

### The Lindbergh Record

Those recurring rumors about Charles Lindbergh's combat career in the Pacific are confirmed today. Colonel Charles MacDonald of the Air Force, writing in Collier's, reveals that Mr. Lindbergh flew 50 combat missions, destroyed one Japanese plane in a spectacular dogfight, and "was shot at by almost every antiaircraft gun the Nips had in western New Guinea."

It's quite a stirring tale. As Colonel MacDonald says, Mr. Lindbergh flew more missions than is normally expected of a regular combat pilot and generally selected the more dangerous ones. At the same time he employed his mechanical genius to develop an improved method of flying P-38 fighters which curtailed gasoline consumption enough to add 600 miles to their range.

All this Mr. Lindbergh did as a civilian, a field observer for United Aircraft Corporation. Gallant though it may have been, the rules of international warfare were shattered when he undertook his combat missions. The whole business was extra-legal, and that's why the Army has been so easily covering it up for all these months, even flatly denying the persistent rumors that trailed the Lone Eagle home.

An official announcement some months ago acknowledged that Mr. Lindbergh had made many hazardous flights in connection with his duties in the Pacific, but it was carefully pointed

out that he had avoided combat. We had occasion then to remark that his services should go a long way toward re-establishing the reputation he lost when he went America Firsting during the early days of the war.

However, the casual disregard for the rules of war underlined by this latest revelation is disturbing. It might be argued that the Japanese war was a completely uncivilized business, and that the Japs themselves had violated every existing legal concept by the time Mr. Lindbergh arrived on the scene, but that still does not excuse the Army's lapse.

In the trial of General Homma the prosecution has made a great point of the fact that the General recognized the Geneva Convention when he sent surrender invitations to the beleaguered Americans and Filipinos and then violated it when he ordered the infamous Death March. We are about to open war criminal trials in Tokyo, and again we shall be insisting upon strict legalistic interpretations of the rules under which we fought World War II.

Colonel MacDonald's revelation reflects a great deal of credit upon Mr. Lindbergh, but very little upon the Pacific commanders who allowed him to violate a code they were sworn to uphold. Coming at this moment, when we have taken the lead in establishing a new concept of international law, it adds considerably to our increasing reputation for hypocrisy.

### Pertinent Questions

It's been over a week since two prisoners were walked out of Mecklenburg's escape-proof jail, and the incident seems to have been relegated to history by all the public officials concerned.

Both the escaped prisoners have been rounded up, and Sheriff Mack Riley has apparently closed his books on the case. There is a considerable difference between this complacent attitude and the marked perturbation displayed by the Sheriff the day after the escape. When a reporter inquired of him about breaking through the barrier of official silence that had existed for almost twelve hours.

At that time, with one of his departed guests still at large and newspapermen being conducted on a tour of the escape route, the Sheriff announced that he would call a complete investigation. "This is a terrible thing," he said. "We've got to get to the bottom of it."

There were several obvious questions

### "Wicked, Malicious Judge..."

"Almost every litigant who came before this wicked and malicious judge became the immediate object of a... crooked conspiracy whose sole interest was the amount of money that could be extorted from him for justice or for the evasion of justice," the House Judiciary Committee found after investigating the affairs of Judge Albert W. Johnson.

But, having declared Judge Johnson guilty the Committee went on to remark that there is no point in impeaching him. The membership acted, apparently, on the don't-kick-a-man-when-he's-down theory—the Judge has resigned from the bench, abandoned his \$10,000-a-year pension, and awaits trial for conspiracy to obstruct justice. That, the Committee figured, is punishment enough for any man.

The question, however, isn't punishment of a single errant jurist, but the preservation of the integrity of all Federal courts. Judge Johnson occupied his bench in Pennsylvania for 20 years; nobody knows exactly when he started

selling "justice for all the traffic would bear" but certainly thousands of trusting citizens have been injured. And each of them lost not only money, but faith in the judiciary.

Conviction of the Judge will not repair the damage done. Perhaps impeachment won't either, but it would serve as formal acknowledgment by the Congress that this man's crime is more heinous than any ever listed on his own court calendar.

The Judge has been found guilty of betraying the trust the Congress placed in him when it confirmed his appointment 20 years ago. This is the criminal act that far outweighs his specific violations of the statutes, and it can be properly disposed of only by the Congress itself, acting with all the pomp and panoply it can muster.

