

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

And Evening Chronicle

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3, 1944. The Associated Press has been accused of publishing a story which was not only untrue but also a deliberate attempt to mislead the public. The story, which appeared in the Evening Chronicle on December 28, 1943, stated that the British Government had decided to accept the terms of the German peace proposals. This story was completely untrue and was a deliberate attempt to mislead the public. The Associated Press has been accused of publishing this story because it was the only news agency to do so. The Associated Press has a long history of honesty and integrity and it is a disgrace that it should be accused of such a thing. The Associated Press should be ashamed of itself for publishing such a story. The Associated Press should be held responsible for the damage that this story has done to the British Government and to the American people. The Associated Press should be held responsible for the damage that this story has done to the American people. The Associated Press should be held responsible for the damage that this story has done to the American people.

WASHINGTON

At the beginning of the New Year, Washington officials who watch the trend of the war admit privately that "things will happen very fast" in the next few months. If, indeed, they even make faint predictions that Germany will fall before Summer, they stick to the line that this will be a long war, the only one to be taken as an official line, since no war can be so easily won. The exact time will be so secret to the Nazis, because we will be pounding the French coast and in the meantime will be driving from Russia and Italy, plus all-out air attacks everywhere. (The Italian invasion, urged by Churchill is doubtful).

Some experts go as far as to name the length of time—in days—this big event will require, before the end. One highly placed official says it will take three months and twenty days. Thus, if the invasion starts by mid-February, this should mean by early June. But military experts would not say anything so loud, because they fear the U. S. public will overlook the fact that the days between February and June will be the bloodiest days in the history of all the world's wars.

Capitol Chaff

Only eight states out of forty-eight normally hold meetings of their legislatures in the year in which they could vote to send bills to soldiers. They are: Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Wisconsin. . . . While most officials treated as usual during the Christmas holidays, Jesse Jones, who died in leaving behind three fine monuments to motherhood—Champion, Mrs. Jones and the twins, Marsh and Kimbrell.

The Dirge

On Eve of Defeat, Hitler Says Little

Adolph Hitler has almost discarded *Mein Kampf*. His New Year's speech to his people was not taken from those pages. There was the defiance of a cornered animal, and a pitiful attempt at shouting threats at England. But by and large it was the funeral oration of the Third Reich. He thundered that a "masterful stroke" had saved Germany from a Napoleonic ruin in Russia, but he could not expand that theory on a day that there was joy in Moscow and the Red Army was rolling very near the Polish and Rumanian borders.

He could say that a "fanatical hatred" still possessed Germany, and in all truth, he could say that his European defenses would stand firm. He could say that he could not hold out the promise that they would be turned back. He could say that Germany still held every foot of her own soil—but he did not say that.

He could raise the threat that there would be "retaliation" for the destruction by Allied bombing, but no one could believe. He could talk about the German and Italian treachery had brought these dark days upon Germany, but the truth was very clear, even in his Germany. He could bring the ineffective charge that Poland, after victory, would be reduced to a second or third power, standing behind the U. S. and Russia, but he could not expect Anglo-American division on that issue.

He could say, in vague phrases, that the Allied policy of Unconditional Surrender was a poor policy, but he could not hold the dread results of that policy in his own hand. He could hold up the black picture of a European "civilization" killed by an Allied victory and interred by Bolshevism, but he could not produce the ring of truth as he evaded feebly, declaiming the solemn solemnities to his people and the world. He could say only that defeat was near.

According to the ever-truthful Goebbels, Germany is determined to fight on to the bitter beginning of peace.

The Poles

Their Boundaries Will Not Satisfy Them At All

The great difficulty in the Polish Question is that Poland in the days of her greatness transcended her boundaries, inhabited by the Polish people. Everybody except the Poles wants to see a Poland re-created along the lines of Polish nationality; the Poles, now and after the last war, want the old Poland which took in millions of Russians, Ukrainians, Rumanians, Germans, and Letts.

The western boundary of eastern Poland annexed by the Soviet Union in 1939 corresponds more or less to ethnological lines. The Russians naturally say they want this territory back, because it was inhabited chiefly by White Russians and by the Ukrainians. Further, the divisions of the Russian race; the Poles naturally say they want it because it was part of 18th century Poland and then of the Poland of 1919-23.

Early in 1942 diplomatic relations were broken between the Soviet Government and the Polish Government in exile. In November the Russian ambassador to Mexico, Oumansky, stated explicitly that Russia wanted and expected the Polish territory occupied in 1939. Later in the month Polish representatives in Washington stated explicitly that the pre-1939 boundaries must be restored, and they stated that otherwise the Russian armies might meet, with assistance from Polish guerrillas as they crossed the pre-1939 boundary line.

blood. They were part of Russia prior to World War I, were made independent, were re-occupied by Russia in 1939-40, were taken over by Germany in 1941. The United States still considers them independent; the British Government does not.

