

WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON
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NEW YORK.—We get word from Detroit that Igor Sikorsky's helicopter, the rocking chair of the sky, is in production and that one **Dreams to Music;** **War Helicopter Is Latest Contribution** to the army and navy have been this way and that about the helicopter, but there is no doubt that it is now a war weapon.

Its uses are a military secret, but its value in spotting submarines and in reconnaissance are obvious. It can take off from any ship deck and it can hover in the air like a humming bird while a mechanic swings down under and changes a wheel.

Igor Sikorsky is a shy, gentle man who dreams great dreams. His book, "The Story of the Winged S," begins with the story of a dream. At the age of 24 he was the father of Russian aviation and he was launching cardboard dinosaurs into the air before the Wright brothers flew at Kitty Hawk. He built the first great air clippers and the czar's first huge bombers were of his design. With the revolution on, he found it difficult to keep his mind on his dreams and went to Paris to lecture before YMCA audiences on a variety of subjects.

Rachmaninoff, the pianist, wanted him to keep on dreaming, and, with other musicians, gathered \$100,000 to this end. In the U. S. A., he built the huge S-35. It was to take Rene Fonck to France, but it crashed on the runway and burned two men to death. Mr. Sikorsky kept on designing and building, a pioneer of multi-engined planes, in his 36-acre air plant in Connecticut.

His dreams are paced to music, Chopin frequently, as music is somehow innate in his genius and inseparable from his aeronautical flights into the future—which he says belongs to the air. Eight hundred classical records are a part of his work-a-day equipment. On his tidy little home farm, he raises cucumbers and drives his own tractor. He loves cucumbers, perhaps on account of their nice design. He is plump, bald and hesitant, with a Charlie Chaplin mustache. His father was professor of psychology at the University of Kiev.

IT WOULD BE just like the versatile marines to unveil a sea-going truck. That's just what they have done, and we've been trying to find out whether it was used in the Dieppe raid.

Just What Doctor Ordered for War The navy wasn't talkative about it, but there is sufficient wide open news of this jungle jallopy to justify the conclusion that it is the most novel and exciting new fighting tool this war has yet produced and sure to score heavily in landing operations to come—and it appears that they are coming fast.

The marines call it their "invasion taxi," and its inventor, Donald Roebing, grandson of the builder of the Brooklyn bridge, calls it the "alligator." It goes about twice as fast on land as on water. Twenty-five feet long and about as wide as a box car, it can be lowered over the side of a transport or warship, take the water like a duck and, hitting the shore, keep right on mashing along.

It can carry a big load of leather-necks, a military freight car, or plenty of fighting gear. The caterpillar treads have wide, diagonally placed cleats which serve as fins or paddles in the water, and nobody has to tuck them in or reset them when it reaches land.

It is armed and armored, of course not heavily, but capable of resisting fairly brisk fire. On February 17 of this year, the marines ordered 200 of them at a cost of \$3,200,000. They have been in forced-draft production in a big Detroit auto factory.

Down in Florida, it was just a "swamp buggy" at first, or a "mercy tank," developed by Donald Roebing after the hurricane of 1933, to rescue storm victims marooned in the Everglades.

It took him seven years to bring it through and a war to change the name from "mercy tank" to "alligator." He apparently inherited the inventive and constructive genius of his grandfather, the late Washington A. Roebing, who not only built the Brooklyn bridge, but spanned Niagara gorge in 1850.

Young Roebing has been known as a sportsman, much at sea on his yacht Iorano, on which he led a Smithsonian exploration of the Caribbean sea and the Gulf of Mexico in 1907. His absorbing life interests are science and invention.

YOUNG MAN ABOUT TOWN

by Whitt N. Schultz

Optimism vs. Pessimism

What are you, Highland Parker? Are you a pessimist? Or, are you an optimist? If you're a pessimist, I feel sorry for you. You might as well begin figuring right now what your burial fees will be.

You're spiritually dead. Too bad! So long.

Ah, but if you're an optimist—a realistic optimist—well then I'm happy for you, Highland Parker.

What is an "optimist"? An optimist is he or she who feels that there is always good in people; that there is always a brighter side; that there always is a reason for "strange happening"—wars and the like. And, Highland Parker, an optimist is a person who honestly feels that everything happens for the best.

