

FIGHT FATAL, SAYS KENT MAN

Ralph Bickell, Kent logger, admitted today that the death Monday night of his neighbor, Fred N. Gehring, was the result of a fight between the two men. Sheriff's Capt. Wesley N. Miller announced.

In a signed statement, Bickell admitted that he drew a long-bladed pocket knife during a struggle in Gehring's home, after the two men had been drinking wine Monday afternoon and evening, and Gehring fell on the knife.

Bickell and his wife, Ester, are in the county jail.

Wine, Home Brew Consumed

Bickell told Captain Miller that he and Gehring had drunk a quart of wine and two or three quarts of home brew apiece. Then they took some canned goods from a nearby cabin. Later, they drank more wine. It was shortly after this that they started a fight in the bedroom.

"I was on my back on the bed with my arm under me," Bickell stated. "I pushed Gehring off and grabbed my pocket knife. I was holding the knife in front of me and he fell on me. We walked over to my cabin and my wife washed his wound with alcohol and bandaged it."

Man Taken to Home

"Leaving the house he fell over a bunch of fruit jars. He couldn't walk, so I went over to his place, about 100 feet away, and got his wheelchair. We loaded him into the wheelchair and took him home and put him into bed. The next forenoon we visited him and found him dead in bed."

Miller said Mrs. Bickell stated the fight occurred in their home after Gehring "bragged about the canned goods they had stolen."

Uruguay is expected to reduce electric light and power consumption by 20 per cent as a wartime conservation move.

Sells Bonds



WHAT D'YA MEAN—YOU AIN'T GONNA BUY NO BONDS!

This picture, used in connection with the Fourth War Loan campaign among workers at the Todd Seattle Dry Docks and the Seattle Shipbuilding Corporation, was said by officials to have had a large part in the success of the campaign. The picture aroused more comment among the workers than any other campaign effort. Both plants exceeded their campaign quotas. The "super-salesman" for Uncle Sam is Owen Murphy, 7 months old.

POPE DECRIES ABBEY BOMBING

—Says Berlin

By Associated Press.

The Berlin radio said today: "Pope Pius XII's first words as ENEMY DISPATCH Printed With Reserve"

he received news of the wanton destruction of Monte Cassino monastery were:

"If they had wanted, Monte Cassino could have been saved. It would have needed good will only and consideration not of my person but of the Catholic world."

The broadcast said the Pope spoke "with bitterness."

Harold H. Tittmann, Jr., American charge d'affaires at the Vatican, was declared by Berlin to have stated "in the course of a routine audience with Cardinal Secretary of State Maglione that the monastery could be rebuilt and that the United States would interest themselves financially."

Cardinal Maglione, the broadcast said, "responded: 'Even if you rebuilt it in gold and diamonds, it still isn't the monastery.' Vatican circles declared that an immediate American estimate of material loss of 200,000,000 lire means absolutely nothing in view of the cultural, historical loss, which the Catholic Church has suffered."

No authority was given in the broadcast for this "American estimate." The amount stated is equivalent to \$2,000,000.

THUGS ATTACK 2 SEATTLE WOMEN

Two women were attacked in Seattle streets last night and early this morning, but both escaped serious injury.

Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, 54 years old, 111 Tenth Ave. S., reported to police that she was dragged on the head and dragged into an alley at Sixth and Vesler Way, only a block from the police station, by a Negro who held her captive for nearly an hour.

Mrs. Johnson said she warned him that she had been on her way to visit a friend who would notify police soon. She finally "argued" him into letting her go without molesting her further.

While she was held captive, the assailant covered her head with her coat so her screams could not be heard.

Eileen Ahner, 5542 22nd Ave. S., was held and robbed at 22nd Avenue South and Brandon Street about 2:20 o'clock this morning when she was on her way home. She said she got off a bus at Beacon Avenue and Brandon Street and was followed by a man in a soldier's uniform who had attempted to talk to her on the bus.

Burns Kill Jap Baby

TULELAKE, Calif., Feb. 17.—(AP)—Eishi Takeshita, 3 years old, died at the Tule Lake Japanese War Relocation Authority center hospital yesterday from burns suffered in a fall into an ash pit. W. R. A. officials said the pit was not one officially designated for use of the evacuees. It was an unauthorized one dug behind a dwelling.

