

THE BROADLANDS NEWS

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J. F. Darnall, Editor & Publisher

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The Home Front

To win this war we must give it everything we have—and that is just what we're going to do. In three more months practically all production of civilian goods and gadgets we can live without, will have come to a full stop. And the plants, the machines and the men will be at work on military contracts.

While Illinois and the nation temporarily adjust their living habits to a much lower standard of living, those of us on the Home Front remember what has happened to people who weren't ready to put everything they had into machines to oppose the Axis armies. We know that the bravest soldiers with only rifles as arms cannot halt a tank or a bomber.

These were developments affecting the Home Front—in a historic week that saw the old order changing, that America might fight a winning war on the Battle Front:

America's great construction industry was drastically curtailed by War Production Board order. There'll be necessary defense housing, and a limited amount of building and repairs besides, but no new major projects will be permitted.

We have just one project now—to produce—to bury our enemies beneath the weight of the metals and materials we have transformed into weapons.

Marching off to war went the "gingerbread frills" of women's clothes in a WPB order that "froze" milady's silhouette. The purpose is to save materials and to avoid drastic and arbitrary changes that might make perfectly usable garments obsolete from a fashion standpoint.

Discovery of huge stores of metals in Illinois—sufficient to be converted into some 3,000 eighteen-ton tanks—was disclosed by the newly created Projects Salvage section of the Bureau of Industrial Conservation. Expected to yield nearly 60,000 tons of the highest grade steel and iron scrap are abandoned railroad tracks, streetcar rails imbedded and almost forgotten in city streets, and an unworked coal mine. In addition, the bureau has its eye on two sunken vessels in Chicago harbor waters.

Chicago police auctioned 104 wrecked and abandoned automobiles to metal dealers, sending 60 tons of scrap contained in the vehicles off to smelters and furnaces.

To combat inflation and the rising cost of living OPA fixed maximum prices on a long list of household articles, including 44 electrical appliances ranging from curling irons to toasters.

Despite reports to the contrary there will be sugar rationing. Industrial users will register at local high schools April 28 and 29, and civilians at elementary schools May 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Tony Canzoneri, former lightweight champion of the world has had his battered face made over in the hope of becoming a movie actor.

The famous Argonaut gold mine in California, operated for 90 years, will close soon because it can not obtain priorities for needed equipment.

Vast Military Establishment

At the present time, there are slightly more than 2,000,000 men in the American Army. There are 1,000,000 more men in the Navy, and about 500,000 in the Air Force. This marks an immense change from a few years ago, when the Army was down to around 150,000 men, and the other military branches were also negligible so far as numbers were concerned. But the change that will take place in the future, according to current plans, will be indefinitely greater—and will have an indefinitely greater effect on the normal ways of the nation.

Top military men believe that the Army will have to be increased to 8,000,000 men and perhaps still more—that the Navy will have a personnel of around 2,000,000—and that the Air Force will reach the 2,000,000.

The reasons for planning so vast a military establishment are obvious. We must figure on a long war whose end will be the actual land invasion of Axis countries. All hope this will not be necessary and that Germany and Japan will collapse. But it would be the height of folly to plan on that. We must, instead, plan on doing it the hard way.

What will be the effect of this demand for manpower for the military services?

First, it can be stated categorically that every man under forty without dependents, and without a job which is considered absolutely vital to the war effort, will be inducted, and soon. Men who are physically unfit, of course, will be exceptions—but men with relatively minor physical disabilities will be taken, and placed in non-combat work.

Second, Congress will probably pass a measure providing for government support of men's dependents. Then the millions of men in the 3-A classification will gradually be taken.

Third, the registration of older men (up to 64) will give the government information concerning a reservoir of manpower which is too old for actual combat, but which can be called upon for other necessary duties.

Fourth, it is a definite possibility that we will eventually classify and conscript womanpower. Woman can drive cars, run elevators, serve as clerks, perform many operations in war industry, and do many other jobs which are now being performed by men the military forces need and want.

What will be left for civilian production, civilian life?

