

AN ARTICLE CLIPPED FROM A Seattle paper is received, telling of the death in a Seattle hospital at the age of 80 of Miss Anna B. Kane, a public school teacher for 60 years, nearly 40 of which had been spent in the Seattle schools. A native of Wisconsin, and a graduate of the River Falls normal, Miss Kane taught in the schools of East Grand Forks and Grand Forks in the later years of the last century. From Grand Forks she went to Elkhorn, Mont., and thence to Seattle, where she served as teacher and principal in several of the city schools until her retirement in 1940. Throughout her career she was a prominent figure in education circles and led in many movements calculated to improve the efficiency of the schools. Her attitude toward teaching was expressed in her statement:

"I teach the pupil, not the subject. Each pupil is a separate character and must be approached from a different angle."

MISS M. BEATRICE JOHNSTONE remembers Miss Kane well, and she remembers hearing her speak on one occasion at a meeting in the old Gotzian hall, which was the principal meeting place of the city before the building of the Metropolitan theater. Miss Johnstone's recollection is that at that time Miss Kane was H candidate for superintendent of schools.

THE TIME IS APPROACHING FOR our annual shower of meteorites. As spectacles most of those "showers" are disappointing, for instead of those celestial projectiles in numbers comparable to that of hailstones in a summer storm, the midnight watcher seldom sees more than one of those "falling stars" every few minutes, and scarcely ever does he see more than one at a time. However, there have been meteoric showers that were real spectacles, and their occurrence has been witnessed with admiration, and often with terror, by those within whose locality the phenomenon occurred.

DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY, OR probability, of human beings being struck by such projectiles, J. Hugh Pruett, of the University of Oregon, says that there are old accounts of fatalities from these celestial projectiles. Some suggest that certain biblical passages may refer to the mass destruction of armies by stones from heaven.

In the song of Deborah (Judges 5:20) we find, "From the heavens fought the stars; from their courses they fought with Sisera." And we read (Joshua 10:11) that the Lord "cast great stones from the sky" upon the armies of the Amorites, killing more than the Israelites slew with the sword.

IN FARRINGTON'S "METEORITES" (p.28) there is a picture portraying a terrible meteoritic tragedy. Men, horses, and cows are lying dead and wounded on the ground while the destructive rocks continue their rain of violence from the sky.

But Dr. Farrington infers the picture is imaginative rather than historical, and says he is sure no authentic record exists of a human death from a meteorite.

PRACTICALLY ALL WRITERS agree with Dr. Farrington. But several near hits are well authenticated. In Braunau, Bohemia, a 40-pound meteorite crashed into a room where three children were sleeping, but inflicted no injury upon them. In 1924 a stone crashed onto the road near Johnston, Colo., only a few yards behind the last car of a funeral procession. A shower of stones fell in Weston, Conn., in December, 1807.

WE ARE QUITE SAFE FROM INJURY caused by meteorites, principally because so few actually reach the earth's surface. The danger from falling trees is immeasurably greater. Were it not for the protecting blanket of air around the earth, ours would truly be a stone-pelted planet.

But the atmosphere handles these celestial intruders nicely, first by heating them to incandescence through friction as they speed downward—often at 40 miles a second—and then by burning completely all but an infinitesimally small number before they come near the earth's surface. The ashes, settling gradually, are harmless.

THERE IS EVIDENCE OF AN ENORMOUS meteorite having fallen many years ago in a remote district of Siberia. I do not know that the spot where the meteorite entered the earth has been located, but its path for many miles was clearly marked. It appears to have traveled an almost horizontal course, and as it passed near the earth's surface it created an almost explosive condition in the air, and great forests were laid flat by the wind, which blew outward from the path to the meteorite. Whether or not there were human beings within the devastated area has not been established.

THE GREATEST CRATER KNOWN to have been caused by a meteorite is in a desert district of Arizona. There the earth has been excavated over an area and to a depth far greater than anything that the largest bomb ever built could do. The giant mass of rock entered the earth diagonally and buried itself many feet deep. Magnetic research located it and revealed the presence in it of a high percentage of iron. A project for mining it was started, but I have seen nothing about it for some time.

Members of congress behave at times as if they had more faith in plain instinct than in popular polls.—Kansas City Times.

DR. G. A. TALBERT WAS INTERested in the brief account of the death of Conde Hamlin and in the story published in this column of the Bismarck episode in which Hamlin figured, for Hamlin was once Dr. Talbert's teacher in Latin. That was in 1883, at Beaverdam, Wisconsin, where Hamlin, just out of college, was teaching in the high school. Young Talbert wished to take a post-graduate course in Latin and was assigned to Hamlin's class. Dr. Talbert says that Hamlin was the best Latin teacher he ever had. Hamlin went from Beaverdam to St. Paul to work on the Pioneer Press, and it was while representing that paper in 1889 that his encounter with Alexander McKenzie occurred. According to a paragraph in a Beaverdam paper, relatives of Hamlin say that it was he who introduced the "rotogravure process of printing in this country.

FISHERMEN MAY FIND FOOD FOR thought in the fact that a New Jersey man was sentenced the other day to 2,880 days in jail for having in his possession 12 dozen undersized fish—if the lobster is a fish. Jersey law prohibits the taking of or having in one's possession lobsters less than 3 inches in length, the length being measured from the eye-socket to the tip of the shell. Such small lobsters are esteemed as great delicacies, and oyster-bed pirates gather them with rakes, which is another offense as the rakes disturb the beds and destroy many baby crustaceans. Penalty for the offense of which the defendant in this case was convicted is \$20 for each fish, or, in default, one day in jail.

CARDINAL RICHELIEU IS CREDITed with saying: "In the bright lexicon of youth there's no such word as 'fail.'" But I don't know how we should get along without that word, though it is more often used incorrectly than correctly. We say a man failed to appear when expected, or failed to pay his taxes, or failed to be home in time for dinner. Each statement would be true provided the man tried to do each of those things and was unable to do so. To fail is to try to do something and be unable to succeed. But the man may not have tried to arrive, or to pay, or to save his wife the annoyance of having the dinner grow cold, in which case he didn't fail.

YET MOST OF US SAY HE FAILED because there seems to be no word in English that conveys just the right impression. We may say that the man didn't arrive, and so forth, but that is a negative form of expression that leaves several things up in the air. Did he neglect to arrive? Perhaps, but perhaps it wasn't neglect. Perhaps he forgot, or perhaps he didn't intend to arrive, and that wouldn't just be neglect. Nobody would think of saying that he omitted to arrive. So we may go through the list of words and find none that fits the case, so we fall back on "fail," which, from habit, seems destined to acquire a secondary meaning quite different from the original one.

MENTION WAS MADE IN THIS COLUMN yesterday of the fact that thus far this war has been productive of no really great war song. Many songs have been written and are being sung, but as a rule they relate to particular organizations or specific incidents, and none of them has the general appeal which is essential to the "great" war song. An eastern writer who has visited many prison camps finds that our Axis prisoners are not singing much, either. German prisoners, it is said, do some singing, but usually their songs are full of the sentiment of anger, and are sung in an angry manner. Italian prisoners, it is said, do scarcely any singing at all, although the Italians are a singing people.

NOT ONLY DO THEY MAKE AN ALmost infinite variety of things from corn, but they make lumber and a lot of other things from the stalks and tobacco pipes from the cobs. Hot tamales, of course, are wrapped in corn husks, and a lot of Mexican tamales are wrapped in husks from Illinois corn.

Sam Allen of Jonesboro, 111., has a \$10,000 yearly business selling corn husks to tamale manufacturers. A one-man business most of the year, Allen hires experienced cutters during the autumn rush season when the corn wrappers must be harvested.

When the corn is at the right stage of ripeness, Allen and his men carefully husk the ears and deftly remove the outer wrappings of "shucks." Care must be taken not to get dirt into the husk—it is almost antiseptic when first opened. Corn silks must be cleaned out and smutty or diseased husks thrown away.

It takes about 5,000 bushels to make a 50-pound bale. The bales are then shipped to tamale manufacturers in St. Louis, Chicago, Texas and Georgia.

Allen has been in the business for several years and says it is now at its brisk pace. The demand far outruns the supply.

By W. P. Davies

SOME DAY THIS WAR WILL END, and the nations will face an economic readjustment as gigantic in its scope as was the change brought about by the war itself. The impact of the war forced upon hundreds of millions of human beings drastic changes in their way of living. Peacetime vocations were suspended for many and severely restricted for all. Orderly routines which had been followed for years were suddenly disrupted. Clerks and merchants, farmers and professional men became soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. Women left the drawing-room and the kitchen to don uniforms and take their places side by side with their brothers in the armed forces or to weld steel or operate drills in war plants. Civilian activities were placed on a new and restricted basis, operating as best they could with such material and labor as were left over from the requirements of the war machine.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER PEACE IS proclaimed the work of demobilization will set in. It will not be sudden or complete, for fleets and armies will still be retained in service in faraway places to maintain order and supervise the transfer back from military to civilian ways of -life. But the process will begin at once, and in it will be involved problems such as the world has never before had to face on any such scale.

STARVING POPULATIONS MUST BE fed, and as quickly as possible they must be helped to a position in which they will be able to provide for themselves, for there can be no peace or order where millions are clamoring for food and where able bodied men lack both employment and prospects. This will create new problems everywhere, for persecuted and destitute peoples to gather together what remain of their material resources and to draw upon their spiritual resources so that they may lay the foundation of new and better life for themselves, and for those more fortunate, who have not been bled white, not only to rebuild for themselves, but to aid as they can those whose need is greater than their own.

ALL OF THIS REQUIRES PLANning, planning on a broad, comprehensive scale, that the entire situation may be covered in such a way that all its parts will be properly integrated, and planning in detail so that no time will be lost in putting the forces of reconstruction into action. Such planning will require the services of great national and international bodies, and it will require the intensive study and earnest effort of state, city, village and township bodies.

IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, AS PROBABly in most others, the national government must assume responsibility for a large share of the general recovery work. There will be a place for large construction enterprises which will take up the slack of employment in the transition period. And while it is true that whatever money the federal government distributesto states and their subdivisions must come ultimately out of the pockets of the people in taxes, it is also true that because of its large taxing powers and other factors the federal government is in a better position than any other to lend material aid in local works of reconstruction in emergency conditions. There will be need for that aid, and preparation must be made for it.

