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FORTY-FIRST YEAR

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A Story Retold Has Its Point

A Chinese officer was examining one of his men who was reported to be mentally unbalanced. The officer had the soldier come into his quarters and plied him with this question. "What would happen if I cut your left ear off with this sword?" The soldier replied, "I'd be deaf." The answer was logical enough. The officer tried again, "What would happen if I cut your right ear off?" Without hesitation and in all seriousness, the soldier replied, "I'd be blind." The officer was astounded. "Why would you be blind?" The soldier under examination answered calmly, "If you cut off both my ears, my hat would fall down over my eyes and I couldn't see!"

Whether the story is true or not is imma-

terial, but it might well be applied to the United States and Great Britain. We have had our left ear cut off in the Far East. We have had our right ear cut off on the continent. Our world has come tumbling down over our heads and we can't or we refuse to see. Not only does it seem that we can neither see nor hear, we are going to sleep like the hen whose head has been tucked under her wing.

The certainty of this is undeniable. Since that fateful Dec. 8, the people of the United States have remained seated on their broadening beams talking a lot, but doing very little. We are seated on a papier mache bench on the back of which is inscribed, "The United States has never lost a war and never will." Pearl Harbor woke us from our lethargy for a couple of weeks. MacArthur's valiant stand in the Philippines instilled a bit of that war spirit so vital and necessary to a nation fighting for an avowed victory. What about Pearl Harbor today? Many Americans talk of it as they did of the World Series in Sept. or the bowl games on Jan. 1. MacArthur might well be Lou Nova who put up a game fight but lost to Joe Louis.

Laborers in defense plants stop vital production for a wage grievance. The hint of sugar rationing sent housewives to the grocery stores to buy as much as they could. There have been violations of the automobile tire rationing program. In Congress there have been petty bickerings over such things as rubber mats to be put under officers' spittoons. The "pension grab" in Washington still leaves a bad taste in many an American's mouth.

It's time to ask ourselves a frank question. Are we willing to make the necessary sacrifices in order that we might win the war? Are we willing to think of ourselves as a part of the whole nation, or do we think of ourselves as an individual each trying to get what he can and get out from under whatever responsibilities he can?

It happened to France and it can happen to the United States. The time is well past when we should have lifted our hat of complacency from our eyes, but it isn't too late to do it now though the end of the battle has receded further into the distant future.

Even for Conservation . . . Home Ec Forecasts Skirts Will Not Be Much Shorter

By Mary Aileen Cochran.

Current question on the campus — will girls wear skirts shorter to conserve on materials during the war? Girls taking clothing at ag campus are now being instructed as to the type of materials and clothing that will best suit their needs during the war-time crisis.

Some of the tips that are being given so that the coeds may appear as attractive as always, even with as little expense as possible are: to make and buy clothes that

will be as durable as possible. It's important to concentrate on good materials and styles that as lastings rather than fussy. Of course, the prices of clothes and materials are rising steadily, so it's wise to plan the wardrobe with an eye to the many possibilities for changing parts of an ensemble and remaking them.

Those vivid greens, red and yellows are given the taboo. It's much better, the home ec clothing department says, to become more conservative and foresighted.

As to the shorter skirts—much to the relief of some, and disappointment of others, no drastic shortening has yet been forecast. McCall's magazine recommends either the same length as is now worn, or skirts will be shorter in front and longer in back. The suggested tight skirts will help save material, too.

But with all the changes that are facing us, the home ec girls are being prepared to meet them. By being able to make their own clothes they won't be at the mercy of the constantly growing prices of ready-made clothes.

Dean Oldfather Talks in Missouri

Dean C. H. Oldfather of the arts and science college will speak at Northwest Missouri State Teachers college Feb. 22 on "The Projected World Empire of Alexander the Great." In the evening he will address a dinner meeting of the college chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

Lancaster Talks in Second Lecture of War Course

Because of the large crowd which attended the first in a series of "America at War" courses offered by the university, the sec-

Prof. Lancaster, chairman of the political science department, will discuss "War Comes to America." The general public is invited without charge, but registration in the course for credit was closed Saturday noon.

Dr. Lancaster has been a member of the university faculty since 1930. Last year he was a visiting professor at the University of Northwestern. He has written a book on "Government in Rural America," and is also the author of many other articles on government.



Lincoln Journal.
Prof. Lancaster . . . speaks tomorrow on "America at War."

ond lecture in the series by Prof. Lane W. Lancaster will be held tomorrow at 5 p. m. in the Temple auditorium.

Banquet . . .