One of Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points called for an independent Poland including the territories inhabited by inhabitants with access to the sea. But the Paris Peace Conference did not set any eastern boundary for the new Poland. For one thing, various armed expeditions were under way against the Soviet Government, with Allied support, and the Allies waited to see how they came out.

Polish armies were aiding the revolt against Russia in the Ukraine. Finally, on April 30, 1939, Polish armies were properly. The newly organized League of Nations made no attempt to stop the new war. For a time the Polish armies advanced steadily eastward, entering Kiev on May 8, but then they were met by a Soviet movement against the Soviet Government collapsed, and it could concentrate its strength against the Poles. The Polish forces were driven back, and the Russians advanced steadily westward. Even Polish statistics admitted that the new Poland contained about 30 per cent non-Poles. A wise-crack of the period was that the Man from Mars, if he came to the earth at this time, would have thought that the chief enemy of the Allies in the World War had been, not Germany, but Russia.

A noted theorist speaks of a bombing plane capable of rounding the earth. This is in case of wanting to knock ourselves out.

Caution

Admiral Halsey Tones Down Cry of Victory

A year has changed Admiral Halsey, our fighting leader in the Pacific. His 1943 prediction, you will recall, was that Japan would be conquered in that year. He derided the fighting abilities of the Japs, and forecast that Tokyo and Tokyo cities of the Empire would be laid in ruins before this year. In the interim his own forces have played a vital part in the 600-mile advance through the Solomons, and in the thrust beyond into the Gilberts and Marshalls.

Tempered this time, his spirit still flames in his rhetorical pronouncement:

"One long year ago, we still faced the Jap across the jungles and beaches of Guadalcanal. Our campaign to rid the Pacific of this menace had not yet achieved its irresistible momentum," he said.

"Today it has.

"Our streamroller has flattened his back fences. It has moved inexorably into his own backyard.

"The Jap is retreating."

There was also the promise that the year 1944 would bring great and decisive victories. But the Admiral has evidently thought better of forecasting an outright defeat of Japan on any given date. The failure of last year's prediction has made him more cautious. And this time, accordingly, his statement offers greater hope. This time he says that the road to Tokyo will be greatly shortened during the year. There is every reason to believe that, soon or late, a great Allied force will be turned explicitly against Japan, and victories will come more rapidly.

Bring that the President is a patriot. Does not aid to her philosophy, that nothing to happen, it will happen anyway.

A place at the peace table for women is demanded by an organization of the same. The girls are so well satisfied with equal rights that they want

Army Postal

U. S. Gen. Mark Clark has one technique with private soldiers; Lt. Gen. George Patton another. On a recent visit to the front lines, Gen. Clark found a soldier scribbling a V-mail letter on his mess-kit. The soldier looked as though he had lost his last friend. General Clark asked him what was wrong.

"Oh, I'm getting a little weary of this life," replied the soldier.

"What's your trouble?" asked General Clark.

"Why, I haven't received a letter in five days, General," replied the soldier. "I wish the Post Office Department think we are over here—a bunch of arch-enemies."

"Personally, I think five days

Jap-Americans

High executives of the War Department are proud of the way in which Japanese-American soldiers have shown themselves in American patriotism and done a good job in the Army. Exiling them from their homes in the U. S. Army was frankly an experiment and many old-line officers were very skeptical. However, Under Secretary of War Patterson and Assistant Secretary Jack McCloy insisted that they be given a chance. The performance of Japanese-American troops in battle more than justified this confidence in them.

Reports from Italy say tributes to the bravery of one Japanese soldier, who was killed under heavy fire. Most of his men were recruited from Hawaii through the efforts of the War Department and the casualty lists were very heavy. When Under Secretary of War Patterson was in the Southwest Pacific last long ago, General George Grinnell asked him to meet his intelligence unit. Patterson stepped into the intelligence unit and there met the grinning Japs. They were not prisoners, but Hawaiian-born, and were entrusted with the vitally important job of translating intelligence information picked up from the enemy.

The Japanese-Americans are all carefully investigated before they enter the Army, but in no case has one of them after entering the Army, betrayed trust.

Mrs. Bennett Clark

Last year, at a school track meet in Washington, two white girls about 14 took high honors. Both perfect physical specimens, they were almost every inch the same. They were handed silver loving cups, a friend remarked to their mother, Mrs. Bennett Clark, wife of the Senator from Missouri: "How thrilled you must be to have two such fine, active boys and girls."