J. P. Blanchard, a Frenchman, guided his balloon across the English Channel January 7, 1785, in the first cross-Channel flight.

WHETSTONE HAS NEW BEACHHEAD

The battle of the county commission continued today with a new beachhead established by minority member Joseph A. Whetstone, as he charged Commissioners Russell H. Fluent and Archie Phelps with using a county employee on county time in a county automobile to pick up 8,000 copies of a small publication for "propaganda" purposes.

Whetstone said he had been informed that Fred Farrimond, driver for Fluent, went to town on the east side of Lake Washington to pick up bundles of the publication, whose entire issue is devoted to views of Fluent and Phelps in their controversy with Whetstone.

'I Have Witnesses'

"It's too bad that my colleagues have to subsidize a man in his small paper in order to get their views and propaganda before the public at county expense," Whetstone said today. "I have witnesses who saw Farrimond driving a county station wagon doing this man's errand on county time Tuesday afternoon."

Fluent, when informed of Whetstone's charge, replied: "There is nothing to it. It doesn't mean a thing. The whole thing is picayunish."

Questioned about Whetstone's charge that Farrimond was in a county car on county time, Fluent replied:

"Yes, I sent him over there, but he went on his own time, and I'm having the three gallons of gasoline that he used billed to me. It's the first time in six years that I've used my county car and I think that it's our duty to get the papers to inform the people of the North End the truth."

'So What' Is Answer

Whetstone charged that Fluent and Phelps paid the publisher to devote this issue of his paper to their cause. To this Fluent replied:

"So what?"

"No, Phelps and I didn't pay this man to publish our views in his paper," Fluent said. "I did pay him \$65 for extra copies and Phelps, I think, did the same."

Phelps said he did not know of Farrimond's trip "until I read it in today's paper."

"I approve of what happened, but I don't like it at the time," Phelps added.

Whetstone said the paper carried an attack on the Rev. Dr. Harold V. Jensen, pastor of the First Baptist Church here, accusing Dr. Jensen of "meddling" in county politics.

"It is a regrettable situation," Whetstone observed, "when a man or a group cannot come down to a meeting of the commissioners without exposing themselves to attack in some propaganda sheet."

"Majority members are trying to intimidate people from attending these meetings and expressing their views," Whetstone continued. "Phelps and Phelps don't like to have them around. It upsets their routine. They want to get back into their old-time stride."

Employees Distribute Paper

Answering Whetstone's charge that the majority members mean to use county employees on county time to distribute copies of the publication, Fluent replied:

"Our employees will send out 2,400 in the rural mails, and I think that the men in the North District for the employees there to take home, but they'll do it on their own time."

Fluent's driver admitted that he did the errand, but denied using a county car on county time. Farrimond explained that he used his own car instead of the county station wagon and made the pick-up at 3:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, which, he explained, is usually part of his working hours but he felt that he was "doing it on my own time because I had overtime coming."

What Happens If Nazis Flee? Russ Pursue!

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst

Observers in London, taking a rosy view of the amazing way the Red armies are ravaging the Hitlerian war front, are speculating on the possibility of the Russians' completely clearing their territory of the invaders during the five remaining weeks of winter.

Well, that certainly is super-optimism, but it must be admitted that it's within the range of extreme possibility—if the "if" would be a collapse of the Nazi front, either resulting in debacle or quick withdrawal.

What happens when the Hitlerites do make their big withdrawal, as they surely must?

Will the Russians keep on driving right into Germany, no matter whether the Anglo-American invasion has reached Hitler's western border? Supposing (and this is asked in sepulchral voice) the Red army is first in the Reich?

Of course, the Red forces will continue the chase until the Nazis yield for mercy. Indeed, the Hitlerites will be lucky if they're able in some cases to holler loud enough to make themselves heard.

Human nature being what it is, it's likely that neither the Muscovites nor the Western Allies would be happy to arrive in Berlin last. All the Big Three would like to be present at the barbecue to keep an eye on developments—political, for instance.

However, the war will go forward hell-bent, irrespective of these undercurrents of human nature.

