

By Charles A. Squire

The name of Marie Corelli comes into the news, an echo from a not distant, yet virtually forgotten past.

Now such news will surely start many a figurative tear in the eyes of women (and maybe a few men) of say 90 and up, in reminiscence of the days when they read and wept over the books of Marie Corelli.

For she was a most decidedly popular novelist of the period before and after the turn of the century. Her books had "sales appeal" though she never went as far as Elzora Glyn, who died the other day, with a sex appeal.

With her florid rhetoric, her extravagant romance, her sensuous of the mystic she made her books livid with coloring. The people ate up her stuff with avid appetites though the critics panned them until she declined to send her new novels to the reviewers.

She was not as prolific a writer as her contemporary, Edgar Wallace, writer of English "thrillers" who did 150 books in 27 years. Wallace was such a spendthrift that he left debts of three-quarters of a million dollars when he died in Hollywood in 1932, but the debts were liquidated from his royalties within two years.

Popular tastes change; new authors come to claim the stage and win the laurels. The heroes and heroines of Marie Corelli's books, who recall them now save a few forlorn Corelli addicts? If not quite of the period of "lavender and old lace" they belong to the spongy sentimentality of the Victorian age.

They were married April 18, 1941, and separated last Monday, said Miss Durbin's attorney, Elmer Bromley.

Miss Durbin, whose legal name is Edna Mae Durbin Paul, is 20 years old, her husband 28.

In a statement issued through her attorney, Miss Durbin said she and Paul had found it impossible to continue marriage and "as a result I am taking legal steps to terminate it."

She added that "circumstances which neither of us has been able to solve make it imperative to part to assure our individual welfare."

Her attorney said they have agreed on disposition of community property.

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NINETY THIRD YEAR

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Russians Tear Gaps In Fronts

Reds Surge Into Crimea, Suburbs Of Kiev, Gomel

By JUDSON O'QUINN

LONDON, Thursday, Oct. 14 (AP)—Soviet troops, tearing three major gaps in German defense lines, have surged in to menace the Crimea, flung another spearhead toward the suburbs of Kiev and splashed across the Sozh river to the gates of Gomel in white Russia, Moscow announced today.

Breaking through elaborate German defenses in the south Ukraine, the Russians forced the Melochna river and swept to the center of Melitopol, where fierce street battles were reported in progress.

Melitopol, on one of the two German escape railways from the Crimea, was a milestone in the Russian drive to cut off the Crimean peninsula from the north.

The break-through came after three days' fighting. The Russians drove through two lines of anti-tank ditches on the eastern bank of the river, another ditch on the west bank and a wide net of blockhouses, pill boxes, and communication trenches.

Moving in from the north and south, the Russians fought off German counter-attacks with fresh troops and swept into the center of the town.

More than 400 Germans were killed, 38 tanks, 16 self-propelled guns and 88 field guns were destroyed in the battle, the midnight communique said.

Northward, at the Dnieper river bend, soviet spearheads plunged to within five miles of Zaporze after a four-day engagement that saw several thousand Germans killed, 30 enemy strong-points shattered and military booty captured.

Moscow dispatches said the red army had advanced to three kilometers (1.8 miles) from Kiev, a city blazing with retreat fires already started by the Germans. The communique told of advances south of Kiev on the west bank of the Dnieper that reached five miles farther inland. Bitter German counter-attacks were reported.

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Snell's Pig Reaches Oregon



Gov. Earl Snell greeted a 200-pound pig Wednesday morning in Portland—the porker he won from Gov. Dwight Griswold of Nebraska by virtue of Oregon's superior showing in the third war loan. Christened "I Dood It," the pig starred Wednesday night on a Portland theatre stage and today will go to live in an air-conditioned plate glass pen, being destined to aid in future war bond sales.

The hog shown above may or may not be Snell's. It is one of the 12 the Nebraska governor gave away. Gov. Griswold, finger upraised, is seen bidding on a prize 4H hog at the Ak-Sar-Ben auction at Omaha. The governor's friends outbid him on some of those offered.—AP Telegram.