IF THE GREAT WORK OF REBUILDing is to be orderly and effective every community, down to the smallest, must play its part in it. Some of our men released from the arduous duties of war will seek to establish themselves in the fields with which they have become familiar in these recent years, but with millions of others their first thought will be of home, the home from which they were drawn and to which they wish to return. They must not be permitted to return to homes whose doors are closed to them, to wait with idle hands for tasks which they are eager to perform. And here comes the responsibility of every local community to so organize its affairs that when its sons return from the wars there will be work ready for them to perform, so that they may again take their rightful places in the life which they love and from which they have been temporar removed.

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF the Minnesota Historical society contains an article reminiscent of the Leech Lake Indian uprising by Pauline Wold. Actually the article contains little about the uprising itself or its causes, but is devoted to the author's recollection of personal experiences at the outset of the disturbance and during its progress. At no time was she close to the affray, but she heard about it from others, and she assisted in the care of the wounded who were brought to the hospital at Brainerd.

MISS WOLD CAME TO THE LEECH lake district in 1893 as a young physician, and it was while she was living there that the Indian disturbance occurred. Like most such affairs it was the result of many causes. Indians had been dissatisfied with the treatment that they had received at the hands of the government in the fixing of boundaries of their lands and in the payments that they received for those lands. Rascally traders who were in no way connected with the government had defrauded them right and left, and the government had to bear the odium of those transactions. Sale of liquor to Indians was prohibited, but there were plenty of bootleggers who would sell and take their chances, and to the Indian full of firewater his grievances assumed large proportions. An old Indian known as "Bug" because that was the first syllable of his name had been taken to Duluth as a witness in a government case and on his return in bitter cold weather he had been badly frozen Bug was angry at the government and at all whites, and at every opportunity he tried to inflame the young bucks against the whites.

THESE AND OTHER CAUSES IN combination resulted in grumbling and muttering, in the holding of secret meetings, and then in several of the Indians taking to the war-path. Troops were hurriedly sent from Fort Snelling to quell the disturbance, and in the subsequent exchange of shots six soldiers were killed and eight or ten were wounded. The affair lasted only a short time, for the Indians quickly abandoned the "war." Old Bug escaped and was at large for some time. Ultimately he was released, and he took considerable pride in the part that he had played in the miniature rebellion. Among other things he gathered a quantity of shells from the vicinity where they had been discharged and had them fastened together in the form of a necklace which he wore as a souvenir of his exploit.

THE AFFAIR HAD ITS AMUSING side in the seriousness with which several Twin City newspaper reporters assumed the functions of war correspondents. Equipping themselves with all the paraphernalia which they understood a war correspondent ought to have, they accompanied the troops to the scene of operations and then sent lurid dispatches from the "front." Some of their dispatches were imaginative masterpieces. A company of about 85 soldiers had gone into the woods to round up a handful of disorderly and temporarily dangerous Indians, but the affair was magnified almost into the proportions of a world war. There were stories of desperate encounters and hairbreadth escapes, with learned dissertations on strategy and tactics. I wonder where are the boys who wrote those stories. Perhaps some of them lived to serve in real wars, and to grin rather shamefully at the manner in which they had let themselves go in the Leech Lake uprising.

THE WAR CORRESPONDENT HAS a different job from that of his predecessor of half a century ago. Radio and the field telephone keep him in touch with headquarters most of the time. Mechanization has made for swift movement of troops, and as a rule the correspondent in the field travels by jeep or tractor or plane instead of on horseback. It is rather interesting that Winston Churchill, head of the government of one of the great nations engaged in this war, was once a war correspondent, and had experiences as thrilling as any described in any of the thrillers written about war.

ANOTHER FAMOUS WAR CORRESPONDENT was Archibald Forbes, who was made famous by his sensational ride from the front through enemy-infested country to the nearest telegraph station. Forbes was a capable correspondent, but he was a surly, ill-mannered fellow who on his subsequent lecture tours did not hesitate to adopt an insulting manner toward members of local committees under whose auspices he was appearing. Fortunately, there is no law that prohibits a capable war correspondent from being a gentleman, and most of them are gentlemen.

By W. P. Davies

GERMAN PROPAGANDA INSISTED for a week or more that the Allies has set the time for attempted invasion of Europe as not later than Saturday, July 3. Naturally, the Allied command took no notice of the statement. There was no invasion, at least of the kind that the Germans had predicted, and the Germans then ridiculed the Allies for failure to deliver.

PRESUMABLY THE GERMAN PROP-agandist had other purposes than that of making a huge joke of the affair. It may have been hoped that, having no thought of mass invasion by the date named, the Allied command would deny the report and in the denial perhaps let slip some bit of information which would give some inkling of Allied plans, what point or points would first be attacked, and the approximate time when the attack might be expected. If the Allies had been simple enough to play the game that way it would have been all to the advantage of the enemy.

A FURTHER, AND PERHAPS THE major German purpose was to influence German domestic sentiment. The German people were told that the Allies had planned to invade not later than Saturday, and that everything was in readiness to receive them. Circumstantial descriptions were given of Allied troop movements toward embarkation points, of the massing of shipping at strategic points, of the assembling of barges to carry troops and supplies. Then there were descriptions of the line of concrete and steel around the rim of Germany, deep enough and strong enough to repel any invader. Then, when the invasion did not come, the people could be told, as they were, that after making all those elaborate preparations the enemy had been afraid to tackle the job. Naturally, all that might be expected to stiffen the German spirit of resistance, and it seems more than probable that such was its intent.

DEHYDRATION HAS TAKEN AN important place in the preparation of foods for storage and for transportation. By the use of modern methods many foods are reduced to a mere fraction of their former weight and bulk, and the net effect is to multiply several fold the carrying capacity of trains, planes and ships used for transportation of such products to our armed forces, and to our allies beyond the seas. Important, also, is the fact that dehydration will facilitate domestic distribution of many foods rendering available to many communities supplies which otherwise would have been out of their reach.

IN PRINCIPLE THERE IS NOTHING new about dehydration. It is simply the drying out of foods that contain a large, proportion of water, as most foods do. Our grandmothers practiced it, and before them their grandmothers. They were not interested especially in transportation. Their purpose was to preserve foods for storage and later use. Their methods were crude, but within their limits, quite effective. Apples, peaches and other fruits were spread out on trays and set in the sun to dry or were dried over the kitchen stove. Corn was scraped from the cob and similarly dried, to be used perhaps months later.

ONE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PAST and present methods is that now work is done in a few hours that formerly required days. Another difference is that the job is more thoroughly done. More water is removed and the product keeps better, and because of the use of scientific methods the dried product can be brought back to something more nearly resembling its original state. Then, too, we are drying things that our grandmothers didn't think of drying—potatoes, carrots, onions, milk, eggs, almost anything that contains water. And a lot of that work this year will be done in home kitchens and basements with home-made dehyd-rators.

By W. P. Davies

LORD CHILSTON, WHO WAS BRITISH ambassador to Russia when Joseph Davies represented the United States in Moscow, is described in terms less than flattering by Davies in his book "Mission to Moscow." In the film version of the book he appears according to one account as "a dull, pompous, billiard-playing person." Asked to comment on that characterization, Lord Chilston said he objected to the billiard-playing part, as he doesn't play billiards. He had played at home as a boy, he said, but not much since, and in Moscow he had the billiard table removed from the embassy to make room for another reception room. "Of course," he said, "if anyone wants to make me look pompous he is at liberty to do so."

Yet the theory persists that the British have no sense of humor.

WHEN PNEUMATIC BICYCLE TIRES first came into general use there was a grant rush of manufacturers, big and little, to get into the tire business, and for a time scores of brands were put on the market. Some of the tires were good, and some were not, and the customer had little means of knowing which was which. The process was repeated with automobile tires, and the market was flooded with tires differing little in general appearance, but representing all shades of efficiency and durability. Gradually the business became standardized, and the customer could buy almost any make of tire offered, cheap or expensive, with reasonable certainty that he was getting just about the value for which he paid.

I WONDER IF WE SHALL GO through a somewhat similar process again after the war. Some synthetic rubber is now being produced, and a few synthetic rubber tires are being made. Already there is discussion of the relative merits of the respective makes. One tire, made altogether of a certain kind of synthetic rubber, is said to be too hard and brittle to wear well. It is said to need a certain percentage of natural rubber to "liven" it. Proponents of another type of synthetic say that it is sufficiently resilient without natural rubber. Just now the discussion is of slight interest to the general public because tire sales are severely restricted. But when the war is over, manufacture on a gigantic scale will be resumed, and perhaps we shall be shaking our fists at each other over arguments about natural and synthetic rubber and we shall be throwing chemical terms like "buna" and "butadien" at each other like brickbats.

ON THE BIG MILITARY PLANES" they have a device that registers speed, drift, direction and a lot of other things without calculation by the operator. He merely pushes two or three buttons and the answer appears right before him in plain figures or on a chart. Officially that marvel is called a computer, but some of the fellows who use it persist in calling it a confuser.

ONCE ON THE ATLANTIC—MY only ocean trip—I asked the navigation officer just where we were. Designating a blank spot on the map with the point of his pencil he said "Right there." asked him how it was possible to determine the ship's position so accurately. "It's perfectly simple," he said. "You just shoot the sun, and do this and that. Then you look in the book, and there you are!" It did seem simple, to hear him tell it.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO wish to keep up with technical terms used in warfare, the depth charge which is dropped as nearly as possible over an enemy submarine is an "ash can." But the bomb which is dropped on a munitions plant is a "pickle," and the bombardier is a "pickle-dropper."

By W. P. Davies

THE STORY OF THE LEWIS AND Clarke expedition from the mouth of the Missouri, across the mountains and down the Columbia to the Pacific ocean, has been told often and in many forms. I have been interested of late in reading one account quite new to me in the form of the journal of Patrick Gass, a member of the expedition, which is given in a book handed down through several generations until it came into the possession of its present owner, Homer E. Dixon of Grand Forks, to whom I am indebted for the privilege of examining it.

THE BOOK WAS PUBLISHED IN Philadelphia in 1811 and after more than 130 years it is still in good condition except that a few pages are torn. A substantial leather binding shows signs of wear, but apparently it is good for several more centuries. The names of several owners appear on blank pages, the first appearing in the notation: "John B. Tibbils, his book. Price \$1.00. (The cents figures are indistinct). Bought Nov. 20th, 1811."

THE PUBLISHER'S PREFACE TO this first edition sketches briefly some of the facts relating to Northwestern explorations of the continent. Years before Lewis and Clarke, Mackenzie had explored what is now the Canadian northwest, and penetrated the Peace river country and had navigated the great river which bears his name down to the Arctic ocean. Occasional hunters had roamed through the upper Missouri valley, and sailors had anchored at the mouth of the Columbia. But no consistent exploration of the great territory between the two rivers had been made and that was the job undertaken by Lewis and Clarke and their 41 men.