He Gives 'Unto Caesar'

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—The collector of internal revenue received an anonymous letter today enclosing \$300 and a request for forgiveness because I have not given unto Caesar what is Caesar's.

Lieut. Wright Wins Air Medal, Eight Clusters

A veteran of 50 missions in the Mediterranean area, 1st Lieut. Theodore W. Wright, 6847 15th Ave. N. E., was awarded the Air Medal with eight Oak-Leaf Clusters, and is in line to receive the Purple Heart for a wound he received in action, according to word from Headquarters of the 12th Army Air Force.

In a battle over Stilly, the left motor of Lieut. Wright's plane was knocked out and the bomb bay was shot full of holes. After nine minutes of badly crippled flying, the ship lost altitude and "hit the water hard," just 500 feet off the Sicilian coast. The crew was picked up and taken to Malta after four hours on a life raft.

While squadron leader of a flight of Mitchell bombers on his 50th raid, Lieut. Wright was wounded below his right eye by a piece of flak, but was able to pilot the ship back to base.

W. R. A. SHIFT CALLED EVASION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—(AP)—California congressmen today were divided in their opinions regarding President Roosevelt's transfer of the War Relocation Authority to the jurisdiction of Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes.

Some who like the secretary expressed hope he would wield a big stick and bring order into what they described as disorderliness in the camps.

But others said the transfer, announced yesterday by the White House, was an evasion of the issue and an effort to sugar coat a bitter pill.

Main point of controversy was retention of Dillon S. Meyer to head the W. R. A. under Ickes. Twenty-one West Coast congressmen from Oregon, Washington and California had requested in a resolution sent to the President late last month that Meyer be removed.

Secretary Ickes said today the program developed by the agency during the past two years "will be continued and I hope will be made more effective."

Meyer also issued a statement saying the program of administering ten communities for Japanese in this country has had the endorsement of Congress.

Solons Debate Measure To Denaturalize Japs

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—(AP)—West Coast congressmen today considered amending a pending immigration committee bill so as to provide that once-disloyal Japanese-Americans could be denaturalized despite a change-of-heart in the face of mounting Japanese defeats.

Representative Leroy Johnson, Republican, California, said the committee bill would apply only to those renunciations made after the bill became a law. He said the group aligned with him wanted to make the bill apply to anyone after October, 1940.

200,000 TROOPS RETURNED TO U. S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—(UP)—More than 200,000 overseas troops, not counting sick and wounded, have been repatriated since the start of the war, the War Department said today in announcing details of its plan for rotation of men between foreign and domestic assignments.

Some were brought home under the rotation policy, under which replacements were furnished against advance requisitions from theatre commanders. Others were repatriated under a "return-permanent" classification and required no special replacements. These include men sent home for emergency reasons, for discharge, or for more efficient distribution of highly qualified individuals.

Requirements Listed

Soldiers become eligible for repatriation in rotation after 18 months' service in North Africa and two years in Alaska and the Caribbean. The intervals to be prescribed in the Southwest Pacific and elsewhere now are under study.

"Eligibility does not bestow the right to be relieved from an overseas theatre," the announcement said, "but only establishes a basis for selection, the actual relief being dependent upon the personnel situation, exigencies of the service, and prosecution of the war."

Availability of shipping space for replacement is one of the main controlling factors.

Purpose Is Three-Fold

Purpose of rotation is three-fold: First, to insure efficiency of a command by replacing those whose morale or health has been adversely affected by long and severe duty; second, to bring home experienced personnel for training and forming new units; third, to repatriate those deserving it, including men wounded in action more than once.

Persons brought home under rotation will be granted leave or furlough by port or station commanders enabling them to spend three weeks wherever they choose. They will not be ordered overseas again until after service in the United States.

Nurses Saved After Crash Are Identified

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Allied Headquarters today announced that all 13 of the nurses who crash-landed in Albania were safe after a 60-day journey through Nazi-controlled territory. The plane crew of four and 13 enlisted men also are safe.

