

Herald and News

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NEW YORK, (U-P)—Once upon a future time a great war was declared.

But this time the old men of both sides demanded:

"Why should the scarlet blood of youth be wasted? Why should young men in the flower of their promise die upon the battlefield—save us? Our course is about run anyway, and it won't make so much difference if we are lost. Send us into battle."

The young men thought that was a fine idea, too. It would be nice to stay home from war for a change. It had never happened in history before.

So both sides made an unofficial gentleman's agreement to summon only oldsters to arms. Thus began what was later known as "the war of the codgers."

The first draft call was for men over 70. They made a fine, heart-stirring sight as they paraded through the streets in uniform. Stamping their canes, bending to kiss their grandchildren farewell. They fought their best. But they couldn't climb the hills, and the artillery was so noisy at night it kept them awake and wore down their strength.

At the end of six months the battle lines hadn't changed an inch. There were more soldiers in the hospitals than on the front.

The rheumatism cases came out. Six men over 80, convicted of desertion, said: "To hell with it."

And the people began to grumble. "What kind of a war is this? We're not getting anywhere?"

By another gentleman's agreement both sides then lowered the draftage to 60. Defense industries quit making canes, began grinding out binoculars.

But in another six months the army hospitals were full of soldiers who had come down with

heart attacks AFTER climbing the hills. And the people complained: "Millions of pensions—but not a single victory! Is this war-fare?"

So the draft age was lowered again—this time to 45. For the first time real infantry fighting developed. Yet after six months the hospitals again were overflowing—now with more ulcer victims than the bullet-wounded.

"We're not a foot nearer peace—but we're galloping toward bankruptcy," the people feared. All except the young men. They just looked more and more uneasy.

For they had seen the "war of the codgers" become a war of the middle-aged.

One day a prisoner under 30 was taken.

"I just sneaked along after my old man," he explained. "He's got varicose veins, and I just wanted to help him back if he couldn't make it. Well, yes, I was carrying a shotgun when you caught me. But was just looking for quail. You know I wouldn't shoot at you fellows—why, I'm too young for the draft."

But the enemy commander didn't believe him. He flashed back word to higher headquarters:

"The other side has broken the rules. They are shipping younger soldiers into the line. Are we going to stand for this?"

Soon both sides were putting younger volunteers into action. And soon after that the gentleman's agreement collapsed completely.

The bugles in both lands blew for all boys over 18. And the young men shouldered their rifles and said, "We knew all along it was too good to be true."

They kissed their mothers and sweethearts—their wives and children and sisters—and marched in long columns toward the front.

The blood of youth again flowed in a scarlet tide. And the war became like any other war.

James Marlow

WASHINGTON, (U-P)—It isn't often the public gets a chance to see how a man, who is head of a big government department and a member of the president's cabinet, does his work.

But Atty. Gen. L. Howard McGrath has explained with his lips how he runs the tremendously important justice department which has the task of prosecuting for federal crimes.

The department has more than 31,000 employees and cases flow through it like a river, criminal cases, espionage cases, tax fraud cases. All kinds. And McGrath is the engineer who runs the machinery.

You're wrong if you have a mental picture of him as some kind of harried creature bent over white and then from the job of making final decisions on that stream of cases.

At 48 McGrath's hair is black and still plentiful. And while he's not fat he's comfortably upholstered.

He hasn't been comfortable lately, of course, because of events involving his department in the investigation, in which the house subcommittee is making in the tax scandals.

One of his righthand men, T. Lamar Caudle, assistant attorney general in charge of the department's tax division until Pres. Truman fired him, has been grilled by the committee publicly.

When the grilling was over the committee told Caudle he has been a failure in public office and had done his country great damage. Then it called McGrath to ask him about Caudle.

It was in talking to the committee that McGrath explained how he runs his department. As for that river of cases flowing through, he said he "probably does not know of the existence of more than a very minute percentage of the cases that are in the department."

"I do not concern myself with operational details."

"Nor do I concern myself with individual cases unless they happen to be of such unique importance or public interest that they would be specifically called to my attention."

With what, then, does he concern himself? In the first place, he said, he has to delegate responsibility in large doses to his chief lieutenants. They're the ones who make the decisions on most of the cases, almost all.

He, himself, he said, is the administrative officer who has to "concern himself with the financial affairs of the department, with the over-all general assignments that are given to him by

Navy Reactivates Cruiser, Carriers

WASHINGTON, (U-P)—The navy is taking a heavy cruiser and two aircraft carriers out of mothballs next month.