"Yes," admitted radiant Mrs. Clark, "I am happy because, you see, I myself cannot walk."

Mrs. Clark noted the other day she had been crippled from infancy.

Insidious Dopesters

By Samuel Crafon

NEW YORK

ITELI had no fury like the writer of a dope story, hunching confusion and then justifying calling on Government to clear up an issue. What bore it? It has been great "confusion" of this special type, as to whether General Marshall or General Eisenhower was to lead the invasion of Europe. There had been vile whispers that General Marshall was being kicked upstairs because he did not agree with the high strategy of defeating Hitler first.

There had been profane lewd attacks on the "insidious" head-shakings and the "insidious" wagging of many fingers. What a story! What an issue! What bore it? It was no issue, of course, that General Eisenhower had been selected. There has never been any official statement to indicate otherwise.

Yet if a man from Mars were to come down among us, and to write a history of the last year, he would be puzzled to find that this question of the choice of generals had vastly occupied the minds of the people for many months. If he were to seek further to find what other questions were being asked in the American consciousness, he would have to write it down, also, that the most excited because somebody did, or didn't, break the news of the Cairo Conference a day.

The amazing thing is how many truly great stories we did not talk nearly enough about during this year of wonders.

The greatest single dispute of the entire war, the agreement to open a second front, was not a kind of a blurred rumor, early in the Winter, while almost nobody was talking about it. I venture the analysis that twenty times as much time and attention were given to this one. Ten times as much attention was paid to the question of the Polish border as was

Veterans Expand

The Ranspact committee investigating Civil Service has spent most of its time trimming the numbers of Government workers. But it has now stumbled into a situation requiring a complete change of policy.

The Veterans Administration, instead of substituting reduction of personnel, is asking for thousands more. Men are being discharged from military service so fast that the number of veterans Administration is going up like a skyrocket. Now employing 45,000 workers, all over the country, V. A. will soon have to double its staff.

The Ranspact committee has reversed itself, has now helped the Veterans Administration get a number one priority from Budget, Brest. This puts fingers in the same category as the War and Navy Departments, and gives them the green light for recruiting personnel.

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"Now you sit up and hear your symphony, or I'll take care of you when the loud music starts!"

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paid to the truly great issue. Five times as much effort went into discussing Elmer Davis as went into discussing this basic question, not only of our war, but of our century.

Yet I also venture the analysis that history will remember 1943 as the year in which the second front was agreed upon, and that the other great "issue" I have listed will slip silently into history's ash-can, amid a ghostly queue of forgotten names in eerie dimming. Another great story which we missed because we were being our heads at the time was, of course, the rise of the Partisans in Yugoslavia.

Here most of us overlooked the creation of a whole new army on our side, because we were busy arguing over whether the President was campaigning for reelection among the Arabs, by distributing lapel buttons to them.

Still another great story of the year was the rise of de Gaulle. Here the reversal has been sensational. It was the General Girard was the boss of the French, by our nomenclature, and he is reduced to a what-is-it. A year ago, M. Peron was being made Generalissimo of Algeria; today he is under arrest as a collaborator with the Fascists.

This is a story of retreat from fear; decent things are beginning to be done in North Africa, without any of the terrible consequences which would have happened. French Fascists are no longer being appeased, and if they don't like it, who cares? It has become nasty about it, de Gaulle puts them in jail instead of making them governors, and seems to work out fine.

This planet is much more terrifying when we retreat into meaningless controversy about nothing and talk roosterly about Marshall and Eisenhower, attention over our shoulder, somewhere, the big things are taking place.

December 22, 1943

"Harris, The News:"

I am much impressed with your recent Editorial in reference to renegotation. I am not addressing you to state that I am wholly opposed to renegotation. I will say that there is a serious question here as to whether or not it is justified. I would like to clarify what I consider a false impression which you have obtained in reference to renegotation.

You stated that a minimum of \$100,000,000 is being set aside for the Red Cross, has been subject to renegotation. It has been called up for renegotation, with a gross profit of ten per cent, and with another, with a profit after taxes of less than 2 per cent. I assume that the 10 per cent gross. These factories accepted business on competitive bids, and the items on which hundreds of manufacturers have bid on, is making them governors, and is subject to renegotation. They will state to you that under current dispatch case, the three or four per cent would be excessive.

