

The Jewish Veteran

ROLL CALL

for the

46th National Encampment

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Jewish War Veterans

OF THE UNITED STATES

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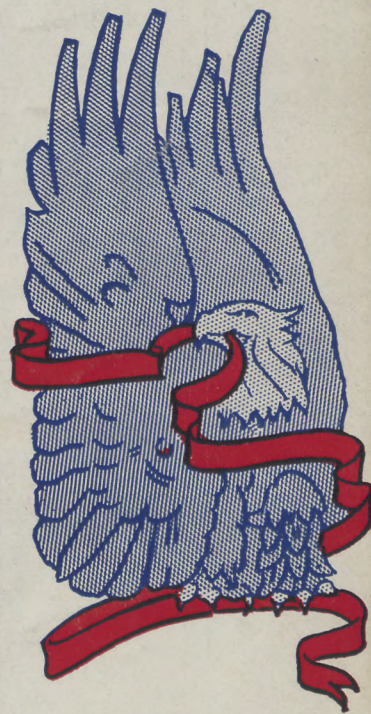
BUFFALO, N. Y.

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AUGUST 28 TO SEPT. 1

1941

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JULY-1941

Half at War—Half Asleep

By BASIL BREWER

While trusting nations crash in all parts of the earth, fools in America proclaim for Americans an idyllic safety, a fool's paradise.

As if we, Americans, were set apart as God's chosen people, while justice, truth and religion topple over the remainder of the earth.

A titanic Satan, Hitler, strides, curses truth, hope and God—embraces falsehood, spits at character—threatens, with promise of success, to conquer and destroy the earth.

Here and there in America a Paul Revere tries to warn us.

Now and then the President shakes a threatening fist at Dictators.

American Industry, a sluggish giant, strives to rouse itself to the vast needs of defense.

But the parasites of class-consciousness, interne-cine labor quarrels and Communistic sabotage, suck at the body of the American Industrial giant.

WE ARE ENTIRELY UN-NEUTRAL, as we strive to help OUR SIDE in the war.

But we neither are IN nor OUT of the war.

WE ARE HALF AT WAR AND HALF ASLEEP.

WE SLEEP NOW—as the CRISIS of the war approaches, the crisis of the existence of the civilized world, the crisis of the existence of the people of America as a free people.

Britain, beleaguered and all but broken, AT LAST has a "break"—

HITLER TAKES ON RUSSIA.

This "break" is the one chance Britain and America have of shortening, perhaps the one chance of winning, the war.

Russia, Communist Russia, crooked or depraved or whatever she may be—

IS FIGHTING OUR ENEMY, THE INSANE GIANT, HITLER.

HITLER IS THE ONLY ONE WE HAVE TO FEAR.

But the prophets of appeasement proclaim "we must not help Communism"—and bid us to further and deeper sleep.

SLEEP UNTIL WHEN?

UNTIL HITLER HAS FINISHED RUSSIA AND FACES BRITAIN AND AMERICA ALONE—

WITH THE GREATEST ARMY THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN?

Awake, America, the hour of sophistry and sleep is past!

This is the hour for arms and action.

WE MUST FIGHT NOW!

We fight—

NOT for Russian and Communism.

NOT for Britain.

NOT "to make the world safe for democracy."

To hell with such slogans and confusing catch phrases.

NOT ONE DROP OF SOLDIER'S BLOOD IS WORTH SHEDDING FOR A SINGLE ONE OF THESE.

We fight—

FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OURSELVES ONLY.

We fight for the preservation of our liberty—for the right to rule ourselves, in our chosen way.

Our government in America, its virtues, ITS VERY SINS shall FOREVER BE OUR OWN.

HITLER SHALL NEVER CIRCUMSCRIBE, dictate to nor destroy America.

FOR THIS we fight.

For this IS WORTH fighting for.

Are we better than those who died with Washington, Lincoln and Wilson?

LET US FIGHT NOW—WHILE THERE IS TIME—WHILE THERE IS HELP—be it Communist, British, or Chinese.

WE CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE RUSSIA BEATEN.

BECAUSE THIS WILL BRING DEFEAT ONE STEP NEARER TO OURSELVES.

SEND SHIPS, PLANES, SUPPLIES — TO BRITAIN.

GET THEM THERE NOW—WITH OR WITHOUT SHOOTING.