PATRICK GASS, COMPILER OF this journal, does not indicate what was his exact position with the expedition but it is clear that he was a man of some education and that he was unusually observant, and he was given high praise by the leaders of the expedition for his faithful and competent services. His journal is a day-by-day account of the journey which took the explorers across half a continent, and while its descriptive passages are usually brief notations incorporated in the day's account of miles traveled, difficulties encountered and methods of travel and subsistence employed, it is clear that the writer traveled with his eyes open and had a keen appreciation of the changing scenes through which the expedition passed.

NEAR THE HEADWATERS OF THE Missouri the writer paused to record; some of his impressions of the country through which the expedition had passed. Writing of the great prairies, "the boundaries of which the eye cannot reach," he says:

"The grass is generally short on these immense natural pastures, which in the proper seasons are decorated with blossoms and flowers of various colors. The views from the hills are interesting and grand. Wide extended plains with their hills and vales, stretching away in lessening wavy ridges, until by their distance they fade from the sight; large rivers and streams in their rapid course, winding in various meanders; groves of cottonwood and willow along the waters intersecting the landscapes in different directions, dividing them into various forms, at length appearing like dark clouds and sinking in the horizon; these enlivened with the buffalo, elk, deer and other animals which in vast numbers feed upon the plains or pursue their prey, are the prominent objects which compose the extensive prospects presented to the view and strike the attention of the beholder."

Certainly Patrick Gass knew how to express himself.

ONE COMMENT MADE WHILE THE party was passing through the upper Missouri country is on the infrequency of dew and rain and the writer wonders if that may be due to lack of timber. It seems not to have occurred to him that lack of timber may have been due to scarcity of rain. I find in the book no mention by name of Sakakawea, the Indian woman who guided the expedition through the mountains, but there is frequent mention of "the woman" who accompanied her husband, the interpreter, on the journey.

By W. P. Davies

I FOUND ON MY DESK ONE OF the finest tuberous begonia blossoms I have ever seen, which came from the garden of George Thomson at his home in Riverside park. I haven't had a chance to ask George about its origin and history, but it is a magnificent double blossom, in color a delicate orange of a shade which might be called apricot, and every one of the symmetrically arranged petals is perfect.

THE TUBEROUS ROOTED BEGONIA Is less generally grown than are the fibrous rooted varieties of the species, but when it does well there are few plants that give greater satisfaction. As the name implies, it is grown from bulbs, or tubers, and in this climate these must be started very early in the spring. When well started and set out of doors it grows rapidly and yields profusely. The stalks are brittle and break easily in strong wind unless staked or otherwise protected. The plant requires plenty of moisture and protection from too much direct sunshine. My success with this flower has been variable. Some years I have had no success at all. Last winter my tubers all dried up and I neglected to replace them this spring.

I WAS INTERESTED THE OTHER day in the picture of James Turner Sr. holding that ax which had been found buried on the river bank at about the site of the old boatyard. Mr. Turner says he never used one of those tools, as there was no boat building here after his arrival in Grand Forks in 1882. He had, however, been familiar with the use of the broadax in the timber country back east. I, too, remember well the broadax, although I never used one. My recollection of it is that it was broader and perhaps shorter than the one shown in the picture. Probably a tool somewhat different in shape was used in boat building.

THE BROADAX WAS USED FOR flattening the sides of logs—making square timbers of round logs—and the use of the tool required skill dependent on both knack and experience. The ax was heavy and had a broad blade ground only on one side, and it was kept razor sharp. As I remember it, the hewer stood on the log to be squared and made a perpendicular cut, flattening one side of the log and leaving it straight and true. The log was then turned and another cut was made at right angles to the first, and so on until a square timber resulted. A chalk line was used to make sure the sides were straight and accurate.

I ONCE KNEW A MAN WHO HAD come from the lumber district of the Ottawa valley and who enjoyed telling tall stories. He was expert with an ordinary ax and he enjoyed boasting of his skill with the broadax. He said he had been employed back east squaring timber for a shipbuilding company and his foreman was satisfied with nothing short of perfection in the work. The foreman, he said, used a silk handkerchief to test the quality of the work. He would drag the handkerchief over the side of a hewed timber, and if the handkerchief caught on a sliver or other projection the job had to be properly smoothed up. He told me all that with a perfectly straight face. I don't know whether or not he expected me to believe it.

ACTUALLY SOME REMARKABLY smooth work was turned out by those hewers. Some of their work went into ships, but much of it was used in the houses and barns which were built in the early days. The walls of those buildings were supported by heavy framework of timbers 8, 10 or 12 inches square, morticed and tenoned, fastened with wood pins and held true by heavy angular wood braces. The members of each side were put together on the ground, then the sides were hoisted into position and fastened.

THERE IS WHERE THE OLD-FASHIONED "raising" came in. For weeks the master carpenter and an assistant or two had been busy cutting and fitting the pieces and everything had to be so cut that the pieces would fit together like the parts of a watch. When everything was ready the neighbors would gather to hoist the frames into place. That part of the job was finished by putting on the rafters. The assembled company was divided into two squads, one to each side, and there was a race to see which side would finish its work first. The side that finished putting its own rafters into place and then climbed over and put in place a few rafters on the other side was adjudged the winner. Each side was superintended by a captain and usually there were kegs of beer and a barrel of cider to quench the thirst of the workers. There was a big supper in the evening and the day generally wound up with a dance.

Observations

Quality of Need, Opportunity Varies Among Allies in War

By W, P. Davies

IN SUCH A WAR AS THAT NOW IN progress there can be no such thing as quality of need and of opportunity among the several nations engaged nor can there be equality in the disposition of forces, whether of men or of material, among the various theaters of, operations. Nor is it possible for the people of one nation to look at the situation exactly as it is regarded by others who view it from a different standpoint and a different angle.

THAT THE RUSSIAN ARMIES HAVE made a magnificent resistance to Nazi attacks is something all the world knows, and that has caused all the world to wonder. And it is quite natural that Russians, fighting with their backs to the wall, as they were for a long time, should wonder why relief has not come to them more quickly from the west. But it must be remembered that the Russians are fighting under conditions vastly different from those which must be met in any attempted invasion of Europe by British and American forces.

RUSSIA DID NOT ENTER THE WAR voluntarily. It was forced upon her by the invasion of her territory by a powerful and rapacious enemy. The Russians had to yield their country to the enemy or fight and they chose to fight. And any other people would have fought for their homes and their possessions if there existed even the slightest hope of success, and many would have fought even without that hope. In defending their country as best they could the Russians have done just what Americans or British would have done in like circumstances, and they have done a magnificent job.

INVASION OF EUROPE BY BRITISH and Americans presents a different set of facts. The enemy has not come to us in the actual invasion of our home land. To reach him we must invade his territory, and to do that we must overcome all the disadvantages of distance, of water hazards and of menaced lines of supply and communication. And to enter his territory even to the extent of landing an army on a beach, we must shatter defenses which the enemy has been building for years and which are equipped with the most powerful weapons that human ingenuity can devise. Russia had warfare brought to her on her own ground, without her seeking it. To invade Germany we must fight the Germans on their own ground, where their men and material are right at hand. We shall do just that, but it is to be hoped that we shall not be rushed into the suicidal adventure of undertaking that invasion until we have made such preparation for it as will afford us a reasonable chance of success.

WHAT IS TRUE OF RUSSIA'S POSITION in the war is true in many particulars of China's position. China did not seek war. She was invaded without provocation. She could either yield or fight. She chose to fight, and in her case, too, the world has wondered at the character of the fight she has made. But the Chinese are fighting an enemy on their own ground, fighting for their lives and their homes, and any people with blood in their veins would fight in like circumstances.

WE HAVE BEEN GIVING HELP TO both Russia and China, not all the help they needed or for which they wished, but help which has counted for much in the struggle in which they are engaged. We shall give both greater help. We shall deal smashing blows at Japan, but it would be supreme folly for us either to relax our effort in fields where our forces are already at work, or to send against Japan expeditions inadequate in size and inadequately equipped, for which the ground has not been properly prepared. Clearing of the Mediterranean is a step toward relief of China as well as a step toward relief in force for Russia.

By W. P. Davies

THERE ARE TWO SCHOOLS OF thought about keeping things for which there is no immediate use. Those of one school throw such things away as quickly as possible, and they avoid the inconvenience of having their surroundings cluttered up with impedimenta that take up room and gather dust. Those of the other school never throw anything away, preserving things apparently most useless on the theory that they may "come in handy" some day. And what accumulations result Attics, basements, cupboards and closets are filled with junk, some of which might prove useful occasionally if only one could find the right piece when it is needed. But the collection is so great, so mixed, and kept in such disorderly fashion that search for the desired object is hopeless, and instead of looking for it one goes to the store and buys a new one. At least, one did before this war changed many of our habits, but now, between sorting out scrap for the government and trying to find a substitute for what one can't buy at the store, many of those collections have been given severe overhauling.

RESURRECTED FROM SOMEwhere is a collection of letters and documents that Homer Dixon has passed on to me for examination. They relate to the affairs of a Tennessee family in the 1850's, a family of whom I never heard before and in whose doings I have no special reason to be interested. Yet in running through those writings of nearly a century ago I became interested in the people whose hands had penned the lines so long ago.

FIRST IN ORDER AMONG THE documents is a copy of the will of J. M. Wilson, of Memphis, a man of substance and head of a large family. I find nothing to indicate what his business was, but he appears to have platted an addition to Memphis, and the collection contains several references to business transactions relating thereto. The will bequeaths to the testator's wife and to each of several sons and daughters one or more slaves, each designated by name, together with certain sums in cash. Another paper records a land transfer, part of the consideration being a negro woman named Blanche, aged about 48, and her two small children. At that time ownership and I transfer of slaves was as much a matter of course as the ownership of horses and cattle, and nowhere in the correspondence is there comment or any kind on the institution of slavery. And that was less than a decade before the Civil war.

THREE SONS OF J. M. WILSON were executors of their father's will, and apparently by common consent the chief responsibility of administering the estate seems to have been vested in William, the eldest son, who seems to have been an earnest, conscientious and business-like young man. A letter to a brother tells of his engagement for that season as second officer of a Mississippi steamboat, at a salary of \$125 per month, and of his having got a job on the same boat for the brother's negro boy Jim. Jim liked his job, and William was to collect his pay of \$20 or \$25 per month and forward it to the boy's owner.