The Quincy rejoins the fleet to become the 15th heavy cruiser on active duty.

Two Essex class carriers, the Ticonderoga and Intrepid, will be reactivated as soon as they are modernized. The Ticonderoga, now at Bremerton, Wash., goes to New York, and the Intrepid, at San Francisco, moves to Newport News Va.

"Little David," a gun built by the U.S. Army in world war two but never used, fired a two-ton shell five miles.

They'll Do It Every Time



Dr. E. P. Jordan

A reader asks for an article on the organs of balance in the middle ear and what causes them to get "out of kilter" and cause periods of dizziness.

This question refers, I think, to a condition known as Meniere's syndrome, which has been discussed in this space several times before.

Before talking about this common and distressing condition, a word might be said about what controls balance in the human body. There are three: the eyes which can observe such things as stairs and the position of the feet on them, the sense of position in the legs themselves called the proprioceptive system, and a system of canals in the internal part of the ear.

The condition to which the question refers is a disturbance in the inner portion of the ear and not in the eyes or the proprioceptive system.

The symptoms of Meniere's disease are irregular attacks of dizziness, occasional ringing in the ears and deafness. Its cause is believed to be a drop in the deep portion of the ear called the inner ear, or labyrinth. This drop in condition—accumulation of fluid—does not often develop in young people, but beyond the age of 45 becomes increasingly common.

Some patients who drink a lot of fluids find that an attack comes on a few hours afterwards—probably because of the increased accumulation of fluid in the labyrinth. This has given a clue leading to the use of some forms of treatment aimed at cutting down the intake of fluids or removing excess fluids from the body.

Several medical treatments, such as the use of histamine or atropin, have met with some favor and surgery also has been tried with varying degrees of success. For many treatment brings some but not complete relief.

The term "Meniere's syndrome" (not disease) is used loosely for several different diseases of the inner ear, the symptoms of which are alike in that there are attacks of dizziness or vertigo (there is a slight technical difference), ringing in the ears and increasing difficulty in hearing.

More recently it was realized that various disease conditions could bring about the same symptoms and that it was important to find out exactly what was at fault in order to select the correct treatment. Infection, fractures, tumors with injuries may all cause similar symptoms.

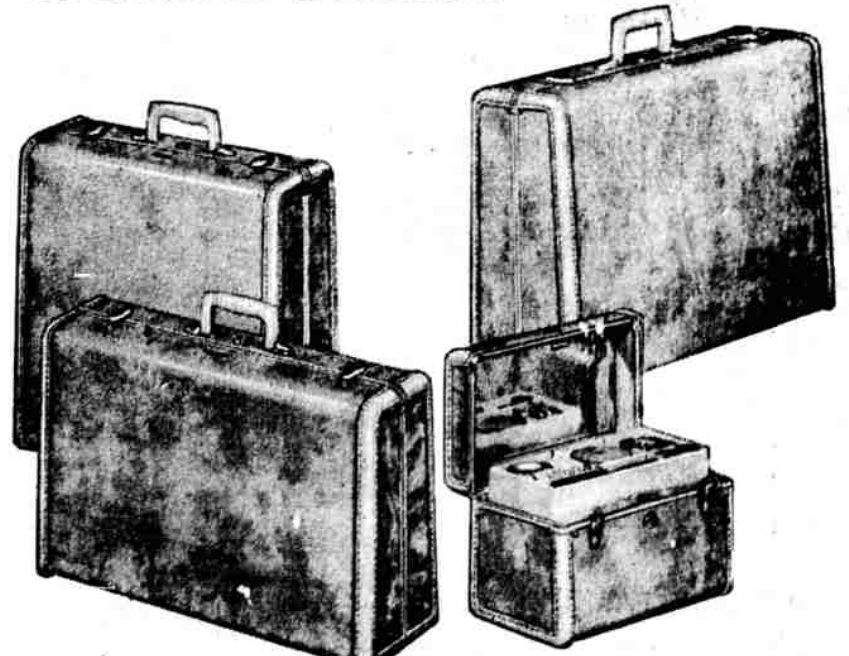
Murderer Gets Death Jolt Stay

MONTGOMERY, Ala., (U-P)—The death sentence for a white farmer who was convicted of killing his wife because she refused to prepare breakfast has been set aside by Gov. Gordon Persons.