The answer is clear: "The barest minimum of what is needed." If this war lasts long enough, the drain on our human resources will be as great as in Germany, England, Japan or anywhere else. The home fires will be kept burning by women, by men who are unfit for military service, and by old men. Then, when the war is over, the vast job will start of reestablishing life on a peacetime basis. In the meantime, any man in good health who is not beyond the registration age limits, should be prepared for sudden disruption of his economic, social and domestic life. This war is being fought "for keeps," and all the wealth of the nation, human and material alike, is dedicated to winning it.

Life Insurance Facts

Some interesting facts are contained in a report on life insurance in the United States, showing among other things the amount of insurance held at the beginning of each of our last four wars.

Prior to the Civil War, life insurance was almost negligible as an economic factor, and at the outbreak of that war in 1861, the life protection owned by the entire population was only 180 million dollars.

When the Spanish-American

War began in 1898, this had increased to 6,325 million. When we entered the World War 1 in 1917 the amount had reached 24,679 million.

Then followed the period of amazing growth in life insurance business, which is still continuing, as a result of which we entered the present war with insurance in force amounting to the stupendous total of 124 billion dollars. This is more than five times as much as was carried by the people of the United States 25 years ago.

The nation's life insurance agents, who sold one billion dollars worth of Liberty bonds during the first World War, have again volunteered and are aiding the government in promoting the sale of defense bonds, especially through payroll deduction plans.

Ink Eradicator Used to Cure "Jigger" Bites

"Jiggers" harassed American troops on the border in 1916 more than did Pancho Villa and his bandits, but they found a way to fight them, reports the Illinois WPA Writers' Project. The entomologists have another name for them, but "jiggers" is the colloquial name for those biting red bugs that are reputed to be one of Satan's products.

When the First Illinois Infantry was about to leave San Antonio, the men were warned to guard themselves against "jiggers." Some, to their regret, did not take the warning seriously. They were bitten from head to foot until they were almost in a scratching frenzy. Then one of the officers produced a remedy in the form of an ink eradicator, in two bottles. One drop from the first bottle was allowed to dry, and then a drop from the second bottle was applied. Soldiers said it worked.

Do You Know Illinois?

By Edward J. Hughes
Secretary of State

Q. When did the actor Joseph Jefferson III first come to Illinois?

A. In 1839 when he travelled with his father to Chicago.

Q. Where did they travel in their tour?

A. They made their way north to Galena then turned south. At Pekin they were forced to play in a pork house still inhabited by some pigs.

Q. What difficulties did the Jeffersons encounter in Springfield?

A. They found a prohibitive license fee was demanded by the town.

Q. How did they overcome the difficulty?

A. A young lawyer offered to plead against the fee before the Council. He won his plea and refused to accept reimbursement.

Q. Who was the young lawyer?

A. Abraham Lincoln.

Q. What were the favorite Shakespearean plays in the Middle West at this time?

A. According to a study of newspaper advertising between 1799 and 1840 by R. L. Rusk the favorites were Richard III, Othello, and Hamlet.

Q. When was the first theatre building erected in Chicago?

A. 1847 on Randolph street near Dearborn. It was erected by John Rice who later became Mayor of Chicago.

Q. When was the McVicker theatre erected in Chicago?

A. In 1857 at a cost of \$85,000

Q. What famous theatre was built in Chicago in 1865?

A. Crosby's Opera House. It cost \$600,000.

Q. What extraordinary change in ownership of Crosby's Opera House took place in 1867?

A. It was won by an individual in a lottery.

Your News Items Wanted

Do you like to see the old home town paper full of interesting news items each week? Well, it could be, if you, and you, and everyone else would send in items that you know about each week. If you will be kind enough to help us in this matter, we certainly will appreciate it. Just drop your items in our mail box at foot of stairway. And please sign your name to it in order that we may know it is authentic. It is unnecessary to use an envelope.

Paper Hanging

Paper Hanging—30c per double roll. I also sell the latest patterns in wallpaper. — Floyd Eckerty, Phone 15R2, Broadlands.

Gibson, O., authorities asked a government agency for some information on air raid precautions and 30,000 pamphlets were sent. The town's population is 2,500.