Or, the optimist is this: He is the person who believes in people. He doesn't condemn 129,999,999 persons for the wrong done him by one person. No, he reacts positively to life. Indeed, he says YES to life.

Will Rogers was an optimist. He once said he never met a man he didn't like.

And I believe him. Frankly, I've never met a man, woman, or child that I've disliked intensely, or hated. Granted, I've liked others better than some; but still, I've never hated.

And I never will.

Unhappy people . . . Pessimists strike me as unhappy people. From my way of looking the pessimist reminds me of a dog that has just been beaten. Yes, he has that "hang-dog" expression. He sulks around, he whines, he cries, and he tries to make himself more miserable. Say NO to like, Highland Parker. (I know you won't. If you ever had, you would never have been where you are today.)

Start disbelieving in persons. Watch popularity flee. Watch your friends avoid you. Watch your hopes crash, crumple, and then turn to dust.

A pessimist's thoughts . . . He is what a pessimist is thinking. (Any readers who are pessimists can doubt this. Go ahead. You're always doubting things anyway. Poor you.) I met a bitter pessimist this week. Boy, he was a sour one.

Tall, gaunt, pale-faced, with mussed hair, unshined shoes, unpressed pants and a scowling face, this "happy" acquaintance began his conversation by complaining about the weather. "Lousy weather. Doesn't it ever get nice around here?"

Those were his opening words. He continued in the same grouchy manner.

He began by saying NO, by doubting, by taking the weak, defeatist's attitude.

Thinking a bad future . . . Why this pessimist actually believes this war will last ten years—and while he's waiting for it to last that long, he's sitting around, complaining, boring, figuring he has a long time to whip the Axis.

He feels that we will never have new tires, cars, progress, developments or a new and a just peace. He believes the future will be chaos. He is thinking a miserable future, and he's constantly getting that kind of future in his thoughts. Too bad.

Listen, Highland Parkers . . . You know, Highland Parkers. I've often wondered about these doubters, about these disbelievers. I've wondered if they've ever doubted their own doubts. Nope, we can't give a pessimist his Commission if he hasn't passed the last and most telling test of all: that of doubting what he himself has thought, believed, and uttered. Sometime try this plan of attack on pessimists.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCHES

"Man" was the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, September 6.

The Golden Text was, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and he delighteth in his way (Psalms 37: 23).

Among the citations which comprised the Lesson-Sermon was the following from the Bible: "Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture" (Psalms 100: 3).

The Lesson-Sermon also included the following passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy: "Immortal man was and is God's image or idea, even the infinite expression of infinite Mind, and immortal man is coexistent and co-eternal with that Mind. God, the divine Principle of man, and man in God's likeness are inseparable, harmonious, and eternal. God and man are not the same, but in the order of divine Science, God and man co-exist and are eternal. God is the parent Mind, and man is God's spiritual offspring" (p. 336).

Doubt, doubt . . .

Next time a pessimist starts doubting, check him or her. Ask them if they disbelieve what they've just said. If they do, they're silly and hopeless pessimists. Nothing can be done. Show them the undertaker's shop. You had better deliver them there. They'll be there in a short time anyway.

When a man stops believing in people, in life, in Nature, and in God—well, he's a goner. He's no good. He's a breathing dead man.

Trust and believe . . .

Be what you will, Highland Parkers. As for me, I'm an optimist. And I'm staying that way.

I know a man. I'd bet my life that he's had a tougher time than all the pessimists I know. Yet he still believes in people, in life, in Nature, and in God.

He says YES to life. He believes this war will end. He believes that peace will come, friends will return, and normalcy will appear. He believes this, Highland Parker.

Well, if a man who has had everything he's lived for snatched away and who has been kicked around all his life—well, if this man can remain an optimist—certainly we can. All his life he has thought the right kind of future, and that future he believes is still coming. And it will.

Be an optimist . . .

Try being optimistic. Try saying YES to life.

Try believing in people, in Nature, and in God. It's fun, and the contentment-dividends are large!

Ask Residents of West Deerfield Township to Donate

Residents of West Deerfield township are asked to begin now in searching through their attics, basements, garages, barns, etc., for all scrap materials. It is urgently needed in the war effort as fifty per cent of all armament is made from scrap metals.