WHY HAVE WE BUILT THE WORLD'S GREATEST NAVY—IF NOT TO DEFEND THE EXISTENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA?

ENCOURAGE BRITAIN NOW with everything we have and can get to her.

SAY IT WITH PLANES AND BOMBS, FOR ONCE—NOT WITH "CHEERING WORDS."

HELP BRITAIN TO BLAST HITLER WHILE THE BLASTING IS GOOD.

DO THIS—not because we like Britain nor love nor hate Russia.

DO IT BECAUSE WE LOVE OURSELVES AND OUR LIBERTY—and because, for once, in spite of the appeasers,—

WE ARE REALLY SMART.

THIS OPPORTUNITY WILL NOT LAST.

IF WE DO NOT EMBRACE IT—AMERICA ITSELF MAY NOT LAST.

(From The New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times, Mercury)

(This space contributed by THE JEWISH VETERAN)

"And Proud of It!"

By LOUIS ADAMIC

In the Little Italy of one of our large cities, a 15-year-old boy recently tried to end his life. He would have succeeded if his father had not come home early that day—in time to turn off the gas and run for a doctor.

"Why did you do it, Son?" the father asked when the boy had been revived.

"Because everybody is laughing at the Italian soldiers," he said, "and laughing at me—saying that Italians are yellow. It's driven me crazy.

"This afternoon in school one of the kids put a newspaper story on my desk while I was out of the room. It razed the Italian people, and there was 'ha-ha-ha!' penciled across it.

"I tried to act like the story didn't matter. But I just couldn't stand it. I'm sorry, Dad; I know it isn't your fault you were born in Italy."

The boy's father, Mr. R., came here when he was 13. He served in the American Army during the World War, and is now an insurance agent. He reads American books and magazines, and three years ago, after coming upon something I had written on immigrants and their American-born he started to correspond with me.

Now he wired: could he and his son see me on an urgent personal matter? When they arrived, Mr. R. and I talked a few minutes alone.

"He's a good kid," Mr. R. said. "He has a fine school record. But lately he's been unusually quiet, and one night, about the time the Greeks took Koritsa, he snapped at me as I turned on a news broadcast. He didn't want to hear 'that war stuff' . . . Now this! . . . Is there anything you can do to help him?"

When we sat down to lunch Mr. R. and I exchanged a few remarks about Mussolini and the Italian soldiers. The boy was tense and all ears.

"These defeats," I said, "don't prove that the Italians are poor soldiers. The Italians were great fighters when they were struggling for liberty under Garibaldi, because liberty was a good cause. Their present cause is a bad one; and they know it. They see that Mussolini has tricked them into this war, that he isn't their leader but simply Hitler's executive officer in Italy. And if the Italians don't feel like fighting for Hitler, that is a sign of intelligence, not of cowardice."

Mr. R. interrupted: "It would help a lot of Italian Americans if they could see things that way. Many of us are pretty miserable these days."

"If you've been miserable," I said, "one reason is that Mussolini's agents have doused Italian neighborhoods all over America with propaganda. And you Italian Americans are not entirely blameless on this point. You didn't fight that propaganda enough, either because you thought you would hurt your business, or were afraid or indifferent. Maybe you didn't realize it was really Hit-

(The accompanying article which is condensed from "This Week" Magazine, is a true story. In these days when Tolerance and National Unity are so important, it has a vital application. The boy in the story may have been Jewish or German—your own son may be undergoing the same pangs and inferiority. A brush-up on American History would do both fathers and sons much good. America is a "melting pot," and all ingredients are essential—those of all races, religions and colors. If this message could only be put over to the millions who do not know, do not understand or have been disillusioned by "propaganda," our current national problems would be much nearer of solution.—EDITOR.)

ler's propaganda, that Hitler wants to stir up trouble so he can disrupt this country. As a result of that propaganda many Italian Americans think that their lives are tied up with Mussolini's fortunes. That's wrong. The fact that you are Americans of Italian descent is much more likely to mean that your ideals are those of Garibaldi and Mazzini—"

"Oh, yes," put in the boy, "I know about Garibaldi."

"Garibaldi and Mazzini," I said, "fought and worked for freedom just as our American heroes did. And there was Mazzei . . ."

"Who's he?" the boy asked.

