

**DEAR FOLKS**

By VAN

**RATION PROBLEM—**

No, Dear Folks, isn't being rationed, though some of this column's readers, commenting on its infrequent appearances of late, may think this is the case.

The column is glad to know there are readers who would like to see Dear Folks in print more often. But—until this reporter solves the problem of how to stretch an "A" card over the wide-flung area of Southern California, readers will have to remember that if Dear Folks isn't being rationed, gasoline is.

Travel Talk—  
And speaking of traveling around, especially nationwide or wide world traveling, we have found an ideal substitute for that kind of travel—a Hollywood movie lot.

Dear Folks reporter toured the lot at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer the other day and in one afternoon visited London, Manila, New York, a village in Denmark and a village in America, and saw a jungle battlefield and a blitzed English community.

It gave us an odd feeling to pass through the quiet village of Carvel, where Mickey (Andy Hardy) Rooney has those man-to-man talks with Judge (Lewis Stone) Hardy, and step almost immediately into a Bataan army camp complete with bomb torn, thatched roof shelters in the heart of a movie jungle.

Then, a few minutes later, to pass in rapid succession, swank "Fifth Avenue shops," a penitentiary, a street in an early day western town, a hilly Danish village with cobbled streets, the bombed church of "Mrs. Miniver," and a street in Manila.

And the hills in the Danish village, the studio man accompanying us, said, were man-made. We found them as real and formidable as some of the seven hills of Rome (or Plattsmouth).

Speaking of real things, this is as good a place as any to dispel the idea that Hollywood movie sets are just flimsy, false fronts. This department is willing to wager that the average person, brought blindfolded into a movie street, on seeing it, wouldn't know that it wasn't a real street.

It must be admitted that such a person would probably be confused by seeing a Honolulu store next to one from Chicago, or some such curious combination. This frequently happens when the fronts already standing are converted for use in different pictures by changing signs repainting or remodeling fronts. In fact we know of one drug store that was a drug store in one picture and the town tavern in another.

But transitions like that aren't as unusual as the one we ran onto while talking with Jim Mason, a studio police officer. We learned that Mason, an ex-actor, was formerly a thief (in the movies, of course), for in the famous spectacle "King of Kings," made by Director Cecil B. DeMille, Mason was one of the thieves crucified on the cross. From crook to cop—that's movies.

We also took a look in the "property" warehouse, after a slight start occasioned by seeing a worker emerge, carrying the limp body of a man, which turned out to be one of those lifelike studio dummies. But we'll have to tell you about the warehouse later. What a gold mine, antique collectors would find in that place.

**War on Crime—**

That's the heading of a picturized magazine story our son and heir recently called to our attention. The story dealt with the famous capture of the Topeka G-man slayers by Homer (Shorty) Sylvester and Cass Sylvester. Wonder if the movies will ever get around to making a picture about the case. We'll bet the former law officers could play movie sheriffs with the same ease they did it in real life. How about it, Shorty and Cass?

**Here and There—**

The Fred Todds, who formerly lived at Huntington Beach, have moved to Los Angeles. The Lester Winn was Sunday callers of Mrs. Frances Brown of Santa Monica. Edith Vandervoort attended a dinner at the Biltmore hotel in Los Angeles recently. The dinner was given by the Van de Kamp company in honor of its store managers. War Notes: Mrs. Louise Graves is serving as a block mother; Margaret Rummel served as a volunteer worker during issuance of Ration Book Two, Stella Rummel is an aide of the Burbank Ration Board. Now in defense work are Chris Bulin, Clyde Graves and Lanna Kelley, who have joined Bendix, Aero Tool and Lockheed, respectively. Visitors in Southern