Huge Allied Air Armada Crushes Rabaul, Japan's Main Southwest Fortress

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Thursday, Oct. 14-(AP)—A huge air armada crushed Japan's main southwest Pacific fortress of Rabaul Tuesday, wrecking 60 per cent of its planes and sinking 17,000 tons of its supplies, in a blow so titanic that the American air commander assessed it as "the turning point in the war" in that sector.

Massing all available heavy bombers, medium bombers and fighters—making their debut over Rabaul—for the attack, Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney's air force surprised the enemy so completely that General MacArthur said the raid broke Rabaul's back.

Having already largely wiped out Japan's Wewak, New Guinea, air base by destroying some 500 planes there, the destruction or damage to 177 planes at Rabaul now gives the allies mastery of the air over the Solomons sea and adjacent waters, MacArthur said.

"It was a crushing and decisive defeat for the enemy at a most vital point," the general said. "Almighty God blessed our arms."

The announcement today of this staggering punch at Rabaul was contained in a communique which also proclaimed complete eradication of organized Japanese resistance in all the central Solomons and the downing of 21 more planes in sky battles over the only Solomons area still in enemy hands.

The biggest allied air force ever assembled in the southwest Pacific, employing Liberators, Mitchells and P-38s, struck Rabaul.

One hundred enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground and 51 severely damaged. Twenty-six fighters out of 40 the Japanese put in the air were shot down.

The 17 aircraft destroyed or severely damaged are estimated to have been 60 per cent of Rabaul's strength.

In addition to the three destroyers, three merchantmen were sunk. Severe damage also was inflicted on a submarine, its 5000-ton tender, a 6000-ton destroyer tender and a 7000-ton merchantman.

The raiding Liberators, Mitchells and P-38s expended 350 tons of bombs and 250,000 rounds of cannon and machine gun fire in the mid-day assault.

The raiders smashed wharves and warehouses and caused heavy damage.

Vichy's Collapse Due on Invasion

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13-(AP)—Collapse of the Vichy regime and a spontaneous uprising throughout France the moment allied invasion forces land was foreseen today by the French liberation here on the basis of the liberation of Corsica.

Jean Baube, spokesman for the delegation, told a press conference that 12,000 Corsican patriots took matters in their own hands and set up a new government the day the Italian annals were announced.

The rector said he had no idea how or when the still was secreted in the tower, which had not been inspected for three or four years.

Shells Scream Prelude to Great Battle as Allies Crack Nazi Line for 9-Mile Breakthrough

Reds Not To Talk Frontiers

3-Power Parley Not to Touch On Baltic States

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW, Oct. 13-(AP)—The official communist party organ Pravda declared today that the Russians do not intend to discuss frontiers or the status of the Baltic states at the forthcoming three-power conference any more than "the borders of the United States or the status of California."

In its first announcement of the conference to be held in Moscow among representatives of Russia, the United States and Great Britain, Pravda said the Russians intend to use the meeting to discuss the "second front" and Hitler's complete defeat, and not to debate post-war frontier questions.

Pravda followed the position repeatedly expressed in the Soviet press that the war first must be won before the allies get into serious discussions over the fate of the world after the fighting ceases.

(British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden will head the British delegation at the tri-power meeting. It was believed in Washington that Secretary of State Cordell Hull would represent the United States.)

Pravda also took definite notice of contradictory rumors in allied countries that the Russians intend to make a separate peace with Germany when the Red army reaches the Soviet 1940 frontiers and that the Russians will try to get to Berlin first in order to be able to dictate the peace terms and the future organization of Europe.

It quoted favorably the British observer which had scouted these rumors. The communist party organ criticized "some allied papers" which it described as attempting to poison relations between the Soviet union and the western powers.

Further, Pravda quoted an observer as saying that the sooner the Moscow conference and the allied Mediterranean commission get under way the quicker the rumors regarding Russia's intentions will be silenced.

Fightin' Words Used by Clark

By NOEL MONKS
Representing Combined British Press Distributed by the Associated Press.

NAPLES, Oct. 12—(Delayed)—Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of the US Fifth army, has in six words, given his generals their orders for the impending battle of the Volturno. He told them:

"Hit them hard, boys—damn hard."

It accompanied him in his jeep on a tour of our positions along the Volturno river.