J. M. WILSON, WHO MADE THE will, seems to have carried on quite a business and to have extended credit quite freely. A schedule of his assets lists tangible property valued at \$6,000, and good notes for several hundred dollars more. Then follow two long lists, first of "notes doubtful," and then of "accounts insolvent," which must total several thousand dollars.

WHY SHOULD ONE EXAMINE PAPERS so old, which have no bearing on the things of today? For no particular reason that I know of, except that running through and between the lines of the letters and the business receipts and other entries there are fragments of the stories of human lives, moving in environment quite different from ours, but differing from our lives in no real essential.

By W. P. Davies

ALLIED INVASION OF SICILY Naturally prompts a general brushing up in geography and history. There will be watched with interest, among other things, that narrow channel, the strait of Messina, which separates Sicily from the Italian mainland, and there will be speculation whether it will be across that channel that invasion of Italy proper will be undertaken, or whether the attack will be launched against some point farther south. Hitler, like the rest of us would like to know.

THERE IS RECALLED, TOO, THE time less than three-quarters of a century ago, when Italy, like Germany, consisted of several independent states, and among those states there was continual friction, friction which has not yet completely subsided. Italy, as now constituted, was one of the by-products of the Franco-Prussian war, and it was also out of that war that the German empire emerged. Press dispatches tell us that the Sicilians have not reconciled themselves to being part of a united Italy.

THE SICILIANS HAVE BEEN known as a turbulent people, and it was among them that several societies were organized which spread terror among peace-loving people, and some of which made trouble for the United States government because of their activities among immigrants who had arrived in this country from Sicily. Among these were the Mafia and the Black Hand, both of which operated secretly and which were charged with responsibility for numerous murders and other outrages.

NEW YORK CITY HAS A LARGE Italian population, a considerable proportion of which is Sicilian. The Sicilian immigrants tended to congregate in colonies of their own, and there are sections of New York where the population is almost exclusively Sicilian. Eighteen or 20 years ago that group was subjected to a scare which originated in a peculiar manner. A New York confectioner, desiring to give an air of novelty to some of his wares, stamped little licorice confections in the form of a human hand. The delicacies at once became popular with the children, who sucked them on the streets, took them to school and carried them home. Then someone whispered in tones of terror, "Black Hand!" Those pieces of licorice were black and had the form of a hand. Clearly the terrorist society was at work and the candies were meant as threats. Quickly the rumor spread and all American Sicily was in a uproar. Doors, that had always been open were closed; streets were deserted at night except when several persons walked together for safety. Every unusual incident was interpreted as evidence that the Black Hand was preerating a series of mass murders. Parents would not permit their children on the streets for fear the Black Hand would get them and schools in the districts were closed for some time. Not until it was established that the scare was due to the innocent device of a candy-maker did the excitement subside.

THE TOWN OF STAFFORD Springs, Connecticut, did a thorough job of celebrating the Fourth. The celebration began- on Monday, and lasted for the entire week. This was not intended strictly as a Fourth of July celebration, but was the occasion of a week's vacation with pay for practically the entire working population of the town. Stafford Springs has eight textile mills, all working on government contracts for army uniforms and waterproof coverings for parachutes and airplane fuselages. Contracts of the workers with their employers call for a week's vacation with pay. Heretofore vacations in the different factories have been staggered, but this year employers and employed together decided on a general vacation and a mass celebration. The week was given over to a mardí gras festival, with block dancing, sports and other entertainment, with bond selling an: important feature. This was the first time since the first woollen mill was started in Stafford Springs in 1719 that Stafford Springs practically closed up shop.

By W. P. Davies

A NEW BOOK OF VERSE ENTITLED "Lines From Dakota", by Corbin Waldron, is published by the Francis Press of Minot, N. D., price \$1.25. Mr. Waldron is a Minot attorney who has contributed articles and verse to numerous newspapers and magazines for several years. In the present collection he has sought to give expression to the spirit of North Dakota in its various moods. The selections vary from the broadly humorous to those paying earnest tribute to the pioneer and to the young man who have gone from the state to help fight the nation's battles. The little book is illustrated with spirited drawings by the author's sister, Mrs. Howard Lowe of Minneapolis. As fairly representative of the spirit that runs through the collection I am selecting the following:

HANGIN' ON. By Corbin Waldron. I ain't a-getti' no relief, An' haven't joined the swabs That lays the burdens o' their grief On Uncle Sammy's jobs; Oh, if I had to, 'spose I would, But somehow—don't seem right To grab an' git while gittin's good; Just couldn't sleep at night.

We "chinked our two-room shack with
mud,

An' twict run short o' coal, Them Russian thistles ain't no cub Fer cows; but bless my soul, My pappy had to do with less When he fust come out here; There warn't much around, I guess, Fer that old pioneer!

Times when the drouth took all he had And left him busted flat; They stoked with cowchips and ole dad Pulled through in spite o' that.

Say! In his eye was somethin' stern That got me; an' at every turn When softer ways are beckonin' I see him, an' start reckonin', On what he did an' how he tried— Which trail he'd figger out to ride. An' durn me, we kin git along

By fightin' on; there's nuthin' wrong In taking dole an' givin' thanks To them as furnishes the "blanks"¹ Fer them as wants it, it's okay But somehow, I ain't built that way.

An' mebbe spring will bring that crop! If riot—so long! I'm joinin' pop!

A GLIDER PLANE CARRYING A load of freight was towed across the Atlantic the other day. It wasn't a big load—only a ton and a half, but the event is considered by air men as something of importance. The flight was intended as a test, just now for military purposes, of course, and the experiment is believed to point the way to increased use of the glider in various long-distance military operations. But more significant is regarded the probability that after the war transportation of freight over great distances by glider will become one of the recognized methods of transportation. Enthusiasts have visions of glider trains, not quite like our 100-car freight trains, of course, but made up of several gliders attached to a single towing plane, carrying across continents and oceans costly freight in which carriage saving of time is of the utmost importance. And one has almost to pinch himself to realize that men have been flying less than 40 years.

By W. P. Davies

CONFEDERATE GENERAL NATHAN B. Forrest reduced military science to its single basic principle. That principle, he said, is to 'git thar fust with the most men." That, he said, is the one thing that will insure victory. To the best of his ability he acted on that principle, and he won considerable success. His formula has been more widely quoted, perhaps, than any other statement of military principle, and, like many other statements that have achieved wide popularity, it is often accepted as profound and irrefutable truth.

HISTORY, HOWEVER, IS FULL OF incidents which indicate that the Forrest formula is to be accepted with some reserve. The general who gets there first with the most men does not always win. Napoleon, for instance, got to Moscow in plenty of time, and with plenty of men, and see what happened to him. In 1914 the German kaiser got there first with the most men. He struck the first blows, and they were mighty ones. But his armies were driven back, and he died a lonely exile. Hitler got there first in the early stages of this war. He had enough men and weapons to crush opposition in Poland, Norway, Denmark and the Low Countries. He had sufficient force to overwhelm France. But today Hitler is fighting a losing war. Instead of boasting that Hitler is to rule the world, his spokesmen are trying to make the German people believe that the enemy will be kept from invading Germany. The general who gets there first with the most men may win the first battle, but it is the commander who wins the last battle who wins the war.

THE STATEMENT THAT "GOD IS on the side of the heaviest battalions" is often attributed to Napoleon, but it appears to have been written at an earlier date by Voltaire. Napoleon appears to have given it another form, saying "Providence is on the side of the last reserve." To Napoleon, also, is credited the statement that an army travels on its belly, and every general knows that his army must be fed.

Oliver Cromwell was devoutly religious and believed that he had a divine mission to free England from the tyranny of kings. But he believed also that faith without works is dead. When his were about to ford a stream he said to them "Put your trust in Providence, but remember to keep your powder dry.

JAMES A. GARFIELD WAS a general although he had no military experience and had made no study of the art of war. Commenting on this in later years he said that when he was given command his entire store of military knowledge could be stated in the formula that a big boy may be expected to be able to whip a little boy, and that one big boy should be able to whip two little boys if he takes them one at a time.

NEARLY 300 YEARS AGO MUCH OF the city of London was destroyed by fire. Not long before the city was swept by plague, and while the disease itself was serious enough, it was aggravated by the unsanitary conditions which prevailed. The fire did the city good service in destroying many of the noisome places which were veritable hotbeds of disease. Then was undertaken the first comprehensive planning in the history of London. The city had grown hit or miss, as most cities grow and there had been nothing of order or symmetry about it. To Sir Christopher Wren, architect of St. Paul's, was assigned the duty of modernizing the city, and he did an excellent job. But a city is a living entity, and life means growth. The plans that were admirable 300 years ago needed frequent change to keep pace with growth and development. Again the city was allowed to grow pretty much haphazard.

LIKE THE FIRE OF THREE CENTURIES ago the war has rid London of much that was foul and unsightly, and again there is opportunity for planning on a grand scale. While London, like all Britain, is immersed in the necessities of war, her leaders are looking forward to the day of victory and are preparing for it. Plans are being made for the rebuilding of the city in a manner representative of the best thought of the age. Plans being prepared contemplate the clearing of slums, large low-cost housing projects, hundreds of small parks and playgrounds in addition to the great belt of parks surrounding the city, improved transportation facilities, and a zoning system that will meet the requirements of both residence and business.

By W. P. Dovies

HOW DOES A YOUNG SOLDIER from the Midwest spend a week-end on his first visit to New York, and what are some of his impressions? Cadet Fred J. Payne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Payne, 1002 Walnut street, spent the weekend of the Fourth on leave in New York, and tells about it in a letter to his parents. Cadet Payne is attending the Pennsylvania Military college at Chester, Pa., and he is able to spend his occasional free time visiting interesting spots in the East. One earlier leave was spent in Philadelphia, where the very atmosphere is charged with historic memories. This time he and a fellow cadet went to New York, and it is apparent from Fred's first letter that no grass grew under their feet while they were there.

THEY GAZED DOWN UPON THE city from the top of the Empire State building, explored Rockefeller Center, climbed to the top of the Statue of Liberty — 10 stories — visited Trinity church and the city hall, patronized some of the riding devices at Coney Island and watched the crowd that thronged the beach on the Fourth, inspected Central park and Radio City, looked over Park avenue and didn't think much of it, as they found it sooty and dirty. In between times they saw two or three shows, including the Spitalny radio program and stage appearances of Mitchell Ayers and the Andrews sisters. Altogether they seem to have had a fairly full two days.