California were Mr. and Mrs. L. L. McCarty and Leon McCarty, Jr., who visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ben McCarty and Floyd McCarty of Los Angeles, and also spent time in San Diego. Mr. and Mrs. Warren (Dorothy Elliott) Taylor, are now living in Long Beach. Mr. Taylor is in the layout department at Calship. Miss Vera Johnson was a visitor at the home of Mrs. E. J. Thee of Sacramento. Mrs. Henrietta Mockenhaupt, who has been spending the winter in California, has been dividing her time between Costa Mesa, where she has been visiting the Fred Lindemans, Gerald Shraders and Mrs. Thomas Ireland, and Burbank, where she spent time with the C. H. Bulins and Paul Vandervoorts. While in Burbank she also visited Hollywood attending broadcasts of Fibber McGee and Molly and Gracie Fields. Later she visited Beverly Hills North Hollywood and Santa Monica. At Santa Monica she enjoyed a visit with Mrs. Frances Brown and daughters, Martha and Colleen; Mr. and Mrs. Lester Winn, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Forbes and Michael. Earle Taylor recently underwent a tonsilectomy. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor live at Long Beach. The meat shortage won't seriously affect the Otto Soenrichsen family of Rio Vista, as they are raising rabbits to help take the place of that scarce food commodity. Margaret Rummel and Margaret Anne Valley recently spent a day in Pasadena, where they called on relatives of Mrs. Rummel. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tiller, with Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Wells, were Sunday visitors at the Paul Vandervoort home, the group enjoyed an afternoon of talk and reminiscing. Miss May Murphy of Glendale called on Mrs. Henrietta Mockenhaupt, while Mrs. Mockenhaupt was visiting in Burbank. While in Culver City recently, your reporter unexpectedly met Ilton Muncie, former resident of Plattsmouth. Mr. and Mrs. Muncie are living in Culver City and Mr. Muncie is a member of the U. S. Engineers force headquarters in Glendale. The Clyde Graves entertained at dinner for Joe Graves before his departure. Also present were the C. H. Bulins, Jimmy Graves 7—

Seven school mates of Jimmy Graves were invited to the party given in his honor on his seventh birthday.

The party was held at Jimmy's home, where the children played games and were served party refreshments.

Those present to honor Jimmy were: Pattyann Hill, Ginger Hart, Tommie Kingston, Markie Kingston, Robert Baker, Billy Catlin, Lorum Longis, the guest of honor, Jimmy Graves, and his sisters, Judy and Sallye.

**Long Marriage Record—**

If you heard the San Fernando Valley Day program on Tom Breneman's "Breakfast at Sardi's" broadcast on February 17, you heard them mention the "Valley Times," which is to San Fernando what the Journal is to Plattsmouth, the home town paper.

Before the broadcast, the Valley Times conducted a search for the Valley couple with the longest marriage record, to be honored on the broadcast. Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Gregory of North Hollywood were chosen, but we thought you'd be interested in another couple, whose long marriage the Times also wrote about.

Here is a paragraph taken from the Valley Times of February 12, 1943:

"Another long-wedded Valley couple in robust health is Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Bringman, 14417 Haines street, Van Nuys, who were married April 20, 1885, in Plattsmouth, Neb. They lived for many years at Louisville, Neb., but moved to Kansas before coming to the Valley about 20 years ago. They belong to the Van Nuys Christian church and enjoy life to the utmost. The husband is 80, the wife 76."

The Dear Folks reporter doesn't have the pleasure of Mr. and Mrs. Bringman's acquaintance, but hopes some of their Cass county friends may read this and learn of this recognition of them.

**William Rummels Honored—**  
Speaking of long marriage records, Mr. and Mrs. William Rummel had the happy occasion of reaching the golden milestone in their married life, when they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on February 23.

A family dinner was given in their honor, with a reception being held later, attended by friends and relatives living in California.

One of the nice things, about the celebration was a golden mailbox which had been prepared unbeknownst to Mr. and Mrs. Rummel. Following the dinner, the mailbox

filled to capacity with messages and cards of congratulation on their anniversary, was presented to them.

They were surprised and happy at this demonstration of affection from their many friends, who joined in the pleasant conspiracy by sending their congratulatory messages to an agreed address in order that they might all be given the Rummels on their anniversary.

