

Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Tension on the Floor. Even favorable war news and unusually fine spring weather have not had a soothing effect on the general temper of the House. There seems to be a tension, the like of which I have not seen before in my time here. During the past two weeks, heated clashes have occurred on the floor nearly every day. Such verbal conflicts are as often between members on the Democratic side of the aisle as between members on opposite sides of the aisle. This condition has had no serious bearing on the work of the House as yet but, in my opinion, a brief recess should be taken. It would be unfortunate to have such extremely important matters as the Bretton Woods Agreement considered by a tired and irritable Congress. The general talk "on the Hill" is that legislative business will be suspended for a couple of weeks near Easter.

Food Study. The Republican Congressional Food Study Committee, of which I am secretary, has just about completed its organization for this term of Congress, and is planning to dig deeply into several immediately critical food problems. During the 78th Congress, this committee contributed some valuable suggestions regarding the handling of the nation's food problem. One outstanding value of our work was that we called attention in advance to certain dangers with the result that remedial steps were taken before crises developed. One such case was the poultry distribution problem in the New England states. Data gathered by our committee was also useful in averting a more serious potato famine than occurred. We also called attention to the fact that, while the live animal inventory of the country was unusually large, meat was short in the markets. Slaughtering quotas were subsequently removed.

The studies of our food committee clearly pointed to one fundamental weakness in the national handling of the food problem. This weakness is the multiplicity of agencies, departments and commissions having direct or indirect control over food

production, distribution and transportation. For a year and a half, we have been urging that food be placed under the control of a single administrator. A bill was introduced by Tom Jenkins, chairman of the Food Study Committee, in 1943. Later, the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture introduced a similar bill which was reported favorably to the House, but it was never acted upon.

As soon as the Food Study Committee staff organization is complete, and our data is brought up to date, the committee will doubtless again urge the passage of legislation to place food under one single control. There has been considerable debate on the floor of the House recently on the subject of the present food situation. Apparently some badly needed food items are scarce because ceiling prices are lower than the present cost of production. Congressman Frank Barrett of Wyoming pointed out recently that prices can be held down and even rolled back, or that food production can be increased, but it will be impossible to do both. The Food Study Committee will endeavor to search out the facts on this point.

The Department of Agriculture appropriation bill is up for passage in the House this week. I was disappointed that the Appropriations Committee did not increase the regular appropriation for forest products research. In its report, the committee justifies its action by expressing the belief that such research funds will be available from the various war appropriations during the next fiscal year. I hope their assumption is correct, but I am inclined to doubt it. However, it still may be possible to have additional research funds included when the bill is considered by the Senate, or needed appropriations can be made in a deficiency bill later.

Phone 222R, to Art Hooton for your electrical wiring and repair needs. He is located north of the ball park on the Fairview road.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

Letter From Dick Cornelius On Luzon

In a letter of recent date, Corporal Dick Cornelius of the 511th Parachute Infantry, writes to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Cornelius, of Bandon, commenting on his part in the campaign on Luzon and his impressions of the people and their customs and appearance:

Dear Mom:—It's the same old story, another island, another battle and another siege of malaria. I am already over the malaria, having only one bad day and night of it this time, being up and around the next day but still in for observation.

I imagine you have read about the 11th Airborne's part in the battle of Manila, etc., but my own part was insignificant, as I just got in the battles after they had progressed quite a ways. I was still in the hospital at Leyte when the outfit pulled out, so I missed the jump. When I did get in, it seemed as tho' I spent all my time ducking into doorways or behind walls, dodging artillery shells. There was a difference, of course, in this campaign as it was fought in cities and garrisons, instead of mountains.

The people here seemed genuinely glad to see us, even dragging out their hoarded bottles of whiskey and rum to give us. However, the occasion never developed into any bacchanalian orgy as we had a job to do.

For the first time in ten months, I have seen a railroad track and a real cow—not a carabao but a Jersey cow. Also for the first time I've slept in a building, on the floor, of course, but still a house with windows of glass. And we've seen women in high-heeled shoes, silk stockings and well-fitted, stylish dresses, and men in tailored, tropical whites and Panama hats.

We get quite a lot of fresh vegetables and fruits, mainly bananas, papayas, tomatoes and something called "chiko," which looks like a round, brown pear and tastes very good but resembles nothing familiar. Also quite a few eggs, chickens, and avocados are to be had. We trade off part of our rations to the Filipinos and they give us a lot of friendship.

The people in some districts are miserably poor and quite often hungry. We do as much as we can for them, though they some times make us a little annoyed and embarrassed, too, when they stand around to watch us eat. Especially, if they are little children, I find I lose my appetite when they watch each mouthful I take so I generally end up by giving them the rest of my meal and go hide somewhere to eat a K ration.

There are some good highways here and we can again enjoy the favorite American sport of driving fast. Generally, though, there are a lot of pedestrians and buggies or ox-carts on the road to slow our progress. Chief among the obstacles is a vehicle that I judge is a Philippine institution. It's a two-wheeled, two-seated conveyance with a gay awning around the roof and a small pony, of unknown breed, between the shafts.

