

Washington reports indicate that there will be major shake-ups in the defense bureaus. It is said that the President is dissatisfied with results in growing sensitive to growing criticism and wants action.

In the meantime the figures show improvement in arms production in many fields. Best results are being obtained in aircraft manufacture. Output of tanks is being materially stepped-up. But we haven't yet reach-

ed the peak forecast a year ago by a long way and uncontrolled strikes continue to disorganize and delay production.

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"NAVY INTELLIGENCE"

Is it necessary to be a high school graduate in order to enlist in the Navy?

No. Navy enlistees need not be high school graduates. All applicants will be given an examination containing approximately 100 questions. A grade of 50 per cent or better on this examination is sufficiently high to pass the Navy educational standards. However, a high school education will be valuable to the seaman during his Navy enlistment.

If I enlist in the Navy or Naval Reserve, will I be sent to a Navy Trade School?

All new recruits are sent to one of four Naval Training Stations and after a training period they may take examinations for entrance into Navy Trade Schools. Those recruits who pass their examinations with sufficiently high grades are sent to Navy Trade Schools before assignment to the fleet. While attending these schools, they will receive regular Navy pay and free schooling valued at \$1500.

What is the greatest possible pay I can expect to earn during my first term of enlistment? It is possible to earn as much as

\$126 a month by the end of your first term of enlistment, and remember that your clothing, lodging, medical and dental care are all supplied free.

After I have served my term of enlistment, what benefits do I get for re-enlistment?

Depending on your rate and length of service, you can get a cash bonus up to \$300 plus 30 days leave with pay.

What does the term "ash can" mean in the Navy?

An "ash can" is a slang term applied to the depth charge used to combat submarines. The average "ash can" is a container filled with approximately 300 pounds of T.N.T. and can be dropped overboard from a ship and so controlled as to explode at depths ranging from 36 to 300 feet. These are generally carried by the fast ships in the fleet, as a boat dropping a charge regulated to explode at 70 feet depth must move away from the explosion area at a speed of 25 knots or more. These "ash cans" are either rolled off the stern or shot from "y-guns" which hurl one right and one left simultaneously.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

It is significant that the most aggressive opposition to Winston Churchill in England has developed from his refusal to open a new front in Europe. The demand for this has largely come from Labor M. P.'s, but they have given the support of a number of conservatives and liberals. The feeling is growing in many quarters that Hitler's Russian campaign has for the first time sufficiently diverted his energies and resources so that it may be possible to carry the war to Germany.

The military problems involved in this are enormous and no layman is in a position to discuss them. There is however a problem of morale involved which is the utmost importance. Unrest in the nations which Hitler has occupied is obviously growing. The horrible toll of executions in occupied France is evidence of that, Hitler's henchmen aren't killing French citizens for fun, but because they endanger the purpose and policies of the Reich. So it is argued that if the Allies could start an aggressive military campaign against Hitler on the continent the subjugated peoples would be immensely encouraged and would increase the extent and scope of their opposition.

There is little doubt but what that argument has validity. If for instance British troops could effect a landing on French soil and push the Germans back the democratic world would take it as a miraculous tonic. But it is apparent that Mr. Churchill and his high command even though they realize this believe that the time is not right. And here again a morale as well as a military problem is involved.

The hard truth is that England has had nothing but failure in her land operations against Germany during this war. Her navy and air force have done wonders. Her infantry and her artillery and her mechanized forces on the other hand have been completely unable to cope with their German enemies. This is no criticism of the courage or resolve of Tommy Atkins. Kipling's "Thin red line of heroes" still remains. But Britain simply hasn't the equipment and we haven't been able to deliver it to her in sufficient quantity. The German army, whether you like it or not, is still the best in the world.

England's debacles at Dunkirk and in Crete and Norway tell the story. There soldiers did all and more than could be expected of them. But a man with a gun in his hand is no match for a tank. A trooper with a few months of training can't equal a ruthless superbly trained soldier of the Reichwehr with seven or more years of intensive military development behind him. The finest British pilot can't last long in a sky which hold twenty Luftwaffe planes for each one of the R.A.F.

Mr. Churchill's much criticised policy is thus easy to understand. He is apparently conserving all the military resources England can obtain. As he said some time ago the difficulties Hitler is experiencing in the Russian campaign provide no guarantee that Germany will not attempt a major invasion of the British Isles before long. England is sending planes and tanks to Russia. Mr. Churchill and his advisors know that the British public must not be unnecessarily subjected to the morale-damaging effects which follows defeat.

On top of that England has a big job to do in Africa. Here Hitler is weakest. The Italian troops in Africa have proven themselves easily vincible. And no man can rule the world as German militarists have written for generations unless he first rules Africa. General Wavell ablest of the British commanders is in charge in the East. And rumor has it that the British war office which is headed by aggressive Nazi hating Anthony Eden is planning a surprise move in Africa in conjunction with the De Gaulle Free French forces.

In the meantime the Allies are encouraged by the terrible losses Hitler is taking in Russia. Even if you discount Soviet claims of killed and wounded and captured to the minimum it is apparent that many of the finest Nazi troops have died in the endless spaces of the U.S.S.R. The hope remains that the news of this will eventually filter home despite Herr Goebbels' propaganda and the work of the Gestapo terrorists. There is certainly no reason now for believing that the German civilian population will revolt. But a civilian population which is disillusioned and without enthusiasm is of little service to the kind of military machine Hitler must maintain. Those who argue that this war can be won without the dispatch of millions of Allied troops to Europe base their argument on the supposition that in time the German people will get a bellyful and simply give up. That happened in World War No. 1. But there is no guarantee that it will happen this time.

VALE OF VIOLA

One of the marvels of autumn is the quick change of the leaves from dark green to red and brown and yellow. It seems the trees are transformed in a night. Trees display their colors on every hillside. Trees that during the summer wore sober green now show fine colors against the darker color of the firs. The sun's rays play against them, turning them ever into a brighter tinge as it mounts the sky.

As one rides thru the valley now attention is caught by the beautiful tree that stands on the eastern side of the school house. It is the great poplar that stands in the Armstrong yard. It stands nearly a hundred feet tall and large or girth. We have written of this tree before, but never was it so majestic, so brilliant, so covered with a profusion of foliage as this year. Never was it so soft, so delicate, so pure. The golden leaves sparkle in the sun. They wave in every light breeze. They bow and nod in almost lifelike motion. It is nature's beautiful handiwork of the fall. There are many other fine trees in a ride from Oregon City to Estacada but none as beautiful as this. It is worth a trip along the route to see the tree shining on the hill. It is a golden shaft pointing to heaven. A "tree that looks to God all day and lifts its leafy arms to pray."

It is easily located. The road turns at the little white church and in a glance up the roadway one catches sight of this tree, a golden ornament to the valley; one on which your eyes will want to linger many moments as surely "Only God can make a tree."—k. H.

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