ONE THING WHICH THEY NOTICed, and which would seem strange to one familiar with New York, but who hasn't visited the city in war time, was the almost complete absence of private automobiles. Of this Fred writes:

"There were very few cars in New York. I doubt if I saw more than half-a-dozen private autos in the two days I was there. All the rest were taxis. At Times square, the throngs walk in the streets as if it were a sidewalk. The entire street is covered with people and the few cars thread their way through them. We walked across the streets any time we pleased. They were practically empty of cars. On Saturday night we stopped at Herald square on Broadway and there wasn't an auto to be seen up or down Broadway as far as we could see, which was a good mile altogether—half a mile in each direction. This was at 8:30 in the evening on the eve of a holiday.

THE TWO YOUNG MEN FOUND nothing of the chilliness with which New York is sometimes said to receive strangers. Instead Fred writes:

"The people of New York were very friendly. Service men get a 25 per cent reduction in hotel rates. All public places which normally charge a fee for admittance are free to us. We are served first in restaurants and waitresses and waiters tell us about their brothers or sons in the service. People stopped us on the street and asked us if we had seen this, that or the other thing, where to go and how to get there. We were given two sets of tickets to NBC shows, but we didn't have time to use them, so we gave them to someone else. Really, we had a grand time. I won't forget it soon."

THE LOS ANGELES EXAMINER OF July 7 published a story of the shooting down of seven Axis planes as told by Sergeant Benjamin F. Warmer III, fortress gunner who did the shooting in the great aerial battle over Gerbini, Sicily, the day before. Sergeant Warmer is the son of Supreme Court Judge Benjamin F. Warmer, of San Bernardino, Cal., who will be remembered by early residents of North Dakota as a graduate from the law school of the U. N. D.. His soldier son's story is a spirited one, interesting both for its stirring description of the action and for the writer's expressed feeling toward the fliers whom he met in combat. He says: "We looked on those fellows who shot it out with us today with sort of mixed emotions. We respected them for their flying ability, because they are part of the German air force's flying circus."

On another page of the Examiner is comment on late concerts, one in which John Charles Thomas was soloist, by Florence Lawrence (Mrs. F. H. Eldridge, formerly Florence Bosard of Grand Forks) who has been head of the women's department of the Examiner for many years.

WHEN THE FRAMERS OF THE constitution included in that document provision for the creation of a supreme court they tried to insure the freedom of the court from all extraneous influences which might be likely to influence its decision. Congress was to be the law-making body, charged with the duty of putting into statutory form the broad policies deemed essential to the welfare of the nation. The executive department was made responsible for the faithful carrying out of the will of the people as expressed in those acts of congress. To the supreme court was assigned the duty of interpreting the constitution and determining whether or not any given act came within the provisions of that document.

IN ORDER THAT THE DECISIONS of the court might be based on considerations of law, and nothing else, it was intended to remove the members as far as possible from the influence of favoritism, personal ambition, pecuniary advantage and political partisanship. Supreme court justices were to be appointed for life, the obvious intent being that, having once accepted appointment, they should devote the remainder of their lives to the duties of the court. To surround them with a sense of economic security it was provided that their compensation should not be diminished during their service. The clear purpose of these provisions was that the court should be a purely judicial body, able to give its entire attention to the judicial determination of cases brought before it

IN THE MAIN THOSE PURPOSES have been carried out. Most supreme court justices have served until death removed them or age and infirmity compelled their retirement. They have not engaged in private practice or in commercial enterprises. Seldom have they participated in political campaigns. But occasionally there have been departures from the general rule.

IN 1916 JUSTICE HUGHES STEPPED down from the court into the political arena. Yielding to the urgent solicitations of many who admired him for his great ability and had unlimited confidence in his high character, he became the candidate of a political party for president of the United States. That step was viewed with regret by many who had the highest regard for Justice Hughes, but who saw with regret the possibility that political ambition might invade the sacred precincts of the court.

FROM TIME TO TIME THERE HAVE been suggestions that one or another of the justices might accept a political nomination. Just now Republican leaders are seeking a candidate to head their ticket in the approaching presidential campaign, and frequent mention has been made of Justice Roberts as a possible candidate. The attitude of Justice Roberts has not been disclosed, but the fact that his selection is quite seriously considered by influential members of the party cannot fail to have some influence, if not on the attitude of supreme court justices toward political questions, at least on the public conception of what that attitude may be.

AFTER A FEW MONTHS SERVICE on the supreme bench, Justice Byrnes resigned to become assistant to the president in handling some of the important administrative work of the government. Former Justice Byrnes is an able man, exceedingly popular with those who were associated with him for years in congress. But the fact that a justice was taken from the supreme bench to perform administrative work is not consistent with the theory of the complete detachment of the court from other than judicial duties.

IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT BEFORE long there will be a return to the conception of the supreme court entertained by the framers of the constitution. To insure that, it is essential in the first place that justices be selected with the utmost care, not for their political partisanship, and not for their leaning toward this or that ism, but for high character and demonstrated ability to hold the scales of justice with an even hand. And there should be revived the conception of the court as a permanent institution whose members have soberly and earnestly accepted its duties and responsibilities as theirs for life.

By W. P. Davies

DOWN IN OKLAHOMA, EDWARD H. Faulkner, described as a crop expert and a county agent turned experimenter and writer, has been telling the people that it is a mistake to plow land for crops. Instead, he says, the land should merely be disced and seed planted in the shallowly cultivated soil. Plowing, he says, "murders the root system which lifts moisture from the subsoil and hopelessly buries the top growth so necessary for other plants to feed on." His plan, he says, keeps the top growth near the surface where growing crops can feed on it, and roots of the snipped plants continue to lift moisture.

I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT MR. Faulkner except what I have read in the paper, but I venture the assertion that he is all wet. The plan which he advocates is in effect a return to the method of primitive man, who "prepared" the earth for his crop by scratching it with a pointed stick. The savage grew crops, it is true, but he didn't grow good crops, and the area that he used was so small that when he had exhausted one plot he could shift to another. There was plenty of land, and there were few people to use it.

Contrary to Mr. Faulkner's notion, plowing does not bury surface growth out of reach of growing crops. Instead, it plants that growth where it will scarcely be affected by surface conditions, and where, through the process of decay it will be resolved into its chemical elements, part of which are absorbed immediately by the plants growing above it, while the rest are incorporated in the soil to be used by succeeding crops. Every farmer knows that one of the best ways of renovating a worn-out field—work out through repeated cropping on shallow cultivation—is to plow under a heavy growth of alfalfa.

MR. FAULKNER THINKS IT IS A good plan to have the snipped off roots of weeds left near the surface to draw up moisture from below. I wonder if he never heard of capillary attraction. Roots incorporated in the soil are useful, but only if they are dead. Then their substance becomes part of the soil itself, render it capable of storing moisture and assist in the movement of water from one particle to another. A living root draws moisture from below, it is true, but it does not deliver it to wheat or corn. Instead, it draws moisture from those plants and appropriates it to its own purpose, which is the growing of its own weed crop. I wonder if Mr. Faulkner ever tried planting wheat or corn over a bundle of live quack grass roots.

IT IS QUITE TRUE THAT A CROP—of a sort—may be grown on shallowly disced land. Under specially favorable conditions it may be a good crop. That has been done. But always the probabilities are against it. Experience of many generations and the results of scientific investigation alike point to the conclusion that intelligent plowing is a vast improvement over the primordial practice of tickling the earth with a stick. Discing has its useful place in the well-planned system of field operations, but in general discing is an uneconomic and unsatisfactory substitute for plowing. Shiftless farmers have sometimes used thatj substitution to save team work and elbow grease, and the results, one year with another, are just what might be expected when easy and slip-shod methods' are made to take the place of thorough cultivation.

MR. FAULKNER SAYS HE HAS TOMatoes, as good as any, growing in his garden which is untouched by a plow. He tells nothing about the character of his garden soil, what fertilizer he uses, if any, what the rainfall has been, what fertilizer he uses, if any, what the rainfall has been, the kind of cultivation that he gives his plants, and a lot of other things that have a bearing on plant growth, and he disregards altogether the liffERENCE between a garden and a quarter section of wheat or potatoes. Again I venture the assertion that Mr. Faulkner is all wet.

SEVERE SHORTAGE OF GASOLINE in the Eastern states, and shortage less severe in the Midwest is due chiefly to the inadequacy of transportation systems to meet the extraordinary demands created by the war. Shipping once used on a large scale for transportation of oil from Southern and Southwestern wells to the East is required for overseas shipments, and the presence of enemy submarines on Atlantic and Gulf waters has created new hazards for shipment over the ordinary routes. Railroads are crowded with shipments of other kinds, and the pipe lines in service have been able to supply only a small part of the requirements.

BUILDING OF NEW PIPE LINES will materially increase the flow, and we of the Midwest will be confronted with the unusual situation that with the enlargement of transportation facilities the supply of gasoline available for this territory is likely to be diminished. Heretofore we have been fortunate as compared with inhabitants of the Eastern states. The gas coupon which permitted the North Dakotan to buy four gallons of gasoline has been good in New York or Pennsylvania for only three gallons or less. The prospect is that with the pipe lines at full flow the easterner will get a little more gas and we shall get a little less. This is due, of course, to the fact that the new pipe lines will make possible the delivery to the Eastern states of some of the oil that has come to this territory.

NOWHERE IN THIS COUNTRY HAS the gasoline shortage reached the point where serious attention has been given to the use of substitutes for gasoline as motor fuel. Actually an automobile can chug along and cover considerable territory without any gasoline at all. And many of them have been doing it for many years. An internal combustion engine will operate on alcohol instead of gasoline, but alcohol is costly and experiments with its use have not been altogether satisfactory. Hence alcohol has not been used on a large scale as a substitute fuel.

IN SOME COUNTRIES, COMPRESSED gas has been used as motor fuel on a fairly large scale, but the preference has been for the use of gas generated in transit from wood or charcoal. Since the beginning of the war the use of this fuel has been general in Australia. The car is equipped with a retort which is filled with charcoal and this is heated by a charcoal fire and the resultant gas fuels the engine. Moderate speed is made on level ground, but the action of the gas is somewhat sluggish, and for hill climbing a small quantity of gasoline is injected. One charge of charcoal is sufficient for about 30 miles, and then the supply I must be renewed.

LONG BEFORE THE WAR WOOD— and charcoal—burners were in quite general use in some of the European countries because of the relative scarcity and high price of gasoline. Many such cars were operated in Germany, in Italy, and to some extent in Great Britain. Where wood is used, it is treated in substantially the same manner as charcoal.