The names of the nurses, all second lieutenants, were announced as follows: Agnes A. Jensen, Frances Nelson of Matoaka, W. Va.; Lois E. Watson, Oaklawn, Ill.; Ann Kopco, Hammond, La.; Gertrude Dawson, Vandergrift, Pa.; Ann Markowitz, Chicago; Elina Schwant, Winner, S. D.; Lillian J. Tacina, Detroit; Eugenie H. Rutowski, Detroit; Pauline J. Knable, Richland Center, Wis.; Ava Maters, Helen Porter and Wilma Lyttle.

Victim of Auto Crash Hidden For 30 Minutes

Police investigating a automobile collision at First Avenue North and Harrison Street about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon didn't discover that a woman pedestrian also had been injured in the accident until nearly 30 minutes after it happened—when she crawled from a nearby hedge.

The woman, Mrs. Mildred Chaser, 41 years old, 400 W. Mercer St., was taken to Harborview County Hospital, where she was treated for cuts and bruises.

"I had crossed the street and was walking along the sidewalk," Mrs. Chaser said today, "when I heard the crash. Before I could look around the car hit me and threw me through the hedge. It could easily have killed me."

"I knew what I was doing all the time, but I guess I was in a state of shock. I couldn't get up. It's a miracle I'm alive. I believe in God more than ever now."

Traffic investigators H. S. Brady and R. D. Rayburn said Mrs. Chaser, stunned by the impact when she was struck by one of the two cars, was hurled into the hedge where she lay until long after the cars had been towed away.

The cars were driven by Mrs. Jean Chester, 42, of 1435 Ninth Ave. W., and Morris H. Williams, 62 W. Etruria St., whose wife, Lucille, suffered a serious brain concussion and was taken to Harborview.

Mrs. Chaser's husband, Wilbur, and son, Robert Chaser, are both stationed in Texas with the Army.

Horse Show Will Benefit Army Camp

From 75 to 100 horses will be displayed at the benefit show for the Army Recreational Camp at Jefferson Park, sponsored by Washington horsemen, at 8 o'clock Saturday night, February 26 in the Olympic Riding Academy arena, Maj. Ralph J. Stuits announced today. Five to 20 horses will participate in each of the 14 events. Some of the horses will come from Oregon.

Committee members sponsoring the show, include A. I. Plomgren, chairman; Mr. and Mrs. James Rainwater, Mr. and Mrs. J. Grady Gay, Miss Ann Watkins, Mrs. Loretta Souters and Mrs. May Catterman.

Chamber to Hear Building Expert

Robert P. Gerholz of Flint, Mich., president of the National Association of Home Builders, will speak at the Seattle Chamber of Commerce Community Council tomorrow noon on postwar home-building plans.

Gerholz is opposed to governmental housing programs after the war and has declared the war-time public housing program to be a failure.

Demo Women to Meet

The Washington Women's Democratic Club will meet Saturday at 2 o'clock at 501 Smith Tower, Miss Jessie Irving, president, announced today. Mrs. Hattie Mae Patterson will discuss the country's foreign policy during the Democratic administration during the past ten years.

DIES REPORTS ON 'PEACE NOW' AIM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—(AP)—The Dies committee turned over to the Justice Department today evidence it said showed that the "Peace Now" movement has engaged in "acts whose nature is clearly seditious and which tend toward the encouragement of treason."

Chairman Dies, Democrat, Texas, said he would recommend prosecution under the sedition laws. Dies, head of the special House committee investigating un-American activities, told reporters he believed his group's formal report on "Peace Now" made public last night, "spells the end of that organization," but added that the committee "will continue to keep a watchful eye on those connected with the movement."

Letter Sent 67

One of the main items Dies said he would hand over to Attorney-General Biddle was a letter which committee investigators obtained from the organization's files and which, the committee said, was sent to 57 prominent religious leaders last October.

The letter, the committee report said, invited the religious leaders to "publicly request all the followers of Christ under your banner at once to lay down their arms and cease supporting this war."

Treason Preferred

A follow-up letter, the committee reported, expressed the belief it would be preferable for Christians to be "guilty of treason to this administration than guilty of treason to the Christ."

The committee said "Peace Now" was organized last year to work for a negotiated peace. Its officers were identified as George W. Harriman, chairman; Dorothy Hutchinson, associate editor; Marjorie Ewbank, treasurer, and Bessie Simon, secretary.

Since the outbreak of war, Canada has distributed 583,000 Bibles.



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