

STRUGGLE OF MORALE MAY DECIDE WAR

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THE TEXT

The British government today charged Nazi night raiders with "indiscriminate bombing attacks" in many parts of England. Any indiscriminate bombing of civilians would be for the purpose of causing terror and thereby shattering public morale.

THE SERMON

The outcome of the battle of Britain will depend largely to my mind on the morale of the civilian populations of the belligerents, and on the spirit of the fighting forces as they are affected, not by their own dangers but by the dangers and privations of their folk at home.

Let's take an illustration of the meaning of morale. The world war disclosed that the soldiers who collapsed through fear generally were the big, strapping chaps who were physically perfect but intellectually slow and not used to thinking for themselves. The highly strung, fast thinking intellectual fellow came through all right, because he was able to adapt himself quickly to the crisis at hand.

We found on the fighting front, too, that soldiers from primitive races could not stand the terrors of modern warfare—the bombings and big gun barages and what not. They were brave enough in their own type of combat but couldn't cope with the shock of something which was wholly mysterious to them.

It's dangerous to draw general conclusions from isolated cases. However, it seems reasonable to believe that in the present war the civil populations which are most used to thinking for themselves, and solving their own problems, will stand best the tortures which are sure to come. Fear often is bred by lack of understanding.

This war more than any other in history affects civilian morale. The development of air power since the World war has brought the rigors of the battlefield to inhabitants of even the most remote districts of embattled countries. We have seen the awful effects of this in

American Pilot With R.A.F. Killed



R. A. F. Pilot Officer William (Billy) Fiske, above, of New York, was killed in action while fighting German planes that attacked London. Fiske, driver of the American bodied teams which won the Olympic championships in 1928 and 1932, enlisted in the R.A.F. last August, was reported to have destroyed several enemy planes before his death.

France and Belgium, among other places.

The Nazi bird men are bombing rural regions of the British Isles which certainly not in modern times have heard a gun fired in anger, much less the terrifying detonation of monster bombs which scream like devils as they approach their victims. Berlin is smelting gunpowder for the first time since Napoleon.

To this must be added the effects of blockade and counter-blockade, which ultimately may spell dire hunger and even starvation for one or more of the belligerents—for many neutrals, so far as that goes. Threats of invasion, and actual invasion, also will play their part.

This means that all the fears and hates and mental anguish which grow out of wars are imposed on the general public—upon the non-belligerents of the populations. This is vastly important, for upon the morale of these non-belligerents—the women and children and men not attached to military tasks—depends the support, both moral and material, which is given to the fighting force.

The general public, is, of course, responsible through its efforts for the maintenance of war supplies and food for the boys in uniform. But it also is responsible for the spirit of the troops through its own state of mind.

RAILROAD NEWS

ROADS CONTINUE BARGAIN TRAVEL

The railroads will continue for another year—until October 31, 1941—the low "grade circle" railroad fares by which an individual can travel by rail from his home to both Atlantic and Pacific coasts thence to the original starting point at a substantial reduction from standard rates, J. J. Pelley, president of the Association of American Railroads announced today.

Continuation of this plan was decided upon by the railroads because of the success attained by it in the first year of operation when it was used by 32,500 persons. Of that number, 25,000 purchased grand circle first-class tickets, that is traveled by Pullman, and 7500 traveled by coach.

Under the plan, an individual can purchase a "grand circle" coach ticket for \$90 or a first-class ticket for \$135 plus the regular sleeping or parlor car charges for space occupied. These greatly reduced fares apply from all cities and towns in the United States. The plan makes it possible for an individual to travel by rail on a "grand circle" fare from 6300 to 8000 miles depending on the starting point and the route selected.

The "grand circle" fare plan was inaugurated by the railroads on April 28, 1939, for the purpose of stimulating travel to the New York and San Francisco World fairs and to points of scenic interest throughout the country. It permits travelers to choose many attractive routes with stop-over privileges at any points desired in either direction. Children between 5 and 12 years of age, who are accompanied by parents or guardians, are allowed half fare rates.

Barney Cavanaugh, GN freight house employee, and Joe Sexton, timekeeper on the GN extra gang, will leave Thursday night for San Francisco to spend Labor day weekend.

Warren Cronon, GN trainmaster's clerk, accompanied by his father, F. W. Cronon, have returned from San Francisco where they spent Sunday and Monday.

After a residence here for 12 years, Mr. and Mrs. John V. Ferrell, 443 North Laguna street, have been transferred to Sioux City, Ia. Ferrell has been affiliated with the Great Northern railway here as engineer and fireman, and has been promoted to the position of traveling engineer on the GN's Willmar division.

Tom Fante, Southern Pacific trainmaster's clerk and president of the Klamath SP club, will leave Thursday night for Sacramento where he will attend SP day at the California state fair August 30, 31 and September 1. Others who are members of the SP club have been invited to attend festivities in the California capitol.

M. L. Gaetz, superintendent of the Klamath division of the Great Northern, will resume his position Thursday after a vacation of several weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Gaetz have enjoyed a visit in Colorado, and upon their re-

ROTARY TO HEAR FRENCH RESIDENT

Walter Buick, for the past 17 years an American residing near Paris, will speak to members of Rotary club at the Friday luncheon scheduled at the Willard hotel at 12 o'clock noon.

Buick, accompanied by his French wife, left Paris several days before the city was occupied by German forces. He will speak on conditions in France and tell of his departure from Europe through Lisbon, Portugal.

Dick Reeder, Buick's cousin, will preside.

I thought I'd never live long enough to hear the senate of the United States debating whether to vote supreme power to the president in time of peace. —Senator Homer T. Bone, Washington.

Young people should be advised that it is their patriotic duty to continue the normal course of their education unless and until they are called, so that they will be well-prepared for greatest usefulness to their country. —President Roosevelt.

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