"An Italian who came to America before our Revolution and became a close friend of Jefferson's. In 1774 he wrote some articles in Italian on liberty and democracy. Jefferson translated them, and the phrase about all of us being 'created equal,' which Mazzei had used, found its way into the Declaration of Independence."

"Gee, I never heard of him, Dad," said the boy reprovingly.

"Where can we learn more about him?" asked Mr. R.

"There are one or two books about him, and he is mentioned in some others," I answered. "Ask your librarian to dig them up for you. Mazzei is part of the highest American tradition, and Italian Americans ought to know about him. If they did, I don't think Mussolini's ups and downs and his propaganda would be of any real consequence to them.

"And it would be good for Polish Americans to know about the Poles who were with Captain Smith at Jamestown, and to remember Generals Pulaski and Kosciusko, who fought with Washington in the Revolution. It would help Jewish Americans if they knew about Haym Salomon, who loaned the American government large sums of money during the Revolution, and who, incidentally, was never repaid. And it would help German Americans if they knew about Carl Schurz and General von Steuben.

"And it would be simply great if old-stock Americans, also, knew about them and other such 'foreigners.' It would free them of prejudice and intolerance toward the newer stocks. It would keep them from making ignorant remarks and doing cruel things.

"It would help all of us to realize that America is the creation of people who came here from all over the world, that in a sense we are all immigrants, and that we need to accept one another as integral parts of this country, whether our name happens to be Simpson, Dirocco, Goldberg or Zambloskas. . . ."

A few days ago Mr. R. wrote me: "My son is a new boy. He has read up on Mazzei. So have the rest of us. I guess we're all proud to be Italian Americans." He underlined the last word.

The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

WILLIAM TYLER PAGE

A WELL WISHER

ADV.

THE Jewish Veteran

"THE PATRIOTIC VOICE OF AMERICAN JEWRY"

J. GEORGE FREDMAN • Editor
 JACOB S. SPIRO • Associate Editor

VOLUME TEN JULY, 1941 NUMBER ELEVEN

EDITORIAL COMMENT

BUFFALO, NEXT STOP!

For the past three months "J.V." has, through its pages, tried to acquaint you with some of the reasons why you should attend the National Encampment in Buffalo next month. It has *not* been a "selling campaign." If J.W.V. has penetrated your bones, if you are sincerely interested in our cause, you don't need "selling." If you ever attended a National J.W.V. Convention—"ditto"! We know if physically and financially possible you will be there. Our appeal has been to those who never attended a J.W.V. Encampment and the hosts of *new* comrades and sisters. To you, we urge "Don't Miss It!" Interest, enlightenment, enjoyment, thrills, and more similar adjectives could not describe it. And come early so you won't miss any part of it.

And Buffalo looks like it will be THE BIGGEST AND BEST CONVENTION EVER!

We look forward to greeting you one and all in Buffalo.

America Half-Asleep

In case you passed it by hurriedly, we urge you to turn back and urge you to read carefully the editorial on page 2 of this issue. The apathy of the majority of our citizens is startling. They read little but the headlines and listen to a few radio broadcasts. Their chief concerns are business, baseball, bridge and vacations. If they would take a little time off to read "Mein Kampf", they would soon learn that Hitler clearly pointed out several times that the issue of this war is WORLD domination by the German "super race." It took the sinking of the Lusitania to shock us out of our indifference. It looks as though it will take a similar explosion to scare us out of our wits and blast us out of our lazy complacency. There is this difference. We had no "blitz-kriegs" in the last war. We had no long distance bomber or fighter planes. We would have no allies who could supply us with cannon, guns and ammunition, until we could manufacture our own. Let's hope, therefore, we don't wake up TOO LATE!

Features - July, 1941

	PAGE
ROLL CALL FOR BUFFALO	Front Cover
"AND PROUD OF IT!"	3
<i>By Louis Adamic</i>	
CATHOLIC BISHOP SUPPORTS PRESIDENT	5
MESSAGE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER	6
THE JEW—AS BRAVE AS ANY MAN	7
J.W.V. AWARD TO WENDELL L. WILLKIE	8-9
SHUFFLE OFF TO BUFFALO.....	10-13
ON THE MILITARY FRONT	14
DO YOU KNOW?	15
MESSAGE OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY PRESIDENT	19

Wear a Flag!

