



WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON
Consolidated Features—WNU Features.

NEW YORK.—In June, 1940, a few months after becoming governor of Alaska, Ernest Gruening said, "A few parachutists could take Alaska today." He pondered the observation of the late General William Mitchell, "He who holds Alaska holds the world," and, a man of peace and a foe of imperialism, the governor thereafter never missed a chance to urge the strategic importance of Alaska, and to insist that "It has the greatest possibilities for an offensive of any land under the American flag." Congress was not, at first, responsive. Just how effective the governor's pleas have been is still shrouded in the mists of that frozen domain.

The least insular of men, Dr. Gruening has long been concerned with insular affairs, and was chief of the division of territories of the department of the interior from 1934 to 1939, receiving the Alaskan appointment on December 5 of the latter year. He is a doctor of medicine, with a degree from Harvard university, diverted to newspaper work early in his career. His studious bent has been such that he might have been put down for bookworm, had it not been for his success in practical affairs, notably running big town newspapers and making them pay.

The son of a famous New York eye and ear specialist, Dr. Gruening also had intended to treat eyes and ears, but began his career as an alert reporter for the Boston American. That led him to the successive managing editorships of the Boston Herald, the Traveler and the Journal, the New York Tribune and the New York Nation, with time out for his service as a private in the World war.

A liberal and reformer, he began back-trailing our tentative adventures in imperialism, in the Philippines and in establishing our hegemony over the Caribbean. Entering the department of the interior he became the administration torch-bearer for a territorial New Deal. He was born in New York city in 1867.

HOWARD MINGOS is a skilled writing man who also can add and subtract. This unique combination of talents naturally has made him our current historical

Howard C. Mings

A John the Baptist Of Air Wilderness
of aviation progress, as editor of the annual aircraft year book, published by the aeronautical chamber of commerce. The 1942 edition of the book, just out, says our plane manufacturers have some "frightful surprises," for the Axis, which will jolt the enemy clear down to his cloven hoof.

"Who says it?" is the wary on-looker's natural query about wartime news like that. The first answer, as to Mr. Mings, and it is reassuring, is that he is cautious and never has gone off half-cocked in reporting aviation news, good or bad. In 1937, he did not pull his punch in reporting the swift ascendancy of the German Luftwaffe over the British RAF.

He has long sustained a reputation as a good reporter, on the New York Sun for quite a spell. He is the author of more than 1,000 articles on aviation in newspapers and magazines, and several books. "The Air Is Our Concern" was the subject of a book on which he collaborated in 1935. He now gets long over-due credit for that.

After his graduation from his home town high school in Athens, Pa., young Mr. Mings studied two years at the Philadelphia School of Industrial Art, then switched to a long stretch of newspaper work, with the Philadelphia Telegraph, the Scranton Republic, the New York Times and Sun. From 1922 to 1930, he was a special contributor of aviation articles to the Times. With the volunteer air service of the U. S. army, overseas, in the first World war, he became a special representative of the aeronautical chamber of commerce in 1920. He is 51 years old, our outstanding professional score-keeper in air doings.

ANY day now we may get word that swarms of American planes, manned by Americans, are fighting and bombing with the British over Germany. Maj. Gen. James E. Chaney will wing them eastward, as commander of all American army forces in the British Isles. He is a flying general, a military student of the German industrial regions in the post-war years, an international authority on military aviation, on tactics, fighting and bombing interception. He is 57, and graduated from West Point in 1908.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reviewed by CARTER FIELD

Even Senators Can't Get Military News . . . War Forces Business to Make Gambles . . .
Bell Syndicate—WNU Features.

WASHINGTON.— Announcement that the crew of a certain U. S. naval vessel had "celebrated" their third sinking of their ship by the Japanese radio since last December 7 illustrates the extraordinary lack of information about losses—and some victories—in this war in the hands of the public.

Probably in no war in history has there been more rumor and less information.

There is no comparison whatever with the situation which existed in the last war, although dispatches could be sent just as speedily then as now, and every government was trying, in one way or another, to use propaganda for its own ends and prevent the propaganda of the enemy from having the effect the enemy desired.

The chief reason for all this secrecy in this war of course is high strategy, which exists to an extent and on a scale never before dreamed of.

Let's consider the matter of the battle of the Coral sea. The United States government up to the moment this is written has not admitted the loss of anything more than two planes in that battle. Jap claims as to our losses have ranged until they finally counted a battleship as well as two airplane carriers and numerous smaller vessels.

'Connections' Mean Nothing

All sorts of people with all sorts of connections have tried to find out what really happened to our ships in that battle.

