the government's increased purchases of meat, the institute said, the situation will be aggravated by a decreasing over-all production.

POSTWAR AUTOS:
Buyers' Plans

Long statistics for the automobile industry, R. L. Polk and company, polling 30,000 representative car owners in an effort to get a slant on the postwar market, found 60 per cent of them intended to buy a new vehicle within two years after war and 40 per cent at any price increase.

Interviewing 10,000 auto dealers at the same time, Polk learned that most of them intended to greatly expand their service departments after the war to take care of demand for repairs before the automobile adjustment permits new car purchases.

In conducting its poll, Polk also learned that 49 per cent of the car owners intended to buy the same make, while 45 per cent were undecided and 6 per cent planned to buy other machines.

AGGRESSORS:
Future Treatment

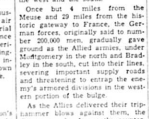
Postwar treatment of Germany and Japan will be complicated by the important post-war economic operations and bring revenues down to less than $71 billion dollars, the president said the national debt will reach 252 billion dollars by 1946.

Pointing out that as the industrial hub of Germany was supplied much of the region's goods, Chinese representatives in charge of Chinese and Eastern affairs at Hot Springs, Va., stated that continued existence of Germany's industrial potential might be necessary to help restore peace-economy.

SHIPS:
U. S. Production

With emphasis on the nation's shipbuilding in the last six months of the year placed on the faster Victory cargo model and construction of special vessels for the navy and army and navy, 16,343,438 deadweight tons were produced for the 12 months ending in December.

Special types delivered included transports and cargo ships specially for Pacific operations, small cargo



vessels of 2,840 deadweight tons, aircraft carriers and frigates for convoy escort.

During the year, the Maritime commission reported, the shipyards concluded the wooden vessel program, including 442 ships and 60 mine sweepers, large barges and tugs. Nearing completion is the concrete ship program, two of vessels having already proven their worth as tankers, floating warehouses and refrigerator units.

STORE SALES:
At Peak

Reflecting retailers' ability to shift lines to meet wartime conditions and people's propensity to spend with money in their pockets, department store sales in the U. S. rounded up 11 per cent in 1944 over the previous year, the Federal Reserve board reported.

Most of the increase took place in the last six months, it was said, with sales in the December-December Christmas shopping season mounting 17 per cent.

Increases were largest in the deep south, stretching from the Atlantic to Arizona, with the Atlanta district showing a 21 per cent rise and Dallas, 17 per cent.

GREECE:
Hunger Stalks

With Athens' streets cleared of murderous civil warfare, its hungry people lined up at military soup kitchens for emergency rations or walked about, dragging tattered knapsacks, in search of food.

With inflation having run rampant during the German occupation, Allied liberation has brought no relief, with eggs costing 60 cents each; beef $2 a pound; black bread $2 a pound; oranges 40 cents each; beans 80 cents a pound, and cheese $10 a pound.

Serving only the richest, restaurants were charging sky-high prices, with one U. S. correspondent dining in a cafe paying $5.70 for three fried eggs. French fried potatoes, two pieces of white bread without butter, and one cup of coffee.

French Cold

In France, Paris shivered from lack of coal, caused by the disruption of transportation. Patrolmen guarding the city's picturesque public parks were recruited from their residents from chopping down trees for fuel.

Because subway stations and post offices recently were the only heated places, women and children and the aged crowded in, huddling in corners all day. Mothers brought along their darning while others played cards or read.

BUY U. S. WAR BONDS

NEWS in the WORLD of RELIGION
by W.W. REID

As a joint activity of the Mennonites, the Church of the Brethren, and the Society of Friends, and with the assistance of the University of Minnesota, forty-five religious objectors to war have volunteered as "guinea pigs" in an experiment in starvation. For six months they are being fed a starvation diet, comprised of the foods available under famine conditions in Europe. This will be followed by a period of rehabilitation feeding, and then the volunteers will study relief and rehabilitation problems leading to their own postwar service in this field. The experiment is being conducted by University research workers to establish a scientific foundation for the most efficient nutritional relief in Europe and Asia after the war.

"There is a false conception around the country that regimentation is not friendly to organized labor," says Sherry Mayo, of the educational department of the CIO, who is trying "to bring together the great forces of the human good." "But we do not believe that they are being forced into it. They are more than workers—they are human beings. Participation in the life of their community which includes the church, and then the balance between labor organization and church organization will be that of the former has emphasized social justice through concrete action. Now the latter has emphasized the abstract ideal. Our idea is that the two branch and unite the two into co-operation on their common goals."

Affiliation of the Methkakatla Indians, a tribe in Alaska with the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, and the Alaskan Missionary Conference of the denomination is announced. The affiliation was effected by the late William Duncan of Metlakatla, England, founder of the unique mission history. Father Duncan devoted sixty-one years to the life he touching the industry, thrift and Christianity in this group of farmers he gave Indians. Today a strong local government prevails. He and his followers established a large salmon cannery which gives employment to the people; an adequate hydro-electric plant which furnishes the power and water without charge to the entire village of about 703 persons; a well-equipped sawmill and home building materials; a modern fire department controls and what is said to be "the loveliest little Japanese church in Alaska" which works for the spiritual uplift of the community and which is in service men stationed on Annette Island are welcome."

According to Homer W. Kingsley, editor of the "Protestant," the following were the "ten biggest religious news stories" of 1944: mobilization of Christian opinion on world order, increased emphasis on Protestant unity, Protestantism's affirmation of the right to maintain missions in Latin America, advance in weekday religious education, $33,000,000 campaign to liquidate Protestant debt, a record-breaking Bible reading campaign, the Christian approach to promote interracial harmony, enactment of church-sponsored juvenile delinquency laws, Protestant-Catholic cooperation in certain areas, and the emergence of the church's preparation for postwar expansion and rehabilitation.