IN THIS COUNTRY ATTENTION has been given chiefly to three rivals of gasoline, alcohol, which never came into popular use, electricity and steam. In the early days of the automobile there were many electric cars in common use, but they were slow and heavy, and batteries have trouble. The electric car soon became an antique. Shortly before his death, Steinmetz, the great physicist and inventor, announced the invention of an electric car which was to be driven by electricity and which he believed would be superior to any other, but nothing came of it.

SEVERAL STEAM - DRIVEN CARS were placed on the market, and for a time there was keen rivalry between gasoline and steam. The steam engine was much simpler and more direct, had no need for a complicated gear system, and was more flexible in action. But gradually steam was dropped as a propelling agent except for a few trucks, for which it is still used. Most of us who drive at all use gasoline, and like it, and in the modern engine it gives good results.

IT SEEMS QUITE REMARKABLE that with so many trees blown down, and so many big branches wrenched from trees that remained standing, in last week's storm, so little damage was done to buildings. One would have expected that with trees crashing right and left, many of them would fall on roofs, but I have heard of only one or two such cases. In one or two blocks on north Fifth street one tree after another was uprooted. Some of those trees had trunks fully 30 inches in diameter, with great spreading tops. One of those tops falling on a roof would have crushed the roof like an egg shell, but there was scarcely any damage of that kind. The wind there seems to have blown almost along the line of the street. A difference of just a few points in its direction would have wrecked a lot of houses.

I WAS INTERESTED IN THE FACT that so many of those big trees had been uprooted. On examination I discovered what I believe to be the reason why. It takes a lot of wind to blow a tree out by the roots, if the roots are sound, but those roots were not. Invariably the large roots of those that I examined were rotted and all that held the tree in place was its own great weight and the few small roots that extended from the tree only a few feet. With the force of a great wind pressing against those spreading tops and the trunk too large to snap readily, the defective root system had to give way.

ANOTHER THING NOTED ELSEwhere was that some trees which had apparently been in perfect condition revealed defects which weakened them. A sturdy elm, healthy and symmetrical, had four large branches growing directly from the trunk at the same point. The three branches on the leeward side were broken off, leaving the windward branch standing. Examination revealed that there had been a crack in the fork of the tree, permitting water to seep down some distance into the trunk, and while there was no appearance of actual rotting, there was discoloration, and rot had set in. The structure of the tree was weakened. Probably, if the defect had been discovered in time, a little reinforcement might have saved it.

A SINGLE LARGE ELM BRANCH lay on the berm in front of my house the morning after the storm. The trees near by seemed not to have lost any branches, and it took some time to find the spot whence the branch had come. In the center of one of the trees had been a tall branch, growing almost straight up in the center of the foliage. The branch, about four inches in diameter, had been snapped off squarely, leaving about six feet of its lower part intact and not even slivered. Usually there is some tearing and shattering of the wood where a branch is broken off, but not in this case. It was found that at the point of the break the branch had been almost completely girdled by worms or insects which had cut through the bark and into the wood, leaving only a small section through which sap could circulate. Two feet higher up there was a similar girdle in which tiny insects, perhaps newly hatched, were still at work.

OUTSIDE OF GRAND FORKS THE damage to buildings caused by the storm was heavy. Scores of barns were wrecked and buildings in several of the smaller towns were blown down. Stephen, over in Minnesota, seems to have been the most severely hit of any of the valley towns. There a church was blown down. One man who lives near by reports that he was sound asleep when the storm struck and he didn't hear it. He did, however, hear the church bell ring and wondered why it was ringing at that hour. He looked out of his window to see if there were lights in the church, but the church wasn't there. The bell had jingled as the building collapsed.

ACCORDING TO ANOTHER STORY that comes from Stephen, one resident of the place had a cistern which before the storm was full of water, but which he found empty next morning. We have heard before of wells being drawn dry during a tornado, something which seems highly improbable, but there is indisputable evidence that such storms do many things which ordinarily would be considered impossible.

In the fall of 1940, when the Germans unloosed their savage assault on Britain, angry demands were heard in England for retaliation. One day in the house of commons, an M.P. asked Winston Churchill why the RAF was confining its attacks to military objectives instead of bombing civilians as the Germans were doing. Churchill smiled and replied: "Business before pleasure."

By W. P. Davies

THAT THERE WILL BE IMPORTANT readjustments after the war is accepted everywhere without question. National boundaries will be changed, political organizations will be modified in form and in some cases abolished. Millions of human beings who have been forced from their homes into foreign lands will join in a great trek homeward or will take root in lands where they are strangers. There will be profound social and economic changes affecting the relations of nation with nation all over the world.

SUCH CHANGES, AND OTHERS OF equal importance, will affect peoples in the mass. But there will be other changes affecting the lives of individuals, and as to the nature of some of those changes we can do little but guess. Several million of our men will be released from military duty and returned to civilian life. What influence will their war experience have on those men? They will have spent months or years in environments new and strange to them. Some of them are now serving in Africa, in Australia, or on the islands of the Pacific while others are at yet being trained in American camps. But for all of them life is something quite different from anything that they have yet known. Will they return to their former homes and take up the work that they left and be satisfied, or will the war have created in them the spirit of adventure which will prompt them to seek new scenes and establish homes in distant countries?

PERHAPS THE PARTIAL ANSWER to some such questions may be found in the course followed by those Americans who saw active service in the first World war. While there were exceptions the great majority of those men returned to their former homes, and among their former associates, took up civilian life where they had left it, or as nearly so as was possible under the circumstances.

IT MAY BE SAID THAT MANY OF our men are serving under conditions far different from those of the former war, and that there will be influences at work now which did not influence the men then. For most of our men in that war military service abroad was on the Atlantic or in France or Belgium. Now our men are sailing every sea and are serving on every continent and on a score of distant islands. The lure of the South sea islands has often been painted in glowing colors, but actual experience has robbed those islands of their enchantment for many of our men, and the chances are that few of the boys will choose to remain on a tropical island and become part of its life. Some of our men have found Australia attractive, and a few of them may return there, but probably not many. The chances are that most of our demobilized soldiers and sailors will find the old home ties tugging at their heart-strings and will follow their guidance.

WHAT ABOUT THE WOMEN WHO are engaged in military service, or who have been drawn by the exigencies of war into work in war plants, or who, for the first time are working away from their homes in stores, offices and places of employment? The war service will be over. Factories now engaged in war production will resume peacetime work. Those factories will still need a large supply of labor, and in many of the factory operations women have been found as efficient as men, and in some cases more efficient. Undoubtedly an army of women will continue in such employment.

BUT FOR MANY WOMEN PLACES in business and industry will not be open. There will be homes to be established and supervised and children to rear. How attractive will be the work of the home after war-time experience of a totally different character? To what extent and in what direction will the home itself be changed? Is the war to give us better homes, or is it to lead us onto unfamiliar and perhaps dangerous ground?

THERE IS GOING TO BE A LOT OF stuff left over after this war, as there was after the other World war, and as there' is after every war. Some three thousand ships, we are told, participated in the invasion of Sicily. That is but a fraction of the number of Allied ships afloat and in actual service. And we are building more ships as fast as Kaiser and the other builders can turn them out. When the war ends we shall have many ships in service which will have to be decommissioned, for they will not be needed. There will be ships just finished but not yet commissioned which will be towed into some out-of-the-way water there to lie idle awaiting some demand for them for freighting or other peace-time service. And there will be ships, half-built, in a dozen shipyards on which, presumably, construction will be halted, with their thousands of tons of material destined for the scrap pile.

THERE WILL BE TANKS, AND trucks, and planes, damaged in service, freshly built, or half-built, some in Africa, some in Europe, some in the Pacific, and some at home. Some of them can be converted for civilian use, but many will be merely piles of metal. There will be thousands of tons of tons of bombs and, shells, unwanted, for the shooting will be over, and much of that costly material will be reduced to scrap.

WE MAY BE APPALLED AT THE thought of such waste, but there is no help for it. The war will not dwindle away to the vanishing point, permitting the victorious Allies to know that it will die a natural death by the first of some October or January, so that they may adjust their production to the diminishing needs of the next few months, leaving nothing of value in the litter that is to be swept up save a few inconsequential fragments. The war will end, when it does end, with a crash, with the enemy beaten back and hopeless, but still with an immense fighting force and with millions of tons of material. It will end with the maximum Allied man-power under arms and with every Allied factory pouring out death-dealing weapons at a rate surpassing anything before reached, for victory will be won by the side that is able to deliver the hardest and heaviest blows up to the last moment of the war. And that striking power must be built up and maintained regardless of the resultant and inevitable waste.

ACTUALLY, IT WILL NOT BE waste, except as war itself is waste, for if the massing of power can force the enemy to submission the unexploded bomb and the unused ship will have served their purpose. Unused, they will represent a saving in human life and energy and in material goods, elements which would have been destroyed had the fighting continued.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE FORMER war there were left in the hands of the American expeditionary force in France vast quantities of unused material which I had cost many million dollars to produce. General Dawes, afterward vice president, was in charge of that material. He sold it to the French government for an insignificant fraction of its cost. He was called before a senate committee to explain how and why he had come practically to give away so much valuable American material. It was then that he delivered himself of his famous "Hell-an'-Maria" expletive. He told the committee what was obviously true—that the material was of no use to the United States where it was that I to assemble it, load it, and transport it across the ocean would be immensely costly and that on its arrival on this side it would be just so much junk. Referring to the price paid by France he said: "I was ashamed to take the money."

AFTER THE WAR WE SHALL SEE A lot of once valuable property junked. There will be some salvage, of course. But the apparent waste involved in the scrapping of much of that material will mean that in putting it together we brought the war to a climax and won it, whereas, if we had been less vigorous and forceful and had tried to save our pennies we should have prolonged the war and made it more costly than it was.

By W. P. Davies

IN 1937 THERE WAS PUBLISHED A book entitled "Bread and Wine," by Ignazio Silone, an Italian writer of distinction. Placing his fictional characters in a setting of reality the writer presented a picture of life among the villagers and peasantry of a section of Italy, a life with which he was intimately acquainted. Hitler had not yet launched his war conquest, and at that time Mussolini was the chief figure in the field of aggression. With the blaring of trumpets and the beating of drums he had launched his attack on Ethiopia. He had promised the Italian people the restoration of the great Roman empire with all its glories.

THE ITALIAN PEASANTRY WERE not greatly impressed. If Mussolini wished to revive the Roman empire they had no objections, and at first they found a certain satisfaction in the prospects of benefits which were to come to them through extension of the imperial power. But the war in Ethiopia had dragged, and while the people were told of glorious victories won, the fruits of those victories still seemed a long way off. Their young men had been drafted for military service, and in various ways it became known that instead of being sent to Ethiopia to take possession of the alleged riches of that country many of them were being sent to Spain to fight in a war whose merits they did not understand, and in which they had not the slightest interest.