As a matter of information for you, your accountant consider a new corporation being organized under the new law, of the old. Assume that they say with an investment capital of \$100,000,000. It is an investment of \$100,000,000. After you see the amount that is left for the man taking the bid, you will be able to determine whether the renegotation act is in case.

J. E. Broyhill
LENOIR, N. C.

Of Renegotation

more than met its Army quota in volunteer enlistment. The men left behind have also shown their patriotism by forgetting that there is such a thing as an eight-hour day and working long hours in order to prevent all inconveniences to the public it has taken care of the situation adequately up to present.

If not prevented by shortage of instruments and supplies or by health broken down by overwork, the profession pledges itself to do its utmost to meet all demands.

DR. BURKE W. FOX
Charlotte Dental Society.

Brush-Off Clubs Are Gusher Members

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Club members are doing something about it.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Brush-Off Club, a group of girls who have been filled by service men announces that 20 young women in this district have applied for membership.

Other chapters are forming in pattern cities, says the district local organizer, Louise Cosine, 21.

An Army man in Algeria who had been rejected by girls back home formed the original Brush-Off Club.

The idea is to bring about correspondence among flirts of both sexes.

DR. BURKE W. FOX
Charlotte Dental Society.

Dentists Have Own War Problems

Editors, This News:

With the ending of a year we were told by our dentists that the ethical treatment you have given dentistry and its problems in your news and editorial columns.

North Carolina is one of the states which has not had a dental break-down by overwork, the profession pledges itself to do its utmost to meet all demands.

DR. BURKE W. FOX
Charlotte Dental Society.

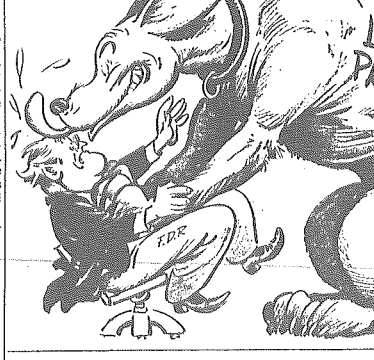
The Pup Grew Up

By Dorman Smith

NOT SO MANY YEARS AGO

LABOR PROBLEMS

POOR, FRIENDLESS LITTLE FELLOW NEVER MIND UNCLE FRANK WILL ALWAYS GIVE YOU A HOME!



Travel Has Changed

By Raymond Clapper

SAN FRANCISCO

IT looks as if it's getting away for another trip to write about the war. Once you have been out as a war correspondent and you come home with your nose clean, it is fairly easy getting out again. The war correspondent's credentials, the same little green card he carried on two previous trips into the theaters.

It is one of the early ones issued, No. 29, and dated Feb. 25, 1942, a short one after Pearl Harbor. I got it when I went out across the new air supply route that Pan-American Airways was throwing across the heat of Africa to transport spare parts and light supplies and personnel to the Middle East, India and China. That airline was an amazing demonstration of what could be done quickly by air. Yet it was a pathetic, weak little Allied line. When you think back on it we must not have realized then how near we were to losing the war.

We had to cross Africa by going in below Dakar, down around Liberia and across the equator. That route skirted the edge of Axis forces. Ft. Lamy, one of our major bases there, had been bombed a short time before we went through. At that very time the development of a parallel line still further south in case the first route was cut by the Axis and Gibraltar was in danger and evacuation was going

Now all Africa is ours, and the Mediterranean is ours. I think about it all that when I look at this little green war correspondent's card that bears my photograph, fingerprints and description. I look at it and think of the England last Spring, and now it has been given back to me for another trip out to the war.

That card and my passport are the two most important things carry, far more important than money or traveler's checks. You can't travel without them, but you can't travel without credentials.

The State Department always gives me back my old passport without using money, but you can't travel without credentials.

I was first issued when I went to England in the Summer of 1941. This passport has been with me as far east as Chungking, as far north as Leningrad in Sweden, and Iceland. It has crossed the Equator several times, has crossed the Atlantic by air six times, has flown in and out of 10,000 miles. It has been over the Amazon and through the African continent, down over Jerusalem, traveled in dusty trains through India, and followed Gen. Patton's Seventh Army across Sicily. It has more value than Gen. MacArthur's four o'clocks.

As I recall it the passport didn't get to go on the homebound ship. You are allowed to possess on such occasions to check all your papers on the thought of accepting a new passport certifies the bearer as a non-

Bring that the President is a patriot. Does not aid to her philosophy, that nothing to happen, it will happen anyway.

A place at the peace table for women is demanded by an organization of the same. The girls are so well satisfied with equal rights that they want

"They got any out-of-town newspapers over at the canteen, Mac?" This guy wants a copy of the "WORLD NEWS."