Is your subscription paid?

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• "The comforts, conveniences, and safety, and the savings in time and energy that I bring to You—all these I do with but one thought in mind: that by helping You I'm helping You to help our Uncle Sam.

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STRAIGHT FROM NEW YORK



DRAFTED FOR SPRING
 Suit dresses of sheer crepe with crisp touches of white and arresting new lines capture high honors this Spring—a refreshing contrast to service uniforms. This feminine New York creation has a sheer sharkskin blouse-top with rhinestone buttons.

Tractor Mishaps Usually Increase In Spring Season

With the advent of spring and the first robin there is often the less cheering news of increased farm accidents as the farmer begins a new season of work, says C. M. Seagraves, the director of safety for the Illinois Agricultural Association. In Illinois, farm machinery accidents occur most frequently from the use or misuse of tractors. Spring is the worst time of the year for these casualties, Seagraves reports.

In an attempt to stem the increase of tractor accidents, the department of safety of the IAA suggests four simple precautions which would substantially reduce mishaps of this type.

1. Tractor operators should make certain that the tractor is out of gear before they crank it; and while cranking should be careful to place their thumb under the crank handle instead of around it.

2. When the tractor is hot it should be allowed to cool or a large cloth should be placed over the radiator cap before it is removed. Many a scalded face would be avoided if this precaution were followed.

3. Avoid at all times driving the tractor across ditches and gullies or running too close to the edge of some depressions and thus avoid overturning the equipment.

4. Under no condition should an operator attempt to mount or dismount a tractor while it is in motion.

OUR BOYS AWAY

Pvt. Walter L. Thode, Flight A, 31st T. S. S., Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

Merle B. Jackson, Co. D, 81st A. R., Fort Knox, Ky.

Max R. Thode, Hdqs., Hdqs., A. C. T. S., Chanute Field, Ill.

Pvt. Robert L. Easton, Barracks T., 127, 36th School Squadron, A. C., Chanute Field, Rantoul, Ill.

Max R. Lookingbill, Pearl Harbor.

C. G. Noblitt, Crew Disbursing Office, Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla.

Dale Potter, 62 A. B. Sq., 70 A. B. Sp., Sheppard Field, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Fred Peterson, U. S. N. A. S., 1 B., Corry Field, Pensacola, Fla.

Sgt. T. R. Crain, P. O. Box 22, Baltimore, Md.

James S. Crain, Company 66, U. S. Naval Training Station, San Diego, Calif.

John R. Crain, T. S. Barracks Six, U. S. N. A. S., Jacksonville, Fla.

Pvt. Tracy Skinner, Co. M. A. P. O. No. 7, 17 Inf., Santa Rosa, Cal.

Aviation Cadet David L. Freeman, Class 42 G., Co. E., Randolph Field, Texas.

Pvt. Charles F. Boyd, 23rd Engrs. B. N. (arm'd) Headquarters Company, Camp Polk, La.

Robert Lee Peterson, U. S. Naval Training Station, San Diego, Cal.

Wise Words by Senator Byrd
 "The financial preparedness and the financial security of America are just as important to our national welfare as military preparedness. Without a solvent nation, all of the freedoms we now have would be destroyed. Today, in America we have no greater responsibility than to preserve the financial solvency of our country. We must constantly keep clear in our minds that unless the private enterprise system of America is preserved, then we face state socialism."

The Civilian's Oath
 Whenever a soldier takes the oath, each civilian should take an oath with him to protect and defend the form of government that has made this the kind of country our soldiers are glad to fight for. They will not let us down. We must not let them down. That is our job.

Remember Pearl Harbor!

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BROADLANDS ILLINOIS

The electric line extensions to serve new State Rural Electrification customers will henceforth be limited to 250 feet. Extensions begun before March 26 may be completed, however, and houses that were wired or for which foundations were finished before that date may be given electric service provided they are not more than 2000 feet from an existing line. A galvanized steel wire must be used instead of copper for such extensions.

A new radio set automatically turns out the lights on outdoor signs during blackouts. The set is tuned to a near-by radio station; when the station stops broadcasting, the radio switches off the lights.

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