

# The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

Washington, D. C. RAILROAD TEST

For National Defense chiefs, June holds a special significance. It will indicate whether government operation of railroads may be necessary.

In June the nation's railroads will meet their first crucial test of whether they are adequately equipped to handle the enormous increase in freight resulting from the defense program.

When the wheat harvest starts in the Texas Panhandle and continues north, the carriers will be on the spot to prove their determined contention that there is no shortage of freight cars, and that they can cope with the great demands of the defense program without the government taking them over as in the World War.

Railroad moguls are fully aware that they face a decisive showdown, and they are making tremendous efforts to meet it.

Twenty-five thousand cars have been mobilized to handle the Texas crop and a strict rule has been laid down that they must be kept rolling. Cars will not be allowed to be used for storage purposes. If a shipment can't be unloaded without delay, cars will not be released.

Cars will be peremptorily recalled if shippers don't load. Circuitous routing is being eliminated. And the railroads themselves are now distributing the materials and equipment they will need months hence, so that the maximum number of cars will be available in the peak season next autumn. This alone is expected to release 20,000 freight cars.

### Mechanized Cavalry

It took a war in Europe to do it, but the U. S. army is now doing a whirlwind job of replacing cavalry with tanks and armored cars. Even Secretary of War Stimson's aide, Col. Eugene Regnier, has gone in for mechanization.

Commenting whimsically on this the other day, Secretary Stimson said: "After riding horses all his life, Gene is now commanding the first reconnaissance battalion of the First Cavalry division. He rides in a bantam scout car and has armored cars and tanks under his command. I tell him this is strange for a man who has sworn that horses are the only thing in life. But he says it takes the brains of a good cavalryman to handle a mechanized unit."

Note—Colonel Regnier deserted his swivel-chair job in Washington for El Paso, Texas, where Gen. Innes P. Swift commands one of the most active army posts in the country.

### Conscientious Objectors

Announcements that 1,100 conscientious objectors will report to non-military training camps in the next few weeks are a lot of hokey. Real fact is that only 201 draft registrants have even been classed as genuine religious objectors.

Out of the 6,000,000 questionnaires received from draft eligibles, less than 2,500 sought exemption on the ground of religious scruples. Of this number, 201 have been OK'd so far. They will train in eight camps as follows:

Fifty at Camp Patapsco, Elkridge, Md.; 14 at Grottoes, Va.; 12 at Lago, Ind.; 32 at San Dimes, Calif.; 10 at Richmond, Ind.; 40 at Marietta, Ohio; 32 at Colorado Springs, Colo.; 10 at Cooperstown, N. Y.

While operated by the government, the camps are financed by private funds, supplied chiefly by the Quakers, Mennonites, and United Brethren. In some instances the men pay their own costs, at the rate of \$35 a month.

### Australian Opinion on War

Prime Minister Menzies of Australia held some very important conversations with high Washington officials during his recent visit. In these talks he expressed every confidence that Britain would win the war, but he was hard-boiled and realistic regarding the time necessary for a victory.

Coming from Australia, which has a detached and unbiased view of the situation, his opinion is important.

"During 1941," he said, "all of Britain's effort must be concentrated on defense."

"During 1942 we can really begin to concentrate our efforts on building up a real war machine."

"And in 1943—with America's help—we can take the offensive, and we will win the war."

### MERRY-GO-ROUND

The appointment of ex-Senator Sherman Minton of Indiana to the U. S. court of appeals makes the third judicial reward for a member of the famous senate lobby investigating committee, whose sensational exposes of utility lobbying led to the holding company law. Hugo Black of Alabama, chairman, is a Supreme court justice, and Lewis Schwellenbach is a federal district judge in Washington.

# Walter Winchel

Private Papers Of a Cub Reporter:

Here's a story about the time Goering was summoned to Hitler's private chambers to explain the loss of 20 Messerschmitts in a single night's raid. . . . Hitler was nervously biting the tips of his paws and moaning over the sour news. . . . This disconcerted Hermann. . . . "Why are you so worried over 20 planes?" he said. "After all, we still have many more than they". . . . Hitler flew into a tantrum. . . . "You fool!" he screamed. "Can't you see disaster ahead? At this rate we'll soon outnumber them only five to one!"

Gene Fowler addressed the school of journalism at the Univ. of Missouri. . . . Knowing Fowler's colorful reputation and good nature, the authorities there asked him to lay off "muscle" journalism and other harsh aspects of newsgathering in his talk. . . . Fowler agreed, delivered a sugary lecture on the moral code of reporters and the ethics of journalism, all couched (and sound asleep) in copybook maxims. . . . Later, he gathered the students and led them outside onto the lawn. . . . "Lissen," he said softly, "every word I said in there was strictly off the pitchfork! The most important thing in journalism is the expense account. And remember this—drinking and gambling expenses are just as legitimate as cab fares and phone calls—to a guy tracking down a story!"