THE HAND OF THE DUCE BORE heavily on them. Taxes had been piled on taxes, food was scarce and growing scarcer, prices of the barest necessities had increased many fold, and men and women had been forced from their ordinary occupations into activities which yielded them little comfort. Lives of the humble and mostly illiterate folk were surrounded with restrictions and compulsions and spies were everywhere, prying into the acts, the conversations and even the thoughts of the people, and even a slip of the tongue might result in the sudden and perhaps permanent disappearance of the unfortunate from his accustomed place. Amid all this the people were ordered to hold celebrations and participate in demonstrations in honor of the great leader who was doing such wonders for them.

THE WRITER DEPICTS IN A REmarkable manner the attitude of the humble peasantry through all the regimentation to which they were subjected. They were not interested in national glory. They had no quarrel with any of their neighbors and felt no urge to fight. They wished to live their own lives in peace and quietness, to till their fields, tend their vineyards, carry on their small arts and crafts and be let alone. They wished for "bread and wine" in abundance, and their ambition did not go far beyond that.

THE WHOLLY OR ALMOST wholly illiterate peasantry described in the book constitute a considerable part of the Italian population. Just now our men are coming in contact with them in Sicily, and they are welcoming the Allied forces as liberators from a burdensome yoke instead of trying to repel them as invaders. They see in the arrival of those forces the prospective restoration of conditions under which they were once happy. They are again, they hope, to enjoy their "bread and wine" in peace and security.

THE PHRASE WHICH THE AUTHOR uses as the title of his book represents something more than the desire of a humble people for creature comforts. It represents that, of course, but it represents also the unconscious longing of those people for conditions under which alone creature comforts can be enjoyed, freedom of movement, freedom of expression, freedom of thought, freedom from dictation, freedom to live one's life and perform his own work in his own orderly way. And when the basic principles which underly the life of the humblest Italian peasantry are intelligently applied to those of more advanced culture and broader outlook it will be found that there is a universal longing for "bread and wine" in the sense in which those words are used by the clear-thinking Italian author.

ON THE BASIS OF A CHECK MADE by a state investigator the storm of two weeks ago is said to have been the most destructive of any in the past 310 years. Probably in number of buildings destroyed or damaged it was the most destructive of any since settlers first came into the state. Of the total damage done by the earlier storms there is no record, for after none of those storms was a comprehensive survey made such as was made after the recent storm.

THE STORM OF 1886, WHICH DESTROYED the old St. Michael's church in Grand Forks, appears to have been more violent in spots, but apparently its path was narrower. Further, there were then fewer buildings in the central counties of the state which were covered by the recent storm, as settlers had just begun to come into those counties in considerable number. Hence there was less property to damage.

THE TWO STORMS WERE OF THE same general type. Each covered a wide area and in each the wind blew furiously for considerable time in the same direction, though in each case whirls of true tornadic character appear to have developed in particular localities. In the earlier storm the main building on one of the Keystone farms, a large and substantial structure about a dozen miles northeast of Grand Forks, was literally blown to pieces and the fragments scattered to the winds. I drove by the place next day and nowhere was there evidence that a building had stood there other than the wood blocks on which it had rested. Bits of lumber from the building were picked up later many miles away.

THE TORNADO IS A VIOLENT whirling storm which may be only a few rods in diameter, and a mile away from its path the sky may be clear and the air quiet. The waterspout is simply a tornado at sea. The Sunday Herald had a picture of two waterspouts in action at the same time a few miles off the Florida coast. Years ago in Bottineau county six typical tornadoes were visible at the same time and photographs of several of them were taken at the same instant and on the same film. A motion picture of an approaching tornado would be worth seeing. I suppose some have been taken.

SIMILAR TO THE TORNADO IN their whirling motion are the little "dust devils" with which everyone is familiar. But there is a decided difference both in their power and in their character. The true tornado is usually accompanied by heavy clouds and violent lightning and often are immediately followed by deluges of rain. Those lesser whirls are more often seen on a clear day and are unaccompanied by electrical display. Some of them, however, have considerable lifting power. Those who frequent the lake in summer often see one traveling across a lake, churning the water into waves and sometimes lifting it many feet into the air to fall as "rain." I watched one such whirl travel across a field of shocked wheat. The shocks were torn apart, and many of the bundles were hurled a dozen feet into the air.

I BELIEVE THE VELOCITY OF THE wind in a true tornado has never been measured, but velocities of several hundred miles per hour have been recorded before the instruments collapsed. The damage done in such a storm is not alone from the direct force of the wind but from the explosive force generated. In the center of the whirl a partial vacuum is formed, and as the pressure is thus removed from the outside of a building the air pressure inside blows off the roof or tears the walls apart. There have been many cases of buildings thus exploding without disturbing light and fragile objects standing on the main floor. On the other hand there are; well authenticated stories of straws being driven through plants and other seeming impossibilities.

By W. P. Davies

ONE OF THE ARTICLES IN THE North Dakota Historical quarterly, just received, gives an account of Audubon's journey up the Missouri in 1843, just 100 years ago, compiled from journals and other documents by A. O. Stevens. Ordinarily we think of Audubon as a painter of birds. He was just that, but in order to paint his pictures of birds he had to find the birds, and that task took him far afield into territory much of which was entirely new to white men. Hence, while his search was for birds, mammals and plants, it made him an explorer of unusual character.

AUDUBON'S JOURNEY UP THE Missouri was made by steamer and at that time the river was navigated by many steam craft and each journey was a series of real adventures, for the river was constantly changing its course and the pilot had to deal with rapids and shallows which had been created since his last trip. Wood, of course, was used for fuel and there were frequent stops to replenish the supply. Sometimes the task of getting the fuel aboard was difficult because of cross currents and tricky landings.

THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE AUDUBON's chief interest was in birds, but he was interested also in other creatures of the wilderness. He made an intensive study of the pocket gopher, specimens of which he found in abundance. At one point on the journey north the party found both banks of the river lined with buffalo and many of the calves had been drowned in the attempt to cross the stream. The temptation to kill needlessly was strong with game so abundant, but Audubon was opposed to the waste even of wild life. He urged his companions to kill no more animals than were needed for food or for addition to the specimens which he was collecting for scientific purposes. His insistence on this had some effect and on one occasion it is noted that a hunting party had gone out after buffalo with instruction to kill three cows "and no more." On one occasion when a bird had been shot for mounting it fell into a stream and was carried away. Although there were plenty more such birds, Audubon expressed regret that even that one had been killed fruitlessly.

NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE LITTLE Missouri Audubon was disgusted to see Indians eating raw buffalo stomach. However, his scientific curiosity overcame his repugnance and he had a piece cleaned for trial. He wrote "to my utter astonishment it tasted very good, but the idea was repulsive to me." Other delicacies liked by the Indians were beyond him, however, and he refused to try them.

AUDUBON'S BIRD PICTURES HAVE been published in elaborate volumes and the collection is undoubtedly the greatest ever prepared by any artist. The pictures however, are not of birds alone. Each bird, painted in natural colors, is shown in an environment such as would surround it in its lifetime. There are shown birds surrounded by plants, flowers and other vegetation, and the painter was as meticulous in truthful depiction of those plants as he was of the birds seen among them.

IN ONE OF HIS NOTES HE MENTIONS the great quantities of "lamb's quarters" found in a particular area. He mentions the fact that this plant would serve as an excellent substitute for spinach and expresses surprise that it was not more generally used. Presumably that plant was the one now often known by the same name, otherwise known as pigweed. It has been long used for "greens" and those who know its flavor will agree with Audubon that it makes excellent eating when properly prepared.

AUDUBON PAINTED MANY PICTURES of animals found on that Missouri trip, ranging from the buffalo and the grizzly bear to gophers and mice, but his popular reputation rests on his brilliant and unmatched portraits of birds.

ANOTHER ARTICLE IN THE QUARTERLY is a continuation of the diary of Ferdinand A. Van Ostrand, giving an account of a journey up the Missouri in 1871-72. River traffic had then developed greatly and mention is made of the numerous steamers going up or down the river, carrying goods for trade with the Indians one way and bringing cargoes of valuable furs on the return trip. The diary presents an interesting picture of the Missouri country years after the pioneer explorers had done the major part of their work and when the Missouri country was about to enter upon a new stage of its existence.

By W. P. Davies

SOME LITTLE TIME AGO THERE was published in the Herald a series of articles relating to the development of radar, the device by means of which it is possible to detect at great distances the presence of planes or ships though they may be quite invisible, and of the part played in that development by Dr. A. H. Taylor, former head of the physics department at the University of North Dakota. I was reminded of an amusing incident in which Dr. Taylor had his gun confiscated by the then park superintendent because he had unlawfully and unwittingly carried it on park property. I told the story as I recalled it. I have a pleasant note from Dr. Taylor, who is serving in the Naval Research laboratory in Washington, where he is chief physicist and superintendent of the radio division. Dr. Taylor writes:

"SOMEONE HAS SENT ME A COPY of your column in the Herald under the title "That Reminds Me." You probably "wonder if I remember the incident" which you describe in the column. I certainly do, but I don't remember it exactly as you quote it. Actually, the weapon you mention was a 38 cal. automatic pistol and the target was a squirrel which I had just shot through the head when Van Deusen quietly came through the soft snow before me and directed a gun at me. He stated that any man who could knock the head off a squirrel a 20 yards was too dangerous to meet and take the risk of not getting the drop on him. Van Deusen and I became very good friends.

"I HAVE GOTTEN A GREAT DEAL of amusement out of recollections brought back to me by your little article and take this opportunity of wishing you the best of everything that one can get in this troubled world today."

I CHEERFULLY ACCEPT DR. TAYLOR's correction and I can appreciate Van Dusen's prudence in taking no chances with a man who had exhibited that kind of marksmanship. Since entering the service of the government during the former war Dr. Taylor has been engaged in research work for the navy. Development of radar is one of the accomplishments for which he is chiefly responsible. He has to his credit other important discoveries, and it will not be at all surprising to learn one of these days that from his research there has been brought into service some other device as important in its own way as radar is in dealing with enemy planes and ships.

FEW IMPORTANT INVENTIONS are to be attributed exclusively to one man. Dr. Taylor did not produce radar out of a clear sky. For years he had been an earnest student of physical phenomena and he has thoroughly familiar with the work of the scientists who had preceded him. Proceeding from facts they had established he made discoveries of his own which extended the radius of human knowledge and thus new possibilities were opened up.