The principal comfort that his people in America find is in their ancestry during their "exile" from the Holy Land, says Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, rabbi of the Methodist Pacific Japanese Conference, who says the War Relocation Authority centering the resettlement camps, depend on two factors for good government: the influence of Christian pastors in and outside the camps, and the cooperation of the people as an young people among the internees who were chosen to places of leadership. "It is the leadership of which we know nothing. The Japanese Americans of Japanese ancestry have earned on in the face of prejudice and hysteria have maintained their church and school work and hospitalized hundreds of wounded."

Sixty-three Negro and white students and leaders from fifteen southern colleges and other organizations participated in the eleventh annual Institute for Christian Leadership in session in Paine College, Augusta, Ga. Study groups considered problems of race recovery to implement democracy. Subjects discussed were political and economic action, democratic international agreements, the church and social action. "We must not mitigate the darkness around us," Dr. John Knox, Union Theological Seminary, told the group. "War has engulfed the world. Far more evil has wrought such desolation that only those who are partially callous can bear to live. . . . The perfect world must wait, but the better world can come. If it is the destiny of this generation to fight and have the chance to build, we must keep this hope of a better world flaming in our hearts and pass it on to our children."

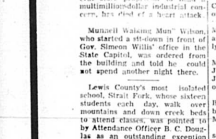
The American Way

SMALL BUSINESS ENDANGERED BY CORPORATE TAX

By George Peek

In an address before the Illinois Manufacturers Association recently, Enders M. Voorhees Chairman, Finance Committee, the United States Steel Corporation, stated that our present corporate income tax laws are destroying business in general and to small business in particular.

As proof that our corporate income tax is preventing new enterprises from being undertaken, Mr. Voorhees said: "Every business has its beginning in the organization of a group of men, venturing their savings, their skill and their spirit. Sometimes—all too often—these ventures fail before they do any more than get under way, but even the most successful have a long period of ups and downs before they find their stature. . . . Today we are more than workers—they are human beings. Participation in the life of their community which includes the church, and then the balance between labor organization and church organization will be that of the former has emphasized social justice through concrete action. Now the latter has emphasized the abstract ideal. Our idea is that the two branch and unite the two into co-operation on their common goals."



Hand Grenade Yank

Trained for rough hand-to-hand battle, this eastgurgandan of the rugged Greenland patrol, yanks the fuse of a hand grenade with his teeth and prepares to let it fly at the enemy. Even on Greenland he secured practice against Nazis.

BIBLE QUESTIONS
ANSWERED ON THE VOICE OF PROPHECY
INTERNATIONAL BIBLE BROADCASTER

Question—Which chapter in the Bible tells about a good wife?

Answer—Possibly the questioner refers to Proverbs 31:10-31.

Q.—Does God ever bring affliction on anyone?

A.—He permits it to come sometimes, but we read in Lamentations 3:33 that "He doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men."

Q.—What is the difference between MORTAL and IMMORTAL?

A.—Mortal means "subject to death." Immortal means "not subject to death." In John 11:26 we read "Shall mortal man be more just than God?" and in 1 Timothy 1:17 "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever."

Q.—Where will Christ, according to the Bible, be found?

A.—"Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20.

Q.—When the apostles wrote the Bible, didn't they consider anyone but one subject into a chapter?

A.—The division of the books of the Bible into chapters was not done by the men who first contributed to two men. Hugo of St. Cher, a cardinal in England in the Thirteenth Century, and is an arbitrary arrangement for convenience of reference.

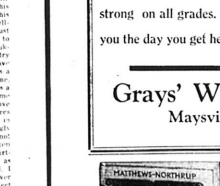
Q.—Please give some Scripture texts on Christian Unity.

A.—Proverbs 20:1 "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Ephesians 5:18 "And not them upon the wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." Romans 14:21 "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." Proverbs 23:31 "Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."

Q.—Was the Holy Ghost known before Christ's time?

A.—Read 2 Peter 1:21. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. If these men of God wrote the prophecies of the Old Testament by the power of the Holy Ghost, it is evident that the Holy Ghost was known hundreds of years before Christ was born.

Bonds Over America



CALIFORNIA TOWER

Beautiful and dedicated to the memory of Abraham Lincoln, this tall tower, in the city of Lincoln, California, is a unique feature of this community. Recently, it was the scene of the first Civil Defense Air Raid Drill in the state of California.

TIDBITS of Kentucky Folklore

By Dr. Gordon Wilson
Western Ky. State Teachers College

OVERSTATEMENT

One of the most common forms of poetic folk language is overstatement. If what the folk said and say were to be interpreted literally, it would be a terrible world or a very grand one.

Take tight-rope walking. The ability to walk a rope, balancing and batting her eyes, is not enough. Instead, she must walk "a rope as big around as a stovepipe" or "as small as a thread" or "as big around as a barrel" or "as small as a needle" or "as big around as a log chain" or "as small as a hair" or "as big around as a wagon wheel" or "as small as a spider web" or "as big around as a cable" or "as small as a fiddle string" or "as big around as the mother of a hoe" or "as small as the eye of a needle" or "as big around as a cornfield" or "as small as the diameter of a needle" or "as big around as the diameter of a needle" or "as small as the diameter of a cornfield" or "as big around as the diameter of a needle" or "as small as the diameter of a needle" or "as big around as the diameter of