Genevieve Rowe, the canary, offered this repartee between Adolf and Goebbels. Hitler sent for Joe and said: "Did you see what that awful foreign correspondent wrote about me in his piece yesterday? He said I was a murderer, a thief, a butcher—well, you must have read it. I won't stand for it!" "What'll I do?" asked Goebbels, "have him purged or expelled?" "No," said the mustache, "I'm gonna make him prove it!"

Memo to Pulitzer Prize Losers: In 1933 "Tobacco Road," now in its eighth year, could not have won the Pulitzer ribbon for being the best play because it was a dramatization of an Erskine Caldwell novel. . . . In 1934, the Pulitzer play prize went to "The Old Maid"—a dramatization of a novel.

Clarke Robinson has been squirreling a couple of British sailors about town. Took them to the Polo Grounds, the Stadium, Radio City Music Hall, Jamaica racetrack and several night clubs, winding up on the sixty-fifth floor at the Rainbow room. . . . Later they went onto the balcony and looked over New York city by night from the sixty-fifth story—a magnificent sight. . . . Robinson asked them what impressed and awed them most.

"I dunno," said one of them. "I think I should say what awed me most was the way you serve tea in those wee bags."

The Japs literally kicked Wilfrid Fleisher, Herald Trib correspondent, out of Tokyo several months ago. . . . Yet, in his mail the other day came a formal invitation from the director of the Japanese Institute in New York—to ship tea at Rockefeller Center "in honor of the returned residents of Japan." (Note to that Institute: The little man who wasn't there was Wilfrid.)

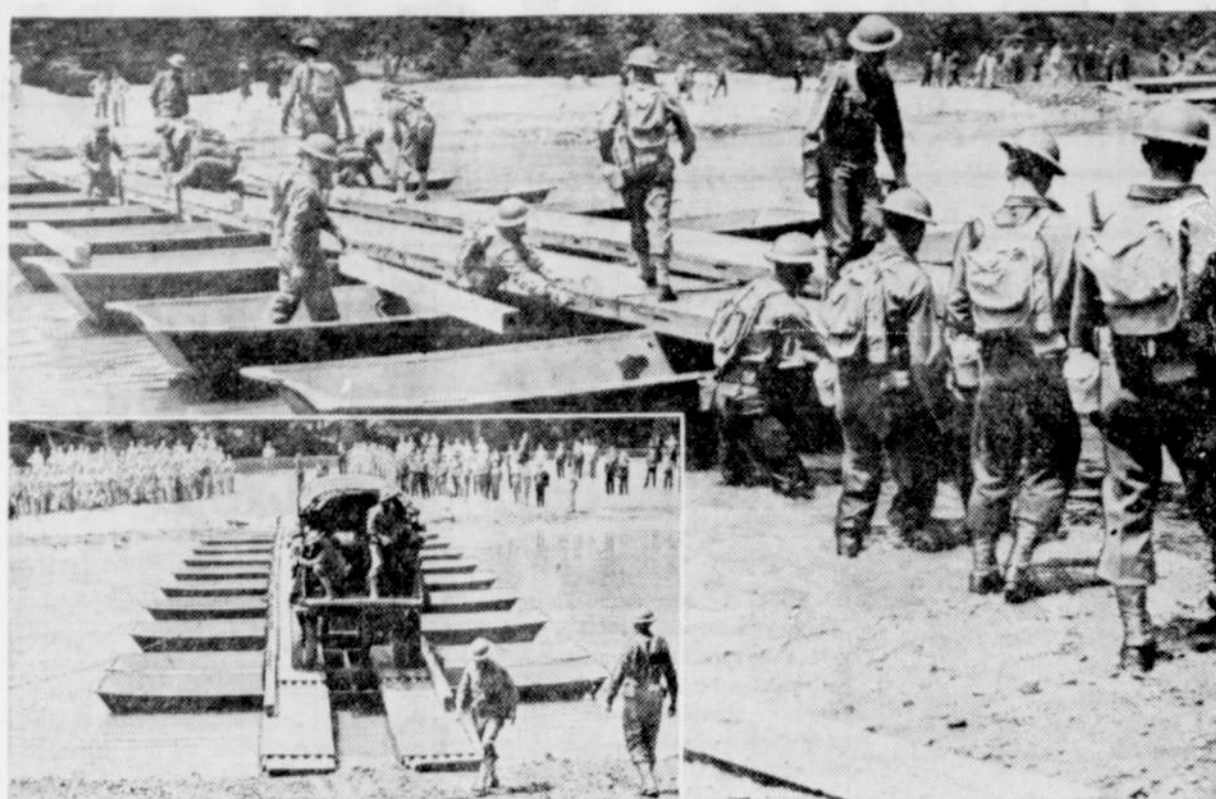
Roland Brown's reminder to all Hollywood celebs (who get big heads) in the current heat wave in Hollywood: "In weather like this, don't forget—the cooling system gets the biggest billing!"