When you write, keep telling about the things going on around the place and about everybody and if you have any pictures of the new place, please send me some.

Incidentally the Christmas packages never caught up with me, probably piled up in New Guinea. Some of the fellows who got theirs found they were almost a total loss from rough treatment and mold. Love, Dick.

Cpl. R. G. Cornelius, 39325036 Hq. and Hq. Co. 511th Preht. Inf. A.P.O. 468 Postmaster San Francisco, California

Blood Donors Must Meet Certain Requirements

The County Health Office received a communication from the Red Cross Blood Bank headquarters recently, stating that there will be a mobile unit of the Red Cross in Eugene, the second Monday of every month for the convenience of donors who wish to give but have difficulty in reaching Portland.

For the benefit of those who are interested, the following list of requirements are given. In order to be a blood donor, your blood pressure must not be over 199, your blood count 785. You must be between 18 and 60 years of age and weigh over 110 pounds. No one with a history of heart disease, and no diabetic can donate.

Although he should have no fatty nourishment before blood is taken, a donor can eat a normal meal three to five hours before the donation is made. A suggested meal consists of black coffee, no cream, dry toast, no butter and fruit or fruit juices.

See "Spike" Leslie for the best in Liability, or other insurance. Office, 275 So. Hall, in former hospital bldg., phone 5; residence phone 95L.

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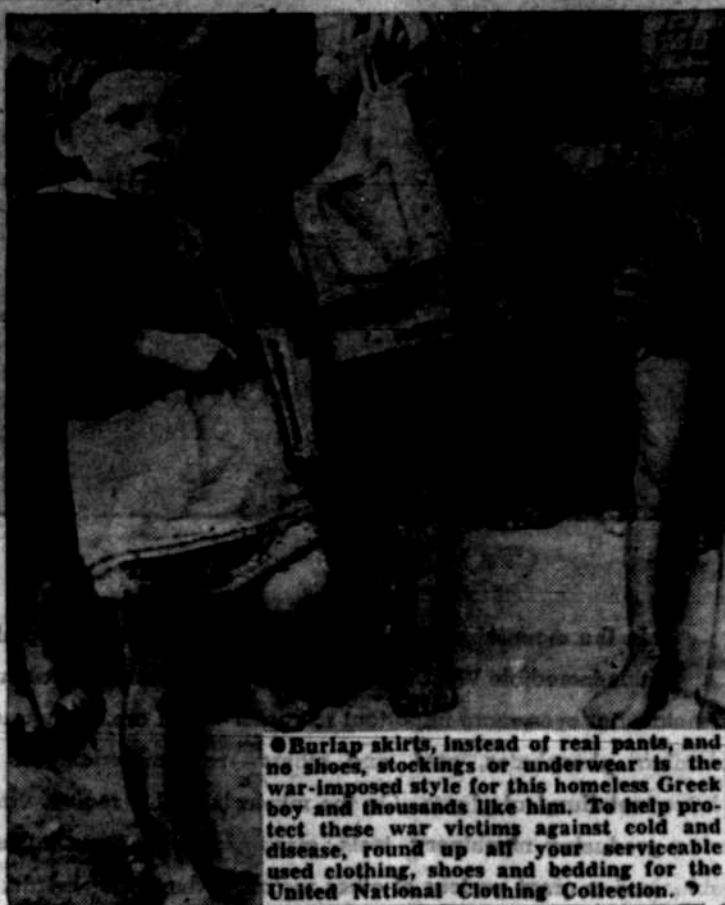
GEO. E. OERDING

Bank Bldg. Phone 348M Allied Clothing Drive Starts April 1st. Support it!

UNITED CLOTHING DRIVE

APRIL 1ST TO APRIL 30TH

The daily problem of this youngster is to get his head, arms and legs through the right holes in his only garment. It's a common problem for millions of men, women and children in war-ravaged lands abroad. You can help them by contributing serviceable used clothing, shoes and bedding to United National Clothing Collection.



Burlap skirts, instead of real pants, and no shoes, stockings or underwear is the war-imposed style for this homeless Greek boy and thousands like him. To help protect these war victims against cold and disease, round up all your serviceable used clothing, shoes and bedding for the United National Clothing Collection.

This advertisement is aimed to save the lives of thousands of civilians—women and children—who have had the least to do with starting wars—whose prayers at bedside and in bomb shelter have been uttered with a faith that perhaps they and their loved ones may yet be spared.



Strips of burlap fashion clumsy shoes for war-stricken people overseas whose clothes are worn to shreds after more than five years of constant wear. To help them, give all your spare clothing, shoes and bedding to the United National Clothing Collection.

This advertisement is sponsored by the following organizations:

- Chamber of Commerce
- American Legion
- Fraternal Order of Eagles
- Soroptimist Club
- Lions' Club
- Rotary Club

Here is a grand opportunity for you to help answer those prayers: Give freely of what spare clothing and shoes that are clean and serviceable, and see that they reach the packing room located in the south side of the Community Building, during the month beginning April first.