Only through formal impeachment can Congress acknowledge the Federal Government's responsibility for the Judge's defection; the bad judgment which permitted his appointment, the lack of vigilance which permitted him to peddle justice for so many years.

From The Winston-Salem Journal:

### In Justice To All

From many sections of the State come whisperings regarding the recent death of Solicitor John G. Carpenter of the Charlotte-Gastonia district—whisperings filled with bits of rumor, gossip, suspicion, conjecture and speculation.

The question is being asked whether Mr. Carpenter died from natural causes or otherwise.

We do not know just why this situation has arisen, but it may have grown out of some peculiar circumstances surrounding Mr. Carpenter's death or the attitude of the coroner and other authorities in handling the matters pertaining to the final obsequies. The coroner in a related report, seems, in fact, to have added an element of mystery to the tragedy when he stated: "After a thorough investigation along with Sheriff Hoyle Elford, I find that John G. Carpenter came to his death from a heart attack." Yet there appears to have been no autopsy, and investigation "is considered closed."

To leave the death of this long prom-

### The Shadow Of World War III Grows Longer

MOST important area the State Department must deal with when it comes to preventing future wars are Germany and Japan. So far, the Japanese situation is under tight military control and progressing satisfactorily.

But in Germany, the State Department has done little about dismantling German industry or getting adequate personnel to see that it is done. Many experts believe that on the manner in which the State Department does this job will depend whether Germany can become a peaceful member of the family of nations.

Some men at the top in the State Department have a real understanding of this vital problem. But so far they haven't got their ideas across to those at the bottom. State Department members of the Economic Policy Security Committee were complaining at a close-door session that they couldn't get any money to finance the job.

Have you seen Senator McClellan? asked Joe Panch, one of Byrnes' right-hand men. "Have you tried to show him what a big job you have to do?" McClellan is Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and a reasonable man. Has anyone talked to him?

### WORLD WAR III

One of the German experts spoke up to say that when the Second Deficiency Bill is passed, the State Department will be able to hire four new men to help handle German problems. At this, Panch threw up his hands in despair for it is estimated the State Department will have to hire more than 1,000 men to govern the U. S. zone in Germany.

"You fellows are playing with peanuts," remarked Marshall McDuffie, of the Foreign Economic Administration. "When you've got to cover several million people."

After the meeting broke up, William Rudin summarized the situation: "A generation from now when we're fighting World War III," he said, "people will think back and try to fix the cause of the war. They'll figure out a lot of complicated reasons. And probably no one will realize that a few innocent, mediocre little officials, afraid of taking the heat, were afraid of asking Congress for money, were really the ones who started World War III."

### HOPKINS' LAST CHANCE

Only his doctor knew it, but Harry Hopkins had one chance to live—though he wouldn't take it.

His doctor, the famous Max Wolfe, also physician to Lord Louis Mountbatten, told Hopkins he had had cancer of the mesenteric lymph glands, but could probably be saved if he would take a strict low-fat diet and also cut out smoking. Hopkins, however, refused. He used to tell people he had a cold, but he had taken a lot of kicking around, he had no complaints, make me feel better. In fact, just after Franklin Roosevelt died, Hopkins told his doctor that he had looked back on all the national and international crises he had lived through and he thought he had lived 2,000 years.

So, when Hopkins refused to accept the doctor's advice, he was arranged for him to go to Doctors' Hospital. And there Harry Hopkins, no longer interested in the death of his beloved Chief, quietly awaited his end.

### TRUMAN VS. PAULEY

Regardless of what you may think of Ed Pauley, one thing should not be forgotten about his chief, President Truman is flatly opposed to Pauley's proposed disposition of submerged oil lands.

In fact, Truman is more vigorous on this point than any other President. For several years, Secretary Ickes and Attorney General Biddle had urged FDR to abdicate the question of whether the States or the Federal Government own off-shore oil—in other words, the rights in and under water just off the coast. FDR, however, always hung back.

But just a few weeks after Truman became President, Biddle walked in and asked that this important question be referred to the Supreme Court. Truman didn't hesitate. He gave his approval immediately.

"You'd better take some time to think it over," Biddle cautioned. "It's a delicate question. It might be a good idea to talk it over with Ed Pauley."

Truman did think it over, but he didn't change his mind. He told Biddle to go ahead with the suit—regardless of the fact that most of Pauley's large oil fortune came from submerged oil, and despite the fact that Pauley helped materially in getting Truman's nomination across at Chicago.