Worn out, damaged, broken or rusty items made of iron, steel, copper, lead, zinc, aluminum, and tin (except tin cans) should be placed in containers on the parkways for the clean-up drive Sept. 14-19.

Residents of Deerfield and Bannockburn are asked to post this list in their basements for future reference:

License plates, lawn mowers, tools, metal clothes hangers, ornaments, wire fencing, tooth paste containers, pipe, loilers, water and oil tanks, garden implements, metal toys, wheels, auto parts, garbage and ashcans or covers, fire place equipment, metal containers, waste baskets, incinerators, candlesticks, metal furniture, door and window hardware, sash weights, electrical appliances, wire, burlap bags, stoves, stove-pipe, flat irons, bikes, batteries, wash boards, sinks, iron railings, table-ware, metal picture frames, ash trays, drain pipes and gutters, metal roofing, window stripping, furnace grates, buckets, lighting fixtures, radiators, heating and plumbing supplies, metal bedsteads, rods, casters, machinery parts, steel wool, tire chains, pots and pans and children's vehicles.

Holy Day Services At N.S. Congregation

Holy day services are planned for the end of this week at the North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe, opening with a New Year's service on Friday at 8:15 o'clock.

On New Year morning, Saturday, Sept. 12, there will be a service at 10 o'clock. Admission to the Holy day services will be by ticket only and each member of the congregation is asked to cooperate by showing his ticket at the door.

The religious school at the temple will open on Sunday morning, Sept. 27, for registration and classes.

Dr. Spears Confers on Schools' Role in War

Both military and non-military leaders of the nation are stressing the importance of the high school in winning the war, according to Dr. Harold Spears, superintendent of the Highland Park high school, who was called to Washington, D. C., week before last to participate in a conference called by the United States office of education to discuss the high school's place in the national war effort.

The office of education, he indicates, probably will put on a drive to get the high schools of the country lined up in helping to win the war. One phase of the drive will consist of organizing the students individually and in groups for war aid work. Another aspect of the plan will consist of the preparation

Lieut. Block Attends School at Fort Sill


2nd Lt. Charles F. Block, 1030 S. Linden ave., Highland Park, is attending the Battery Officer Course in the Field Artillery School.

Lieutenant Block, son of Charles J. Block, reported to Ft. Sill from Ft. Bragg, N. C. Before starting active duty he was employed by the Greer Coffee Broker, C. T. Block and Co. of the students for both military and defense work after graduation.

In anticipation of the request to put the schools on a war basis, Dr. Spears is planning to appoint a committee within the next few days to consider what can be done in Highland Park in addition to what is already being done at the high school.

Telephone Directory Closing

- Your new telephone directory goes to press very soon. In order to insure accuracy, we check and recheck every name, address and telephone number before printing.
- If you have a telephone, please look at your present listing in the directory to make sure it is correct.



ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

BUY U. S. BONDS AND STAMPS

Your electric cords are precious —

MAKE THEM LAST!

Electric cords are made mostly of rubber and copper—two materials that are much in demand these days! Check the electric cords in your home, using this guide. Make them last just as long as they were designed to last!

HOW TO MAKE CORDS LAST LONGER

There are three things that commonly cause your cords to wear out:

- 1. FRICTION.** When disconnecting, don't yank on the cord—take hold of the plug. Never let a cord become twisted or knotted. When not in use, hang it over two widely separated hooks; so there will be no sharp bend. Never run cords under carpets, or nail them to the wall or floor. Be sure they are away from moving parts of appliances.
- 2. HEAT.** Keep cords away from radiators or steam pipes. Even direct sunlight will shorten the life of the rubber in a cord.
- 3. MOISTURE.** Don't let electric cords get wet. Even rubber-covered extensions will in time absorb water.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR DAMAGED CORDS

Appliance cords wear most quickly at the points where the cord enters the appliance and the plug. Check the cords on your lamp bases, electric fans, irons and other frequently moved appliances.



WHAT TO DO ABOUT DAMAGED CORDS

Never try to push worn cords out of sight—they should be fixed immediately. Unless you are sure of your repairing skill, call an electrician. He can often re-use most of the old cord, and you know the job is done right!



PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

