



WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON
(Consolidated Features—WNU Service.)

NEW YORK.—Commentators and war correspondents are now recalling the famous "Memorial to the Emperor," supposedly written by Baron Gi Jap 'Mein Kampf' Ichi Tanaka Recalled; Revealed in 1927, in Aggression Steps which, if the document was not a forgery, Japanese plans for world conquest were formulated much in the manner of Adolf Hitler's blue print for homicide in "Mein Kampf."

Baron Tanaka died September 29, 1929, a few weeks after the fall of his cabinet, his premiership having lasted about two years.

This department is supposed to deal only with the living, but breaks pace today to note the possibly historic significance of the baron and his document—and the life story of the suave little man who died of high blood pressure, at 60, after many years of deep absorption in "sword romance," the Japanese equivalent of the blood and thunder pulp thrillers of our country.

History may give him a nod in view of the fact that his document ticked off the later steps of Japanese aggression as neatly as a pool-player calling his shots. The Japanese repeatedly have denounced it as a forgery. Whatever it was, it jumped the clock and told "the shape of things to come."

The first reference to the document in this country, so far as this reporter could discover, was in published quotations from the Russian newspaper, Pravda, of November 5, 1931. Pravda did not reveal how it had obtained its copy of the "Memorial," but it flared it out as "a startling revelation of the Japanese carefully prepared plan for world conquest."

"Japan's aggressive tendencies will not end in China," said the Pravda article. "She has designs on the Philippines, the Malayan archipelago, Guam, Tahiti, Samoa and Australia. It presages a fight for a new division of the world, for it is inseparably linked with conflict among imperialist nations for control of the Pacific."

The newspaper then quoted from the document:

"If we intend to gain control over China, we must first crush the United States. To capture China, we must also crush Manchuria and Mongolia. In order to conquer the world, we must first conquer China. If we succeed in conquering China, the rest of the Asiatic countries and the South Sea countries will fear us and surrender to us."

For understandable reasons, the Pravda story got scant attention in the American press. **Press Discredited** can press, **Tanaka Memorial**; in view of **Japs March On!** many previous propaganda stories issuing from this source and was, for the most part editorially dismissed as an effort to "cause dissension among friendly capitalistic nations."

But, American correspondents, digging into the story in the Far East, discovered that, in 1929, the "Memorial" had been examined by members of the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations, in Mukden. It was submitted to them by members of the entourage of the Chinese Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang. One of this delegation was reported to have said:

"We pledge the full authenticity of this document and we plead with you to understand that Japan has begun a program of world aggression which inevitably must involve the United States."

So far as we can learn, news of this incident was not published in this country until after the Pravda story. This, however, is not certain. It may have appeared in some American newspapers. This writer remembers a long article in a British newspaper of five or six years ago, the Manchester guardian, if memory serves, in which was cited documentary evidence of the validity of the document and pleaded for a reshaping of British policy in the Far East and the strengthening of the naval base at Singapore.

On April 23, 1940, Rear Admiral J. K. Tassig, retired, appeared before the senate committee on naval affairs and insisted on the validity of the Tanaka Memorial. He begged for a consideration of Japanese relations in this light, but the navy, however, repudiated his testimony. Pierre Van Pananen, in his recently published book, "This Day Alone," reviews the history of the document, defends its authenticity and launches indignation against the civilized world for failing to heed it.

Drivers' Licenses Must Be Renewed By May 1, 1942

Applications for renewal of drivers' licenses, as distinguished from application blanks for registration of motor vehicles, will not be available for release to motorists until the latter part of January it was announced today by the State automobile department.

Many drivers, knowing that the drivers license must be renewed in 1942, have been requesting applications. However, licenses now in issue are effective until May 1, 1942.

The drivers license law went into effect in 1939 and licenses were issued effective until May 1, 1942. All licenses issued until that latter date must be renewed for a further three year period. A license does not constitute a three year permit. It merely remains in effect within the designated period.

The automobile department will notify the public upon the release of the new application blanks and urges all registrants to apply immediately following the release so that they may be properly licensed on the deadline date, May 1, 1942.

A man will not be the better because he had a well-born father, if he himself is nought. But true high-birth is in the mind, it was never in the flesh.

—King Alfred.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for JUNIOR INSPECTOR-TRAINEE, ORDINANCE MATERIAL, for filling the position of Under Inspector, Ordnance Material, \$1,440 a year, in the Ordnance Department at Large, War Department, Chicago Ordnance District, Chicago, Illinois.

Applicants must have reached their 18th birthday but must not have passed their 35th birthday on the closing date for receipt of applications. THESE AGE LIMITS WILL NOT BE WAIVED IN ANY CASE.

Applications blanks and full information as to experience and other requirements may be obtained from the Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, at any first- or second-class post office in the vicinity of Chicago, Illinois; or the Manager, Seventh U. S. Civil Service District, Post Office Building, Chicago, Illinois.