The golden anniversary theme was beautifully carried out with flowers and wedding cake of a golden hue adding to the spirit of the occasion.

The Dear Folks column joins with the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Rummel in saluting them on the occasion of their golden wedding. Cornhusker in Hollywood—

Damian O'Flynn recently seen in "Wake Island" "X Marks the Spot" and other pictures, is now working at Monogram Studio in the film, "Sarong Girl," with Ann Corio.

Your reporter had lunch in the studio commissary at 20th-Century Fox, recently, and got a preview of Orson Welles and Joan Fontaine in "Jane Eyre." The two stars, seated at nearby tables, were in costume and makeup, just as they came from the set, where famous Charlotte Bronte is being filmed.

Republic's Roy Rogers, King of the Cowboys, gifted Pres. Roosevelt on his birthday with a pair of silver spurs, with the president's initials in raised gold. Monogram has signed up two oldtime favorites, Hoot Gibson and Ken Maynard, to star in a western series called "The Trail Blazers." Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's stylist, Irene, says wooden playshoes are the answer to Milady's shoe rationing problem.

Dudley Field Malone, renowned lawyer, portrays Prime Minister Winston Churchill in Warner Brothers "Mission to Moscow." Malone

and Churchill bear a strong resemblance. When Former Ambassador Davies was in Hollywood to assist on production of his book, he played golf with Walter Huston, who plays the Ambassador in the picture.

The villain you love to hate, Erich von Stroheim, plays Field Marshal Erwin Rommel in Paramount's "Five Graves in Cairo." von Stroheim, himself, supervised the tailoring of the uniform he wears in the picture. The Ritz Brothers, masters of nonsense, and Nelson Eddy, master of melody are currently working at Universal, but on different sets. Something tells us Dagwood is in for more trouble, for "Blondie buys a horse," is now shooting on the Columbia lot. Housewives certainly keep an eye on the Blondie films. If even a small article of furniture appears in a different place from one picture to another, some lady writes in and calls attention to it.

Recommended as "slick" entertainment: Monogram's "Silver Skates." We nearly got lost on the RKO-Radio lot, while looking for the studio still department, the other day. These studio sound stages all look alike, and if you make a wrong turn, like we did—it's too bad. Like getting lost in the Badlands, and trying to tell one butte from another. Our favorite radio bachelor the Great Gildersleeve, otherwise Hal Peary, is working on the RKO lot these days, making "Gildersleeve's Bad Day." Well wag-er it will be our good day for fun, when the film's released.

**Parting Thought—**  
As the radio comedians say, we'll see you around and all that stuff like that there, and don't forget to buy U. S. War Bonds and Stamps.

470 E. Santa Anita, Burbank, Calif.

**Madame Chiang in New York \$960,000 Jackpot**

New York, March 1, (UP)—Madame Chiang Kai-Shek came to New York today for a four-day visit which begins a farewell tour of the United States prior to her return to China where she will deliver assurance of early American aid to her husband's armies in the war against Japan.

The First Lady of China was greeted at Pennsylvania Station by Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia who escorted her to her hotel for a brief rest before the city's official welcome at City Hall. The rest of her day included a visit to Chinatown whose five thousand residents have been decorating the area for several days in her honor.

**Axis Diplomats Here**

Washington, March 3 — (UP)—The state department announced today that the former German and Italian counsel generals at Algiers, who were captured in the north African invasion, have been brought to the United States and are being held pending exchange for American diplomats whom the Germans seized in France and have taken to Germany.

**Capture Bank Robbers**

Kansas City, Mo., Mar. 2, (UP)—Two of the three criminals who are wanted in Cincinnati, Ohio on a bank robbery charge, were taken into custody here, it was announced today, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The men are wanted for armed robbery of a bank on Nov. 23rd. They are Wm. Radkey, 31, Samuel Ricketts, 28, and the third man, Harry Bever still is being sought here.