THE INVENTION OF THE STEAM engine is popularly ascribed to James Watt. It is quite true that it was Watt's I genius that gave to the world a practical method of applying the expansive force of steam, but for centuries scientists had been aware of that expansive force and there had been invented innumerable steam engines that would run. Watt studied what had already been learned, added something to it and developed an engine which would not only run but would also operate economically, and thus the output of human labor was multiplied many fold.

SO IT WAS WITH FULTON AND the steamboat, Bell and the telephone and the Wrights with the airplane. One of the near approaches to important invention from scratch was made by Cyrus McCormick when he invented the grain harvester, but even McCormick had predecessors.

Of course, the rank and file of the Republican party will not take seriously the resolution adopted at a meeting of the Republican national revival committee, indorsing Col. Robert R. McCormick as the presidential candidate to oppose Wendell Willkie in 1944.—Indianola (Ia) Tribune.

By W. P. Davies

A TORONTO PAPER TELLS THE story of a man 84 years old whose income, such as it is, is derived from the sale of sheet music copies of the Canadian song, "The Maple Leaf Forever." It is a pathetic story. The old man's sole link with the past is the fact that he knew the author of the song, a school teacher who wrote the song in 1867 and often played it on the family reed organ. Because he knew the author so long ago and often heard him sing the song, the Toronto octogenarian, whose name is not given, seems to feel that he has a sort of proprietary interest in the song. He has supplied himself with copies which he offers for sale on the street corners. To the chance passer-by he is merely another old peddler, but through his life there has run a strain of devotion to the memory of a man who represented his ideal, and who has found in an old song the expression of lofty sentiments which he could not utter for himself.

A CHAT WITH THE OLD MAN brought to the reporter's attention the Canadian national song, "O, Canada," which was written by two French Canadians, Calizta Lavallee and Judge Routhier, at a religious convention in Montreal in 1881. Like most national songs "O, Canada" is anything but easy to sing. The easiest of any that I have heard is "America," which, while not the national anthem, is decidedly a popular national song. The music, of course, is not American, for the British were singing "God Save the King" to it long before the American words were written. Neither is the tune British. It was used generations ago, so I have read, in one of the German states.

THAT REMINDS ME THAT A FEW days ago I ran across an incident in a bit of fiction out of which I got a chuckle. The principal character in the story was an American sergeant who, with the best intentions, was continually getting into trouble. Attached to an American command in northern Ireland he was sent one night on an errand in a military car, and promptly took the wrong way, as usual and without knowing it crossed over into the Free State. The car contained a mechanical musical device of, some kind, and to while away the tedium of the drive the sergeant, who all the time supposed himself to be on the right road, turned on the music. Feeling patriotic, he chose "America," and drove on with the machine going full blast. Irish Free Staters hearing the music identified it as "God Save the King," which was anathema to them and they mobbed the poor sergeant for what they considered a deadly insult. However, it all turned out well, as it always does for the sergeant. Long may he live, to get into trouble and get out again.

SENATOR BALL OF MINNESOTA is a quick thinker and deft at turning a compliment. At a meeting of a women's organization he and Governor Edison of New Jersey met for the first time. The toastmistress confessed to them that she hadn't thought how to make them acquainted with each other. Which should be introduced to which? Senator Ball solved the problem. "Governors," he said, "are twice as scarce as senators, and must, therefore, be twice as important. So introduce me to him."

THE WRITER HAS BEEN OBSERVING the waiters at weddings which he has attended and have admired them for their distinguished air and courteous manners. He has wondered whence they came, where they were trained, and how it came that he never saw them except at fashionable weddings. At one wedding he almost got up the nerve to ask a waiter all about it, but he didn't quite dare. The waiter looked too much like a college president emeritus. Maybe he was one, in disguise. There's good pay these days in being a waiter.

MR. ICKES SAYS THAT WHATEVER mistakes are made in the running of the war are made, not by New Dealers, but by business men who have found their way into government service and who are running the war. When the war is won will Mr. Ickes move a vote of thanks to those same business men? He says they're running it.

By W. P. Davies

W. A. NERO, OF BOTTINEAU, sends me a copy of an old paper known as the Pennsylvania Grit, published at Williamsport, Pennsylvania. The paper, a weekly, had a sprinkling of current news, but it was devoted chiefly to stories of the odd, wierd and adventurous, and it had a wide circulation among those who were devoted to that sort of literature. The issue sent me is of July 2, 1893, and it contains several articles on which I may comment later. Just now I am reproducing one version of the story of the famous poker game in which Jud LaMoure was said to have won the town-site of Pembina from Enos Stutsman. The story, highly colored, and more than doubtful as to many of its details, appeared in the Pennsylvania paper in this form:

"Back in the 50's, when the northern portion of the territory of Dakota was hardly more than a bleak waste of uncultivated ground, the town of Pembina was founded by Enos Stutsman. Stutsman was a man as remarkable for his eccentricities as he was for his physical deformity. He emigrated to Dakota from the huckleberry district of Connecticut and located in the upper Red river valley, while he filed and proved upon 320 acres of land, which was the ground on which Pembina now stands.

"Stutsman had the head and body of a giant, but his legs were hardly more than a foot long, and he was unable to travel without the aid of two short and powerful crutches. He was a shrewd, calculating fellow, and soon became a recognized leader among the handful of emigrants who had taken up their place in his neighborhood. As a political diplomat he never had an equal in the territory,

"STUTSMAN WAS ONE OF THE most famous draw poker players in the territory. He numbered among his close friends a pioneer named Judd LaMoure, who owned a line of stage coaches running between Grand Forks and Pembina. The advent of the railroads killed Judd's coach line finally, and he settled down into a profitable grocery business in Pembina. These two men played the stiffest game of poker that was ever played in the territory. It was in 1862. The game was played in the old Levee hotel in Yankton, and it lasted from 10 o'clock Friday evening until 3 o'clock Sunday morning.

"The game created public interest, and during its progress the people of the town assembled in the hotel and watched the two men as they fought like bul dogs over the piles of red, white and blue checks. The legislature was in session at the time, and as Stutsman who was chairman of the council, refused to leave the game, that branch of the legislature adjourned until the following Monday, and the members watched the game to the finish. When the game started Col. Alexander McKenzie, a sheriff of Burleigh county and Major Edwards, editor of the Fargo Argus, took a hand, but after a few hours' tussle, with no change in their fortune, they dropped out and left the battle to Stutsman and LaMoure. Early in the game the former's luck was wonderfully good, and he played with a recklessness that surprised every one. Later on the tide turned against him, and the chips began to flow in the direction of LaMoure, who sat with his slouched hat pulled down over his eyes watching every move of his opponent.

"SLOWLY BUT SURELY STUTSMAN'S chips went over to LaMoure's side of the table, and work what trick or article he would, he could not turn them back. Matters went this way until past midnight of Saturday, when Stutsman threw two \$50 bills on the pile of chips in the center of the table and called a \$100 bet made by LaMoure. Stutsman held a king full on queens, and he felt sure that the pot was his, But when Lamoure threw down his cards there were four deuces, and Stutsman, gritting his teeth, exclaimed:

"Damn it, Judd, the devil himself could not beat you tonight. I'm broke. You've got my last dollar."

"Can't help it, Stutt; it came my way and I had to rake it in," replied Judd as he shoved a big roll of Stutsman's money m his pocket.

Stutsman eyed the roll enviously, and, just as it went out of sight, he struck the table with his fist and said:

"Judd, I tell you what I'll do. You've won \$3,800 of my money. If you'll put \$3,800 more with it, I'll stake the town site of Pembina against you and will play for it in a lump, to win or to lose at one deal."

"Do you mean it?" asked Judd.

"You bet I do," replied Stutsman.

"All right, it's a go," said Judd, as he threw down \$5,000 in bills and drew a check for \$2,600 to make up the balance.

"My word is good, ain't it, Judd?" asked Stutsman, looking across the table.

"Good as gold," replied Judd.

"Then," continued Stutsman, "if I lose I'll deed you 320 acres of land in the center of the town of Pembina."

"THE MEN SHOOK HANDS. ACcording to agreement the hand was to be dealt by E. A. Williams of Bismarck, the speaker of the house of representatives, the cards to be thrown on the table face up. When the five cards had been dealt each man was to discard and draw, the cards being thrown face up by the dealer as before, and when the cards had been dealt the highest hand was to take the pot.

"Excitement ran high, and to prevent and trickery on his part Williams was seated in the center of the table with his legs turned under him like a Turk, in the full glare of the oil lamp that was suspended from the ceiling. The friends of the two men crowded around the table and Williams was threatened with summary treatment if he should in any manner manipulate the cards so as to give either man an advantage. Deftly Williams shuffled the cards, and squaring them, slipped one from the top of the pack and laid it down under Judd's nose. It was a deuce. Stutsman caught the lueen of spades.

"The next card came off and Judd caught another deuce. The four spot of spades turned up under Stutsman's nose and his brow wrinkled a little. Again the card fell and Judd placed the ace of diamonds beside his two deuces, while the jack of spades looked up into Stutsman's face. Once more the dealer laid down the cards and Judd claimed the queen of clubs while his opponent caught the ace of spades. Stutsman's face began to brighten. He saw a possibility of catching a flush, but the next card to him was a heart. However, Judd had not betered his hand and held his deuces, drawing three cards.

"STUTSMAN'S FRIENDS TRIED TO prevail on him to draw four cards to the ace, but he wouldn't listen to them, and, discarding the heart, he drew one card, hoping to fill the flush. The onlookers were wild when Williams threw three cards

to Judd. They fell face up — the queen of clubs, jack of diamonds, and 10 spot of clubs. He had not bettered his hand, and his opponent smiled grimly as he saw how severely fortune must snub him now if she failed to bring him a winning hand, for if he paired any of the four cards he held he must beat Judd's deuces, besides there was a possibility of his filling his flush. Judd had evidently lost hope, and he rested his arms on the table and doggedly watched Williams as he turned to Stutsman and slipped a card from the pack. All stretched their necks to catch the sight of the card. It fell at last, face up, the eight spot of clubs.

"The game was over. Judd had won, and as he shoved his hand over the table to Stutsman the latter grasped it and shook it as though he had forgotten that it had played sad havoc with his finances.

"Stutsman kept his word and deeded the 320 acres of land to LaMoure. LaMoure holds much of that land today, although he has sold a large portion of it, and realized many thousands of dollars. The railroads have since given Pembina a boom, and the land that was won in 1862 by two deuces is now worth hundreds of thousands of dollars "