Note—Texas is one state which would not be affected by the submerged oil suit. Its offshore rights were given it by a special treaty when it entered the Union.

### CRIBBAGE BOARDS

Perhaps none of the far-flung areas where the U. S. Army is still stationing men is more dreary and desolate than Alaska in the Winterland. A peacetime Army is there, however, and what especially grips G. I.'s is the way they are kept busy.

Some of them are kept occupied making ornate cribbage boards for senior officers.

It is difficult to realize how intricate these playthings are. Hours of work are spent on them and mechanical engineers are required to work out the blueprints. One man is even paid to make them. F. Patient has 19 separate drawings.



The People's Platform

### The WAC's Return

By AN EX-WAC CHARLOTTE

THANKS for your kind editorial on returning servicewomen in tonight's paper. It does this "battered" up WAC's heart good to hear at least one voice raised in welcome and encouragement. Even though it's like the voice of John the Baptist "crying in the wilderness," and as you so rightly put it, jealousy. After a month of job hunting, I'm about ready to take off my "returnee" duck and file it away with my other souvenirs, which includes five service ribbons and two campaign stars. There isn't as much pride in wearing it as there was in earning it. Frankly, I'm discouraged to say nothing of bewildered.

### IDEA OF SERVICE

I, like many others, entered the Army with the ideas of being of service to my country and helping to preserve the rights and privileges of our country that I've been brought up to believe in. If it had been glorified male attention we wanted, the USO clubs and such would have been a far better place to find them than a jungle camp. What I wanted was a decent, well-run outfit where it rained every day and sometimes for days, where our Class A uniforms were ill fitting men's pants (if we were lucky) and where we were fatigued, high shoes, no shirt and fatigue hat—where hot water was something you dreamed about, and stabbings was a daily habit, regardless of the fact it turned us a repulsive yellow, and our homes was a square left with Mother Earth for a floor. Does an Army wife or sweetheart believe that? Not much brother—most of them think we were a female wolf pack with fangs bared and claws clinched out to get HER man.

Well, we "took" it and came home, tired but happy, happy to know we did a good job and happy to be back in "God's Country." Girls stood on that boat as we came in and yelled until they were hoarse, while tears ran down their faces. It was Our Country, Our Home and our were glad to be back. All most of us wanted was to feel that we "belonged," a job we could make a decent living out of and a chance to do something better.

The Army made a clerk out of me and a darned good one, but I can't get a job I can make a living for my mother and me! These are a few answers I've got. "Not enough civilian experience, the Army doesn't count." It counted when there was a war going on. "Too old, we hire younger girls just out of school, they are faster." I'm just 2 1/2 years older than when I went in the Army. "What did you do before the war? Why don't you go back there?" Do they care if I'm not as strong as I was before I spent fourteen months in the tropics, eating dehydrated foods? Like hell they do—and this takes the prize—"We hire only ex-service MEN." Do they care if I married a man who was killed in action since being released. Don't make

me laugh—The war is over, or is it?

### LETTING OFF STEAM

Hope you don't mind my crying on your shoulder, if I don't let off steam I'll burst.

This letter is not intended for publication. It's just a lengthy way of saying—"Thanks, pal, for the kind words."

(NOTE: This letter wasn't signed, and was, as stated, not intended for publication. We decided to risk the writer's wrath, because we feel her story is too moving, and too important to be confined to this Ivory Tower. Printed in full, we hope it will serve to needle a few straggling consciences.—Ed. The News.)

### Margarine Argument

By LEWIS AYER SMITH CHARLOTTE

MOST housewives in the United States are long-suffering. For many years they have mixed in with colorless margarine the yellow coloring which accompanies the retort. This requires considerable time and work. Yet the over-worked housewife makes no protest, unless it is to complain.

Probably, most of the imposed upon housewives assume that there is some reason why they cannot buy margarine with the coloring already added. There is a reason. It is prohibitive high tax imposed upon colored margarine.

The antiquated law (1886) was passed to protect the dairy industry from margarine competition. And apparently the margarine manufacturers have been politically strong enough to get the law repealed.

The ostensible reason for discouraging the manufacture of colored margarine was that the coloring made the product simulate the appearance of butter. However, the law does not discourage the artificial coloring of colorless butter to simulate the appearance of butter having a natural yellow color. So the law, in effect, allows the butter manufacturer to enhance the appearance of his product, but denies the same privilege to his margarine competitor.