During the drive along the road we passed a sign that said, "Rome 200 kilometers." Clark called to the driver, "Just how many miles is that?"

When the driver replied, "125," the general turned to me and said, "That is not so far. I remember seeing the first sign to Naples, after landing at Salerno, which read 105 kilometers. We made it all right just as the Fifth army will make Rome."

Italian Prisoner Status Studied

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13-(AP)—Announcing that Italy's declaration of war against Germany would not change the status of approximately 50,000 Italian prisoners in this country immediately, the war department said today that the possibility of a future change in their status is being studied.

"Announcement of the disposition of Italian prisoners of war in the hands of allied troops abroad is a matter for the theater commander concerned," the department added.

Italy Declares War Upon Ex-Ally Germany; United Nations Accept

Not Much Fight Left, Belief, but Move May Encourage Resistance Behind Nazi Lines; Approval Is Limited

By EDWARD KENNEDY
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Oct. 13-(AP)—Italy declared war against Germany today and was accepted by the United States, Great Britain and Russia as a co-belligerent.

Premier Marshal Pietro Badoglio declared in a message to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, allied commander in the Mediterranean, that "All ties with the dreadful past are broken; and my government will be proud to be able to march with you on to the inevitable victory."

With Italy an exhausted nation and most of her soldiers showing little disposition to fight, it is not likely that the Badoglio government will be able to put any great army in the field beside those of the allies.

Its action, however, may increase the rear guard resistance in those parts of the country under the German heel and facilitate cooperation of Italians with the allies in that part of Italy so far wrested from the Germans.

Acceptance of Italy as a co-belligerent was announced in a joint statement by President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin. This amounted simply to putting an existing state of affairs into writing. Virtually all Italians now desert the Germans and some have been fighting them.

Italy still is far from being accorded the status of an ally, and so far as can be learned here, no promises have been made to her other than the commitments already undertaken—to aid the Italians in driving the Germans from the country and to give them a certain amount of food and other supplies to keep them going.

President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin in their joint statement made it plain that Italy's future would be adjusted "in the light of the assistance which the Italian government may be able to afford the United Nations' cause."

Pierce Says He's Retired From Politics

Contradicting the published guesses of political writers, Walter M. Pierce, former governor and more recently representative in congress from the second Oregon district, declared Wednesday that he has retired to his new home in Polk county and will not again seek public office.

The statement was made in recognition of reports that he might seek the democratic nomination for first district congressman, the office now held by James W. Mott, Salem republican.

Pierce, now 82 years old, declared that he still maintains his legal residence in Union county where he lived for many years prior to being elected to congress.

He was defeated for reelection at the general election last November by Lowell Stockman, Pendleton republican.

The ex-congressman is spending much of his time writing and occasionally attends a garage meeting or some other function.

Rentz Guilty Of Assault On Ex-Wife

Carl Rentz was found guilty of assault by a jury in circuit court here Wednesday. The jury, which deliberated three hours, declined to find him guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon as was charged in the indictment.

Mrs. Marie Rentz, the complaining witness, testified that Carl Rentz, her former husband, had seized her by the throat and wielded a hunting hatchet, at her home near Gervais on the night of August 14.

The defendant denied intent to harm his ex-wife, saying he had called upon her to attempt reconciliation, but admitted he had taken hold of her when she sought to run away. Their stories differed in that she contended he had seized her suddenly after she had left the house, while he testified that he had been talking to her in the house. Mrs. Rentz said she prevented him from striking her with the hatchet by seizing the handle.

Flank Of Germans In Danger

British Report Gains in East Italian Front

By NOLAND NORGAARD
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Oct. 13-(AP)—Allied troops cracking tough Nazi defenses for a nine-mile breakthrough in central Italy have forged a new threat of outflanking the Volturno river line, where the Germans were massing new strength, and thousands of shells screamed today in prelude to a great battle.

In accompaniment to tremendous artillery duels, both sides concentrated new forces of men and guns along the Volturno for what may become a bigger battle than that of the Salerno bridgehead a month ago.

Fifty miles inland allied forces punched through the mountains to seize San Croce, eight miles northeast of Pontelandolfo, and the eighth army driving westward captured Riccia only eight miles northeast of San Croce.