Applications must be on file with the Manager, Seventh U. S. Civil Service District, Post Office Building, Chicago, Illinois, on or before the close of business DECEMBER 30, 1941.

What you believe must influence what you are. What you are determines what you do, and what you do determines your value here and hereafter.

—Jane Tudor.

John Lauri Goes To Texas for More Training

Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, Texas—Aviation Cadet John Joseph Lauricson of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lauric, 253 Roger Williams Street, has arrived here from Hicks Field, Fort Worth, Texas, where he took primary flight training.

During his ten week's training at this basic flying school he will prepare to take his place in Uncle Sam's recently re-expanded Army Air Corp by learning to handle sleek 450 horsepower BT-13A trainers. Ahead of him lie ground school training, aerobatics, cross country practice, and formation, instrument, and night flying.

From Goodfellow Field he will go on to advanced training in larger, more powerful ships for a final ten weeks before receiving his wings and bars as a flying second lieutenant in the United States Army Air Corps Reserve.

R. I. CARLOADING GAINS

Rock Island Lines carloading figures released today by E. M. Durham, Jr., Chief Executive Officer, are as follows:

Week ending December 20, 1941.... 28,928. Corresponding week last year.... 23,535. Previous week this year.... 28,277.

Letters to the Editor

Many things have happened to us since last Christmas. Nobody thought that we would be in this present dilemma. No one knew for certain the number who would be called to the colors, and no one had ever heard of the U. S. O. But today we are facing these realities valiantly.

It would be easy for us to hate, but this is an hour in which penitence instead of hatred should rule our minds, even in the midst of war. There must be no turning aside from efforts to establish a spiritual, economic and political basis for a new world community, but rather an intensification of all such efforts.

It has been a real pleasure to have been associated with you during these past several months. You have epitomized the spirit of Christmas through your acts, thoughts and deeds throughout this period. The men in uniform will never forget and will forever carry your encouraging spirit in their hearts.

Therefore, in behalf of the U. S. O. and the Army-Navy Young Men's Christian Association, I extend sincere greetings and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely Yours,
Nicholas T. Young,
Executive Director.

IDEALS

Our ideals are our better selves.
—A. Bronson Alcott.

Editor "The Press," Highland Park, Ill.

Dear Sir:—
Your editorial "What's On Your Mind," Dec. 25th issue, referring to 1st paragraph, I am amazed that you see fit to present views in a publication supposed to reflect the ideas and interests of a Christian community.

As an individual you, of course, have a right to any beliefs, but it is not good business nor good taste to air such views that are so opposed to those of the great majority of your readers.

The second and third paragraphs of your article are, in my judgment, not subject to much criticism, except that you are inconsistent. Most of us will admit it is necessary to kill the Japs, thus agreeing with you. But if it is right to dispose of the Japs by killing them why is it wrong for the preacher to say so?

I have subscribed to the "Press" as a civic duty rather than for its value as a newspaper. I am now certain it is not worthy of further support.

Yours,
Merton Church

FREE RIPPENED ORANGES
CUNNINGHAM SWEETS
FROM OUR FLORIDA GROVES
FINEST ORANGE GROWN
FIT FOR BABIES - INVALIDS
OR ADULTS
\$4.50 TO \$5.00 A BOX
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
CASE ORANGE GROVE
740 Elm St., Winnetka, Ill.

We pledge ourselves to this cause

A Statement by The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company

We make this pledge publicly to our national government and to the people of the United States:

That we will cooperate unhesitatingly in every effort of authorized government agencies to prevent unwarranted rises in prices of foods.

That we will continue our efforts to reduce the spread between prices paid to the grower and prices charged to the consumers.

That to this end we will continue to do everything in our power to assist the farmers and growers of America in the orderly marketing of their products at the fairest possible prices to them.

That we will make every effort to hold our inventories at the lowest point consistent with good service to our customers because hoarding, whether by wholesalers, retailers, or consumers, will cause higher prices.

That we will endeavor to continue to pay our employees the highest wages and to give them the best working conditions in the grocery business generally.

That we will make every effort to continue to sell food at retail at the lowest gross margin of profit in the history of the retail grocery business.

Today we are providing food for our customers at the lowest gross profit rate in the history of the retail grocery business. This means that we have achieved efficiencies in the distribution of food never before attained. More of your food dollar goes for food and less for overhead expenses than ever before. No other great retail business in the United States in any field is operated with such a low cost of distribution.

No one in the food business can control the wholesale price of food. Only the government of the United States has power to do this, and for the protection of our people this power in the government is now a necessary power.

Today, with the nation at war, we believe that no private interest has any rights in conflict with the general public interest.

The armed forces of the United States are today receiving more and better food than ever before in our national history. It is equally important that all of our people working and living behind the lines, men, women and children, shall be better fed and better nourished than ever before in our national history.

JOHN A. SAFFORD, President