Discriminations upon the sale of retail packages of colored margarine do not protect the public from the unscrupulous margarine dealer or dealer who would substitute margarine for butter. Such a

### New Veterans Shows In VA

THIS attack made by John Steele of the American Legion on Gen. Omar Bradley of the Veterans Administration has had exactly the opposite effect it was intended to have.

It has served to call attention to the remarkable progress that Bradley has made since he took over the difficult job of Administrator.

During his six months in office, Bradley has completely revised the medical service of the VA. He has broken through the bureaucratic monopoly to open up the service to top medical men.

The new Administrator has made an excellent start toward tying in the veterans' hospitals with the latest research in the medical and hospital in the country. Under the old regime, they were almost completely cut off from new medical developments.

Those most competent to judge, including Dr. Howard A. Rusk, one of the nation's leading authorities on veterans' rehabilitation, have found Steele's charges to be unjustified. Dr. Rusk reports tremendous gains in the veterans' medical service, and increasing confidence from both veterans and the public.

Most of Bradley's time has been spent settling disputes over where veterans' hospitals should be located. In the past, political influence too often decided where the hospitals should be built. Congressmen sought them for their districts as political plums with which to reward their constituents. The result was that they were often situated in isolated communities hard to reach and remote from any center of medical research.

### REVERSED PATTERN

Bradley is trying hard to reverse this pattern. He has stood out like a rock of honesty against all pressures to build veterans' hospitals in locations that would penalize the patients by ensuring lonely isolation and by shutting them off from the main stream of medical progress.

The issue of a site for a veterans' hospital has been brought into the dispute Steele has raised. The Legion commander was using a site known as the Knights of Pythias Home site in Decatur, Ill. This was originally offered according to the Veterans Administration, at \$125,000. On Bradley's recommendation, based on the opinions of hospital experts, another site was chosen which cost not more than \$44,000.

At the insistence of the Legion, the choice was reversed, and the site was based on all factors, including the low cost of the site was selected. On the day that Steele issued his blast against Bradley, the VA reversed a wire to the Knights of Pythias Home site had been reduced to \$75,000.

### THE CHARGES BOUNCE

In view of the way in which Steele's charges have bounced back, it would seem to be up to the Legion to give a fuller account of what the dispute is about.

The Legion commander said that 12,000 veterans were awaiting treatment, but of this number, only 482 had disabilities connected with their war service.

Between World War I and World War II, the Legion became a very effective pressure group in the selection of sites for local communities. Was good. But too often the pressure tactics seemed to benefit the small group that dominated the community.

With some 12,000 new veterans coming out of the war just ended, the pressure tactics seemed to be a broader approach. That is what Bradley is trying to bring about, and he deserves his chance.

### Samuel Grafton

### Case Of The \$30 Dinner

NEW YORK

SEVERAL commentators have poked their noses into the case of Samuel Grafton, who have pulled them back, wrinkled with apprehension; it seems a stupor of indifference, as somehow, the case is going on, and there are people who think nothing of spending \$30 for a dinner, and then waiting in line for a privilege of shooting craps, as patiently as if they were waiting for absolution.

A heavy stockbroker said the other night that he was tired of people with \$10,000 in bills to invest in stocks. It seemed to him that anybody with \$10,000 could at least be a little more than a checkbook. He did not like the looks of it; it did not show a proper respect for \$10,000.

### LAX AND INAPPROPRIATE

It is after experiences such as this that a newspaper man is tempted to write a sour little moralistic piece, denouncing the lax and inappropriate behavior of the nation which has just been through a dreadful war. Did the boys die in the Kaiser's gas? Did the black marketeers could shove their betters at the bars? And such places have been apart from a common center since the war came to an end.

THE DRUNKEN RIDE

One recalls what happened after the last war, neon lights all play over the memory. It was like a ride in a roller car, a drunkard harlot with a scarlet mouth, and the recollection ought to be enough to make a good citizen of any man. There is nothing bad, per se, about a \$30 hotel room; but even a \$30 hotel room must be seen as evidence of a new headline in the newspapers pushed under the door today.

### Quote, Unquote

THE people of France, Britain and the rest of Europe have been eager to rid themselves of the political and economic handicaps under which they have been forced to exist. They have turned their backs on the old and have determined to try the new.

—Pontiac, Mich., Press.

To many millions of people throughout the world, the Independent Jewish Commonwealth of Palestine represents a symbol of hope and passionate conviction.

—Sumner Wells, former Undersecretary of State.