**\$960,000 Jackpot**

Chicago, March 3—(UP)—A five year poker game in which the president of a Chicago bakery company and a flour manufacturer allegedly split an "ill-gotten pot" of \$960,000, was described today by company stockholders seeking an accounting of funds.

The \$960,000 "pot", the stockholders charged, was the difference between the market price of flour and the price paid by the company for four million eight hundred thousand barrels during the years 1933-1938. Over the poker table they charged M. L. Molan, St. Paul, former president of the Purity Bakery Corporation and Wm. P. Roman, flour manufacturer, split the difference, each receiving approximately \$480,000.

**No Talk "Gen. Roosevelt"**

With the American Forces in Southern Tunisia, March 3—(UP)—American soldiers followed a broken telephone line. The wire led to a swastika-decorated sign swinging from the end of the strand. On the sign in German was: "Now you can't talk to General Roosevelt any more."

**Aged Man Quite Ill**

Hiram T. Batten, one of the long-time residents of the city, is quite seriously ill at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Fritz Kaffenberger in this city. Mr. Batten, who is 85 years of age, some time ago suffered an injured arm and shoulder and has now had a stroke that has rendered him bedfast. Another daughter, Mrs. Blanche Grassman, of Alliance, is expected here Thursday morning to be with the aged father.

**Funeral of Joseph Kastel**

The funeral services for Joseph Kastel were held on Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Sattler funeral home at Fourth and Vine streets, a number of the old friends and associates being present for the service.

Rt. Rev. Monsignor George Agius held a prayer service at the funeral home and at the grave in the Catholic cemetery.

During the service John J. Cloidt gave the hymn, "There is No Heart Like Thine Jesus," Mrs. Cloidt playing the accompaniment.

The interment was at the Catholic cemetery with relatives and old friends serving as pallbearers, they being: Otto Puls, Harold, Joe and Ralph Puls, W. H. Puls, Frank Wildrick.

**OBITUARY**

Joseph Kastel was born March 10, 1854, in Minchen, Germany and came to the United States June 9, 1891, locating in Plattsmouth and where he was engaged in the Burlington railroad shops for eleven years. He later moved to the country and farmed until his failing health made necessary his retirement from active work. He was married to Miss Minnie Lindner in 1897, she passing away in 1913. There are surviving five nieces and nephews.

**Victorettes Meet Thursday**

On Thursday evening there will be a meeting of the Victorette Girls at their club rooms in the Bekin building. It is desired that all of the members be in attendance.



**Shock-Troops of the Press**

With the U. S. Marines who swarmed from landing boats one dark dawn to storm Guadalcanal was Robert Miller, United Press correspondent. With them he remained for several weeks, gathering news at first hand of their savage, dogged fight to break Japan's grip on the island. His disregard for danger and hardship won from the commander on Guadalcanal, Major-General Alexander Vandegrift, the comment: "Miller is a good Marine."

Although United Press Correspondent Henry Gorrell knew the last bomber over a target would run the greatest risk, he chose that place in a U. S. formation raiding

Greece. It afforded the best view. The danger was everything he had foreseen. Enemy fire riddled and crippled Gorrell's plane, wounded several of the crew. His aid saved one man's life. The army awarded Gorrell the Air Medal for his gallantry.

Aboard the American cutter that crashed the harbor boom at Oran was Leo Disher, of the United Press. He stayed with the craft until shellfire blasted it to the bottom. He was wounded fifteen times. Despite this he swam ashore, crawled into the town on his elbows and dictated his story to a fellow correspondent in a French hospital. For his conduct Major-General Lloyd R.

Fredendall, of the AEF in Africa, awarded to Disher the Order of the Purple Heart. Such incidents as these reveal the spirit and fibre of the shock-troops of the press, the war-front correspondents. And these incidents have their counterparts among hundreds. Wherever fighting men go, American correspondents go with them to see with their own eyes the actions they report.

Since the war began, the United Press has provided consistently the world's best coverage of the world's biggest news. The courage and skill of United Press front-line correspondents are in large measure responsible for this achievement.

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**The Plattsmouth Journal**