While there is general acceptance of the statement by Gen. Douglas MacArthur that the Japanese claims were "fantastic" the thought of most of the inquirers has been that we did lose more than two planes, and probably some small surface craft.

The inquiries have been made in some instances by important administration senators who had close friends on ships in the southwest Pacific.

Remembering the case of the cruiser Houston, which was not admitted to have been sunk until weeks after the Japanese announced it, and from which not a single officer or man, as far as we have ever learned, was rescued, these senators, worried about their friends, have tried to find out as to the safety of certain other ships.

The senators in question failed to discover even whether the ships in which they were interested had participated in that engagement!

This is not written in criticism, but in commendation. It is unfortunately true that if the senators had learned the truth the information would not have died there. Within a few days the scraps of information would have been pieced together.

A check-up of estimated losses inflicted on the enemy obtained from that enemy's capital is pretty nearly priceless in guiding future operations.

It isn't only the military and political leaders who have to make decisions involving vital gambles on what may or may not happen.

Industry is up against the same thing, and even the little business man has to make up his mind on courses of action which may lead to losses if things break one way or save his shirt if they break the other.

Building Management Faces Difficult Decision

Take the matter of a big office building in Washington. This building has three furnaces, which have burned oil to supply heat and hot water ever since the building was constructed.

Now the building management is ordered to cut down its consumption of oil by 50 per cent (the first order was for only a 25 per cent reduction).

Now it would be comparatively simple for the management to let the building be cold next winter, and tell the tenants it was sorry, but a temperature of 55 degrees, or whatever should prove to be possible, was the best it could do.

Actually the building management could do precisely that, for the tenants would not be able to find other quarters, Washington being so crowded.

But naturally the management is scratching around, trying to find some way to soften the blow. It figures it can save only 12 to 15 per cent at the maximum, without producing hardship.

So now it is considering putting in coal stokers, if it can get the stokers—for at least one and possibly two of the boilers. Being a downtown office building it can not pile up a stock of coal, as can the regular householder with a cellar. Its cellars are much occupied.

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NEW IDEAS for Home-makers

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS



SAME BED WITH FOOT CUT DOWN—THE DOTTED SWISS VALANCE IS STITCHED TO HUSLBY BETWEEN THE SPRINGS AND MATTRESS

HAND-MADE QUILT IS NOT WELL DISPLAYED ON A BED WITH HIGH FOOT BOARD AND NO VALANCE

ance around the bed. The bed in the sketch had no particular tradition and the footboard was much too high to display the quilt to advantage. What a difference in the effect when the board was cut down and the crisp frills of dotted Swiss were added! Surely, any quilt worth piecing is worth this extra touch.

NOTE: If you have a metal bed that you would like to modernize you will find sketches and directions in Mrs. Spears' Book 3. There are eight of these booklets of 32 pages of things to make from odds and ends which accumulate around the house, or from inexpensive new materials. Copies are 10 cents each and with an order for three (No. 1 to 3) you will receive a set of three different quilt block patterns including the Whirl Wind illustrated herewith. Send order to:

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Enclose 10 cents for each book desired. Nos.
Name

Fortunately Hole in Barrel Was Discovered in Time

The particular unit in question had taken on a large number of new recruits and some of them were a little raw. During the first rifle inspection, the officer approached one of the men, had a look at his rifle, and then called to the N.C.O. in charge.

"Look at this man's rifle!" he announced. The sergeant looked down the barrel, swung the rifle around to the recruit, and barked: "Take a look at that rifle, you!"

The recruit peered carefully down the barrel, then muttered in a surprised tone: "Well, what do you know. Got a hole clean through it!"

Greatest Wealth Not to be avaricious is money; not to be fond of buying is a revenue; but to be content with our own is the greatest and most certain wealth of all.—Cicero.

Hubby—You never tell me what you buy! Don't I have my voice in the buying?
Wifey—Certainly, darling! You get the invoice.

Smile Awhile

Does Just That
"There's a fellow who takes the worst possible view of everything," said the grouch.
"Why, is he a pessimist?"
"No, he's a candid camera fiend."

Heart's Desire
Spinster—So the waiter said to me, "How would you like your rice?"
Friend—Yes, dearie, go on.
Spinster—So I said wistfully, "Thrown at me."