The Germans were also reported making heavy movements along the Adriatic behind their armored forces and paratroopers bitterly contesting the Eighth army march up the Adriatic coast. But whether these indicated that the nazis were losing a substantial additional force into the battle there as well as on the Volturno was not clear immediately.

Farther inland on the Eighth army front, enemy artillery reacted violently to the steady British advance, but gains in virtually every center were reported by Montgomery's headquarters.

Latest advice said the allied line now extends from a point on the Adriatic four miles above Termoli due south through Guglielmi and Larino to Bonefro, then it dips southeast a short distance to Colletorto. From there it runs southwest through Riccia and San Croce, then due south to a point on the Calore river west of Ponte, along the lower Calore to its junction with the Volturno, and along the Volturno to the sea. In some places, however, patrols have speared many miles deeper.

Pontelandolfo fell early this week to Fifth army troops, but capture of San Croce and Riccia in the central and westward drives added to the potential pressure in this area to turn the German Volturno line. The central front break through also took the towns of Cercello, Colle and Cesteipagano.

San Croce is only 10 airline miles from Vinchisturo, key road (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

MacArthur Tells Eleanor She'd Be 'More of Both'

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 12-(AP)—General MacArthur told Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt that she would be "more of a bother than a pleasure" if she included New Guinea on her itinerary of her south Pacific trip, the first lady said today.

"I was very sorry I couldn't go to New Guinea but it was the time of the Iae campaign and General MacArthur said I probably would be more of a bother than a pleasure," she explained at a press conference.

San Croce is only 10 airline miles from Vinchisturo, key road (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Post-War Aid Pledge Is Backed by Senate Group

By JACK BELL
WASHINGTON, Oct. 13-(AP)—A discreetly worded resolution pledging the United States to join with "free and sovereign" nations to establish and maintain international authority with power to preserve the peace won 7 to 1 approval by a senate foreign relations subcommittee today.

Apparently assured of approval by the full committee, the measure will be introduced formally tomorrow by Chairman Connally (D-Tex.) and may be ready for senate debate—possibly in somewhat revised form—by the middle of November.

The measure recommended over the objection of Senator La Follette (Prog-Wis.), is a simple Senate resolution which does not require house action. The subcommittee thus ignored the house-approved Fulbright "lasting peace" resolution which called for Senate concurrence, although generally by the two are similar. The full committee will consider the new proposal next week.

While congress thus moved closer to a declaration of policy on post war action, congressmen generally were hailing Italy's declaration of war on Germany today as helping the allied cause.

Other developments included: Because of the death of Rep. Crest (D-Ky.), the house postponed until tomorrow debate on (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

Economy Vow Stressed As New Taxes Discussed

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31-(AP)—In a "we mean business" mood, the senate appropriations committee served notice on government departments and bureaus today that it intends to carry out congressional economy demands paralleling the administration's drive for new billions in wartime revenue.

The committee voted to enlarge its staff of expert investigators for closer scrutiny of money requests and one committee member, Senator Thomas (D-Okla.), said the action meant that "we're through with voting blank check and lump sum appropriations."

In the house, the ways and means committee heard new arguments in favor of a national sales tax and one committee member predicted privately the group would approve such a levy before agreeing to hike individual income tax levies, as recommended by the treasury.

Rep. Elliott (D-Calif.), appeared as a witness before the committee and recommended enactment of a 10 per cent sales tax, saying "I believe every human being should be paying something to help win this war."

Rep. Gearhart (R-Calif.), committee member, interrupted his testimony to say that the California state sales tax "has not turned out to be an unpopular tax. The state got out of the red and reduced the tax from 3 to 2 per cent."

The committee postponed until Friday action on demands for an immediate inquiry into lend-lease spending. Senator Nye (R-ND), sought to bring up a long-pending resolution of Senator Butler (R-Neb.), calling for such an investigation.

McKellar indicated there was considerable sentiment in the committee for getting more information about lend lease, saying "we are going to go into lend-lease appropriations thoroughly in the light of what we were told in the senate's executive sessions last week; if those gentlemen were right, it should be looked into."