Persons yesterday commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence for 34-year-old John J. Townsell, the decision came 10 hours before Townsell was scheduled to die in the state's electric chair at Kilby prison.

Townsell was convicted in November, 1950, of shooting his wife with a shotgun. A stepchild testified she saw the shooting and said Townsell later attempted to take his own life.

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Hero Sensed Korean Death

SEATTLE, (U-P)—The pretty, 20-year-old widow of a Marine hero who "didn't expect to come back"—and didn't—is going to Washington, D.C., shortly to accept her husband's Congressional Medal of Honor.

The widow, Mrs. Walter Carleton Monegan Jr., will be accompanied by her seven-month-old son, Walter Carleton Monegan III, who never saw his father.

The young marine, also 20, was killed September 30, 1950, near Seoul just five days after he had gone into combat.

"I received a letter he wrote the night before," Mrs. Monegan recalled in an interview today. "He didn't expect to come back. It was so sad, but he tried not to seem that way."

One paragraph of the letter said: "Who knows, maybe I will do something spectacular and bring home a Silver Star—that's one of the highest honors there is."

The Medal of Honor, the highest honor there is, will be handed to the marine's widow by Navy Secy. Dan Kimball.

Mrs. Monegan was in an infantry company which was attacked by a strong enemy tank infantry team. A buddy wrote Mrs. Monegan her husband destroyed four enemy tanks and killed 20 enemy soldiers. His platoon leader, T-1st, David P. Howard, wrote to her:

"If it hadn't been for his coolness I wouldn't be here today. I received a wound in the throat and became motionless and started an enemy and Monegan held me down until a corpsman arrived."

WAR CASUALTIES

WASHINGTON, (U-P)—The defense department has identified 87 additional battle casualties in Korea. A new list reported 11 killed, 40 wounded, 17 missing in action and 12 injured. It also listed two known dead who were previously reported missing.

kings must not be discarded.

Even if you can keep control of your features, you must not make the mistake of attempting the trap discard invariably as your first discard of the hand. Your opponent will catch on to the idea that your first discard may be a trap but that your second discard is always honest.

This principle is important in other games, of course, and should be followed in normal four-hand Canasta. If you decide to make a trap discard, don't give yourself away by your appearance, and don't allow yourself to fall into regular habits.

Bruce Blossat

The accord between United Nations and Communist negotiators on a tentative truce line in Korea clearly does not mean peace is at hand. There is much hard bargaining to be done on other issues, and only time will show whether the Reds intend to meet them in good faith.

The main points to be settled are the exchange of prisoners and a system of inspection to assure that each side is not using the armistice as a cover for a new military build-up. First discussions on the inspection issue were not encouraging. The Reds are exhibiting their customary reluctance to allow anyone to observe activities behind their borders.

Settlement of the prisoner exchange issue is unlikely to come any easier. UN atrocity reports, couched though they are, nevertheless are some indication that the Reds might be greatly embarrassed to tell what they have done with Allied prisoners.

TIME LIMIT

The agreed armistice line is, of course, good for only 30 days unless all other agenda items have by that time been settled by the negotiators. If any of these are still pending at that deadline, then a new truce border will have to be drawn to take account of military developments during the 30-day period.

Not much military action is anticipated in this span, since any gains would have no effect if the full armistice settlement is reached in time. There is some fear the Reds will use the lull to move up new forces for a possible fresh offensive, or at least replenish existing armies. But UN forces are free to attack such a build-up by air and sea, so the advantages may prove about equal.

The North Koreans and Chinese may sincerely wish a truce by Christmas. They appear to assign great importance to the newly de-

termined armistice line. In Thanksgiving week they fought furiously for "Little Gibraltar," a commanding hill position in western Korea. As soon as it was evident the assault had definitely failed, Red negotiators moved to final agreement on the line.

NO REVIEW

There is no need to review all the reasons why the Reds seem to need a truce and ought to desire it. In spite of these compulsions, they might still be bent on pursuing the war further. If that were true, the armistice talks would inevitably be part of a plot to cloak a military build-up or to entangle UN armies and negotiators so completely in the frustrations of delay and shattered hopes that sentiment for getting out of Korea at any price might develop.

It can never be forgotten that the truce was a purely military device for the Chinese Reds when they fought the Nationalists on the mainland of China.

In the end, it is safe to say only that the agreement on a truce line is mildly hopeful. When Christmas comes we'll have a better idea what it really means.

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