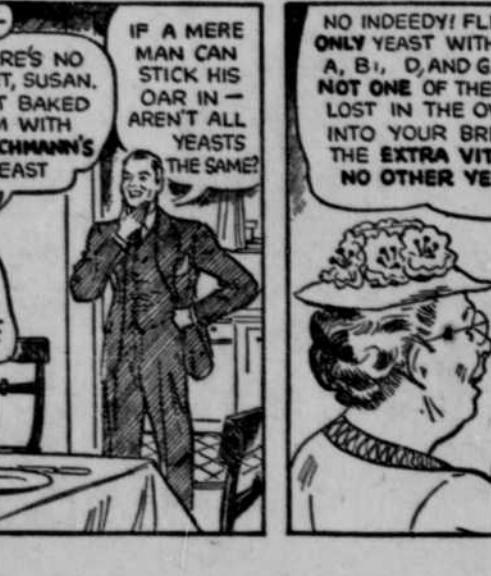
Few Virtues
Lady—That parrot I bought here swears frightfully.
Dealer—I don't deny it, madam, but you must admit he doesn't drink or smoke.

Different Views
Sonny—Dad, what do you call a man who drives a car?
Dad (a pedestrian)—It all depends on how close he comes to me, son.

Advantage
"They say that with war cutting off imports of insecticides, the insects are steadily winning their eternal war with man."
"They've made a good beginning, anyway. I pay five cents a pound for potatoes and the potato bug gets his free."

Concise
Aunt—I suppose you will be at the picnic, John?
John—Now, I ain't goin'.
Aunt—Don't say "I ain't goin'." I'll give you a lesson: I am not going, you are not going, he is not going, we are not going, they are not going. Now can you say all that?
John—Sure. There ain't nobody goin'.

Quite Important
Hubby—You never tell me what you buy! Don't I have my voice in the buying?
Wifey—Certainly, darling! You get the invoice.



ASK ME ANOTHER?

A quiz with answers offering information on various subjects

The Questions

1. What line follows "The night has a thousand eyes"?
2. The wife of an earl is called what?
3. Garlic belongs to what botanical family?
4. The present population of the world is approximately what?
5. Who was called the Belgian Shakespeare?
6. By what other name was Australia once known?
7. When was the first national convention of the American Legion held?
8. How much does a gallon of pure water weigh?
9. In what year was Alaska purchased from Russia by the United States?

The Answers

1. "And the day but one."
2. Countess.
3. Lily.
4. Nineteen hundred million.
5. Maeterlinck.
6. New Holland.
7. November, 1919.
8. 8.355 pounds.
9. In 1867.
10. In 1927, by John Walter, an English druggist.

Memory Geniuses

Some Mohammedan priests have remarkable memories. Starting when they first learn to read, they read no other book besides the Koran, and by the time they enter the priesthood are able to repeat the 2,400,000 words of that book from memory. Several of the priests with more retentive memories have memorized the complete work in as little as 2 1/2 years.

Wartime Problem Solved

Necessity has forced the American people to do many new things. While in the past many bird lovers have raised canaries at home for the pleasure and satisfaction they derived, now the breeding of canaries at home has become a new, worthwhile hobby—a money-making hobby that is spreading all over this country.

With the major supplies of canaries from abroad abruptly stopped . . . with a strict wartime ban placed on the importation of hundreds of thousands of canaries formerly shipped yearly from Central Europe and Asia, the ingenuity and foresight of the American people have met the situation with smiles of satisfaction—as they turned this canary shortage into a wartime opportunity.

But a small out-lay was required to start this worthwhile hobby—turning a most pleasurable undertaking into a profitable, money-making business at home

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IT'S NOTHING AT ALL, CHILD! AND YOU LET THAT HUSBAND OF YOURS EAT ALL HE WANTS. THESE BUNS ARE GOOD FOR HIM. THEY'VE GOT EXTRA VITAMINS IN THEM.

MY! ISN'T THAT SOMETHING NEW—VITAMINS IN BUNS? YOU MUST TELL ME YOUR SECRET, MRS. OWEN!

THERE'S NO SECRET, SUSAN. I JUST BAKED THEM WITH FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST.

IF A MERE MAN CAN STICK HIS OAR IN—AREN'T ALL YEASTS THE SAME?

NO INDEED! FLEISCHMANN'S IS THE ONLY YEAST WITH ALL THESE VITAMINS—A, B₁, D, AND G. WHAT'S MORE, SUSAN, NOT ONE OF THEM IS APPRECIABLY LOST IN THE OVEN. THEY ALL GO INTO YOUR BREAD OR ROLLS FOR THE EXTRA VITAMINS THAT NO OTHER YEAST CAN GIVE.

ANOTHER THING TO REMEMBER, SUSAN, IS THAT THE FLEISCHMANN'S YOU BUY THESE DAYS KEEPS PERFECTLY IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR. YOU CAN LAY IN A WHOLE WEEK'S SUPPLY, AND BY THE WAY, SEND FOR FLEISCHMANN'S MARVELOUS NEW RECIPE BOOK. IT'S FULL OF ALL SORTS OF DELICIOUS NEW BREADS AND ROLLS.

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