Let every veteran of America's wars wear a small American flag in the lapel of his coat. It will not only be a badge of patriotism, but a symbol of optimism and courage, and an inspiration for non-veterans to follow.

The Defeatists

Isolationists jeer at the last war making the world safe for democracy. They forget that it was their blocking our entry into the League of Nations which periled that safety. Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin are traceable to this action. Today these isolationists again oppose our government and are trying to shape our policies. What past efforts of isolationists should inspire present confidence?

Morale Important

In these columns we have recommended not only a "defensive morale" in our Army and among our civilians, but an "offensive" propaganda campaign in the conquered countries of Europe against the Nazis. Great Britain is now launched on just such a campaign. Its symbol is the letter "V", denoting "Victory over Nazis." Through radio and every possible means, Britain is calling on the 125,000,000 oppressed people of German oc-

cupied Europe to mobilize a secret "victory" army to fight Germany. For example, RAF planes flying over Rotterdam, fly in a V formation. V has been printed and chalked on all types of buildings. A sympathizer calling a waiter or ringing a house bell does it with "dot-dot-dot-dash", the Morse code for V. Europeans meeting each other put up the two first fingers, making a V. The campaign is already taking effect. The oppressed peoples are taking heart. A train wreck and several sabotaged plants have resulted. The Nazis used to always being on the offensive are getting panicky and have tried to jam British broadcast. But the propaganda revolution goes forth. It was very successful for the Nazis in Austria, France and other countries. Why not the weapon to eventually break down Germany! Its worth a trial, and Americans where possible should help the campaign. V—V—V!

Our Job Not Done

J.W.V. posts everywhere did an excellent job in send-offs to the first batch of selectees. In many instances, J.W.V. comrades were the *only* patriotic group "on the job". The second group of 750,000 American youth will shortly be moving on to camps. They deserve the same consideration and appreciation. Posts are urged to prepare *now*, so they will be ready to give these boys a gift, and a few cheering words to let them know they are not forsaken and their service appreciated.

Send A Card

Do you remember when YOU were in camp, and the postman stood on a box and read off the names of those for whom he had mail, and your name was not called, how disappointed and downhearted you were? And the reverse, how happy you were, if you received only a card? Our boys in camp today have the same emotions. How good it feels to get a letter, or even a card from the home folks! We know of no better morale-builder. Why does not every comrade, every sister, and every JWV son and daughter, pick out some selectee from your home city, and regularly write him a few lines? It's a lot of fun and will pay dividends in better morale.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

The Jewish Veteran is published monthly by The Jewish Veteran Publishing Company, a corporation of the State of New Jersey, having its principal and publication office at 93 Hudson Street, Hoboken, N. J. Officers: J. G. Fredman, President; Louis D. Samuels, Treasurer; Abraham Kraditor, Secretary. Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Hoboken, N. J., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Subscription price in the United States, \$3.00 per year, payable in advance.

Catholic Bishop Supports President

A recent address by Bishop Joseph P. Hurley of the diocese of St. Augustine, Florida, broadcast over a national network, threatens a schism in the ranks of the Catholic Church. This high-ranking Catholic prelate, just back from the Vatican, expressed the view that President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, rather than Congress should decide whether and when the United States should enter the war against Germany.

He added that this country's relation to the European conflict was no longer diplomatic or political, but had entered the "zone of strategy." Therefore, he reasoned, the problem of strategy should be left to the Commander-in-Chief "who alone, in constant, loyal communication with Congress and in consultation with his military and naval advisers, is capable of bringing us safely through the dangers which encompass us." He continued:

"In the present circumstances, we must not lose sight of the fact that the declaration of war, the constitutional prerogative of Congress, is no longer in style; the Nazi has seen to that . . . Since the Nazi has from the first marked us as his enemy, it is well that we accept that fact, even though it has not yet pleased him to make war upon us. But his policy of limited objectives, that policy by which he betrayed and enslaved a continent, is fast approaching the point of a showdown with us . . . Pre-war strategy is so all-important today that wars are won or lost before they enter the shooting phase.

"My fear is that we will not be permitted to have the choice between war and peace; that the Nazi will not let us have peace as he did not let the nations of Europe have peace. Most qualified observers think that our only choice is when we shall enter the war."