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rae Anderson at the Union office, YWCA, or YMCA.

Bishop Kucera, father in the Catholic diocese, will be the speaker of the evening. Hugh Wilkins will act as toastmaster.

Students are urged to make their reservations the early part of the week.

Completion of Don Love Library Scheduled for August 'If War...'

Because of the large amount of material that will be used in the new Don L. Love Memorial library, war is the deciding factor as to whether the building will be completed by Aug. according to O. A. Ellis, university construction engineer.

Up to the present, national defense has only been a minor hindrance to the work on the new structure as priorities have only prevented arrival of some plumbing fixtures, electrical material and Bedford limestone.

Vital Statistics.

The new library covers 207 feet of ground east and west and 142 feet, north and south. In this building 188 plumbing fixtures of all types will be used, and three miles of pipe in the heating system are needed. To distribute the heat 364 radiators will be installed.

To hold the books that the library will house twenty miles of shelves space will be constructed along with eight book stacks served by an elevator. Lumber used will add up to 250,000 feet, and not one piece will be used in the job of finishing. Nails ordered will amount to 7,500 pounds.

Dirt Excavated.

For the basement of the library 12,500 cubic yards of dirt was excavated. In the floors and columns of the building 4,500 cubic yards of concrete was used along with 550 tons of steel acting as

reinforcements and 100 tons of structural steel.

The building will have 284 windows and upward to 200 doors. Indiana Bedford limestone ordered amounted to 138 tons, and 815,000 bricks will be laid.

Need Warm Weather.

Before the masons can continue with their work the weather must be warm for cold stones will freeze the mortar. According to Ellis only about three weeks have been lost due to unfavorable weather

and when conditions are favorable from 40 to 50 men of all trades are at work on the new structure. With these many workers accidents have been kept at a minimum as only three minor accidents have been reported.

The only section of the building that will not be completed at present will be the fourth floor where seminar rooms and study rooms were to be located. An auditorium that will seat 300 people will also be housed in the library.

Diary Reveals Joe College Hasn't Changed Since 1832

(By Associated Collegiate Press.)

Harvard wasn't so much different a century ago, to judge from the diary of Jacob Rhett Mott of the class of 1832, who "slept over prayers, disliked the food, and rejoiced unduly when his professors "missed" lectures.

The diary was written when Mott was a 19-year-old junior in the college in 1831. Chief change between 1830 and 1940 seems to have been the tempo at which college life was lived. Mott walked when he took a trip to Boston, or else drove his velocipede. The only excitement which he seems to have had during his junior year was when he raced his machine with the stage coach which ran between Cambridge and Boston.

Mott admits that his accustomed time of "retiring to court the favors of Morpheus" was 12 or 1 o'clock, and that he found it "the most difficult thing in the

world to rise at a proper hour in the morning."

"I this morning slept over both prayers and breakfast," he records on one morning. "One advantage attended the omission of the latter, namely an appetite at dinner sufficient to relish Commons beef."

On a few evenings, he boasts of "perpetrating his lesson in electricity" but to balance these conscientious evenings, he tells of several occasions when he got through Latin class only by a "squir," which was nineteenth century jargon for a good guess in an unprepared recitation.

Rubber . . .

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and the industry is now returning to this continent.

Cromwell stated that 15 percent of our news for 1942 will be produced synthetically, as compared to 1.5 percent for 1941. Of our supply of reclaimed rubber we can double its production, making it 60 percent over last year's 30 percent, and if it is necessary, we can produce any amount of synthetic rubber, limited only by our manpower.

"We must have technicians," Cromwell concluded, "for the one who will produce the fastest will win this war."

Uni Theatre . . .

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other newcomer, will be seen as Emily Creed. Miss Weaver is a junior in arts college.

Well-known to Theatre patrons is Maribel Hitchcock, arts senior, who played the lead in this year's production of "East Lynn." Lucy will characterize Lucy in "Ladies in Retirement"—just another woman "gone wrong."

Another regular appearing in the current production is Martha Ann Bengtson, junior in teachers, who will take the role of Sister Theresa.

The one thorn among the above mentioned roses is Max Whittaker, a Theatre veteran and a sen-

ior in teachers. Whittaker plays the role of a scoundrelly snake-in-the-grass, bent-to-no-good nephew whose arrival at the house in the marshes is an important factor in the developments which follow.

Set for the play a pre-Tudor farmhouse furnished in a bizarre and extreme fashion complete to Dutch oven and a foot-pump organ was designed by Delford Brummer, the Theatre's technical director.

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