### New York Newsreel:

The inspiring "I Am an American Day" ceremonies in Central park—oceans of humanity making public their love affair with America. And the thousands of new citizens opening their hearts to the wonderful country that opened its gates to them. . . . Carloads of families leaving the city every week-end, eager for a whiff of peace and beauty and gathering energy for next week's struggle for existence. . . . The chalking on the sidewalk at 45th Street and 5th: "What have the people got against this world?" . . . People exiting from clubs and fraternal groups in midtown, standing on the sidewalk gabbing and saying good-by to each other by easy stages. . . . The sappers in Union square who wear their ignorance on their tongues and can't take heckling, although they demand freedom of speech for themselves.

Jobless on Sixth Ave. watching the days tick by, as each empty-handed minute adds rust to their lives—punishment without crime. . . . Prayed intellectuals in the Vth Ave. library trying to escape barbed wire reality by plunging into the shelter of a book. Waitresses holding their smiles like torches, trying to please you and trying to hide the fact that their jobs do not please them. . . . Celebs taking public acclaim while trying to avoid private whispers ready to pounce on them and spoil it all.

## Build 5-Ton, 200-Foot Bridge in 16 Minutes



In a demonstration at Ft. Belvoir, Va., a motorized war-strength company of the Fifth Engineers dismantled from its trucks, unloaded equipment, and within 16 minutes constructed a 200-foot pontoon bridge strong enough to carry ammunition trucks. In picture at right, runways are laid across gunnels of light pontoons. Inset: Company "E" of the Fifth Engineers is shown crossing waterway on bridge.

## Crete Capital, Scene of Weird Battle



In the Nazi invasion of the Greek island of Crete the Nazis used gliders as troop carriers for the first time, although they have experimented with them long before the current war. Above is shown Canea, capital of Crete, defended by Greek-British forces, which was one of the principal objectives of Nazi attack. A Nazi amphibian glider troop carrier of the type used is shown in inset.

## Celebrating Flag Day in Hawaii



Hope of reaching statehood some day was the fundamental thought in Hawaii's flag day festivities. At Waikiki, Honolulu, anti-aircraft artillery man Winkler and naval air station man Nash conduct a private parade of their own with Emmaline Correa, left, and Lolita Kahele.

## Angels of Mercy for Britain



Some of the nurses who left for England to staff the American Red Cross Harvard hospital, now under construction in embattled Britain. Left to right: Miss Theodisia Hawley; Miss Charlotte Raymond; Miss Helen Johnson; Miss Gertrude Madley; Miss Elizabeth Phillips, and Harold E. McKenzie, who is to be the hospital chef.

## For Tax Revision



Assistant Secretary of Treasury John L. Sullivan, appearing before house ways and means committee on the new \$3,500,000,000 tax program, urged drastic revision of the excess profits tax levied last year, in an effort to drain off arms profits.

## Freed



Princess Stephanie Hohenlohe, who had been held for deportation in San Francisco, with Maj. L. B. Schofield, U. S. Immigration service head, who announced her release.

## Piano an Accomplishment You Can Teach Yourself



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### Nothing New

"In New York," he said, "they have a company that does nothing but answer phone calls for other people."

"Shucks," said the man with three pretty daughters, "I've been doing that for years, myself."

### Trouble

"What's wrong with these shoes, boy?" asked the store clerk. "No matter how I fold my feet," explained the strapping country lad, "I can't get 'em in."

### Hope Is Mainspring

Is it an offense, is it a mistake, is it a crime to take a hopeful view of the prospects of your own country? Why should it be? Why should patriotism and pessimism be identical? Hope is the mainspring of patriotism. — David Lloyd George.

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One ounce of "Black Leaf 40" makes six gallons of effective aphid spray. Use Black Leaf 40 on aphids, leafhoppers, leaf miners, young sucking bugs, weevils, mealy bugs and root thrips, wherever found on trees, shrubs, plants or garden crops.  
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### Profit From Discourtesy

The courteous learns his courtesy from the discourteous.—Turkish Proverb.

**Nervous Restless Girls!**  
Cranky? Restless? Can't sleep? Tired easily? Because of distress of monthly functional disturbances? Then try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.  
Pinkham's Compound is famous for relieving pain of irregular periods and cranky nervousness due to such disturbances. One of the most effective medicines you can buy today for this purpose—made especially for women. WORTH TRYING!

Necessity and Satety  
Necessity reforms the poor, and satety reforms the rich.—Tacitus.

**That Nagging Backache**  
May Warn of Distorted Kidney Action  
Modern life with its busy and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking—its risk of exposure and infection—throws heavy strain on the work of the kidneys. They are apt to become over-taxed and fail to filter excess acid and other impurities from the life-giving blood.  
You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling—feel constantly tired, nervous, all worn out. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.  
Try Doan's Pills. Doan's help the kidneys to pass off harmful excess body waste. They have had more than half a century of public approval. Are recommended by grateful users everywhere. Ask your neighbor!  
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