The people, Bishop Hurley said, have neither the experience nor access to the facts to decide whether we should go to war.

"Nor does the Constitution demand it," he went on . . . "I have an abiding faith in government by the people; but I do not believe that questions of national security, in an epoch of crisis, should be submitted directly to them. It would be a lumbering process involving fatal delay, and fatal leakage of plans to potential enemies."

Saying that he had no confidence in any one who "seeks in a time of crisis to undermine legitimate authority; who speaks disparagingly or distrustfully of our highest magistrates," Bishop Hurley added:

"Among them is a small but noisy group of Catholics. We have suffered long from their tantrums . . . Years ago they established the crank school of economics; latterly they have founded the tirade school of journalism; they are now engaged in popularizing the ostrich school of strategy . . . They will disappear in time like those other exhibitionists—the marathon dancers and the flagpole sitters—who amused America for a while and vanished."

Bishop Hurley said that Nazi sympathizers were trying to picture the Russo-German war as a "holy crusade against communism." The "bald facts," he added, are that Germany, "in violation of a treaty, launched an unprovoked and undeclared war of aggression against the Communists, their former partners in crime."

"The recluse of Berchtesgaden is badly cast for the role of Peter the Hermit . . . The Nazi remains enemy No. 1 of America and of the world."

Social Justice of July 14th, immediately attacked Bishop Hurley as "a clerical Charlie McCarthy speaking for one who lacks courage to speak for himself." In the same article he attacked Archbishop Mooney and the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Of Bishop Hurley, Fr. Coughlin says: "Since this mitered politician, this non-taxpayer, this scoffer at the 'put up the sword' policy, has polevaulted into prominence on the crozier of a bishop, be it remembered that the publicity he has gained is merely accidental. Without the crozier he would still grovel in the solitude of the everglades."

These are harsh words, but evidently Fr. Coughlin wants no Catholic voice heard but his own, and he is mustering all of his strength to try and destroy Bishop Hurley.

Nathan Gerson O-9 Victim

When the submarine O-9 sank, with the loss of 33 Americans, one of those on board was Nathan Gerson, 19, of the Bronx, N.Y. Before enlisting in the Navy, he was a news-boy. As a mark of respect for his service, Borough Pres. Lyons ordered flags on all public buildings in the Bronx to be half-masted on June 25th. A bill has been introduced in Congress to erect a suitable memorial in Arlington Cemetery to the memory of the crew of the O-9.

Catholic Bishops in Germany Protest Nazi Attacks On Church

On Sunday, July 6th, the Bishops of Germany read a pastoral letter from their pulpits assailing Nazi steps against the Church and condemning the anti-religious tendencies of the Nazis. They appealed to Catholics to stand fast in their faith at a time when "existence or non-existence of Christianity" in Germany is at stake.

This was the first protest read from the pulpits since the start of the war. The letter stated:

"We have lost our schools, and now our infant schools (kindergartens) must be closed." (German kindergartens care for youngsters during the day when parents are at work).

Cloisters and other Catholic institutions have been confiscated for non-religious purposes and the Church is virtually without a press, the letter said. It resented the influxes at work against religion, the gist of which was that Germans faced a choice between "Christ and the Fatherland."

Radios! Radios!

The boys in service want radios. They NEED radios. We did a fine job in supplying about 800 pianos to the Army. Pianos were fine for the large recreation centers. But radios will just "hit the spot" in the smaller recreation rooms scattered around the forts. There are hundreds of thousands of discontinued models and good "seconds" available. It requires only organization and effort to gather them. Please get going, and donate them to your nearest military base. You might put a small tag on each "Compliments of Jewish War Veterans of U. S.", to show the boys we're with them 100%. Send us a report on your accomplishments.

INSTALLATION OF NEW POST AT CHARLESTON, S. C.



Harry Wengrow, P.N.V.C. of Atlanta, installing officers of new post, named after Samuel D. Turteltaub, who lost his life in France, and was honored with the D.S.C. L. LeRoy Silverstein is Commander. Other officers are Jack Meyers, Sr. V.C., Edwin S. Pearlstone, Jr. V.C., Hyman Rephan, J.Adv., Max Turteltaub, Adj. Ben Hirsch, QM, and Rabbis Benjamin G. Axelman and Jacob S. Raisin, Chaplains. Officers of other veteran groups are present.