

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

## Scandinavia Works With Nazis To End Russo-Finnish Conflict; Feel Allies Aren't Dependable

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)  
Released by Western Newspaper Union

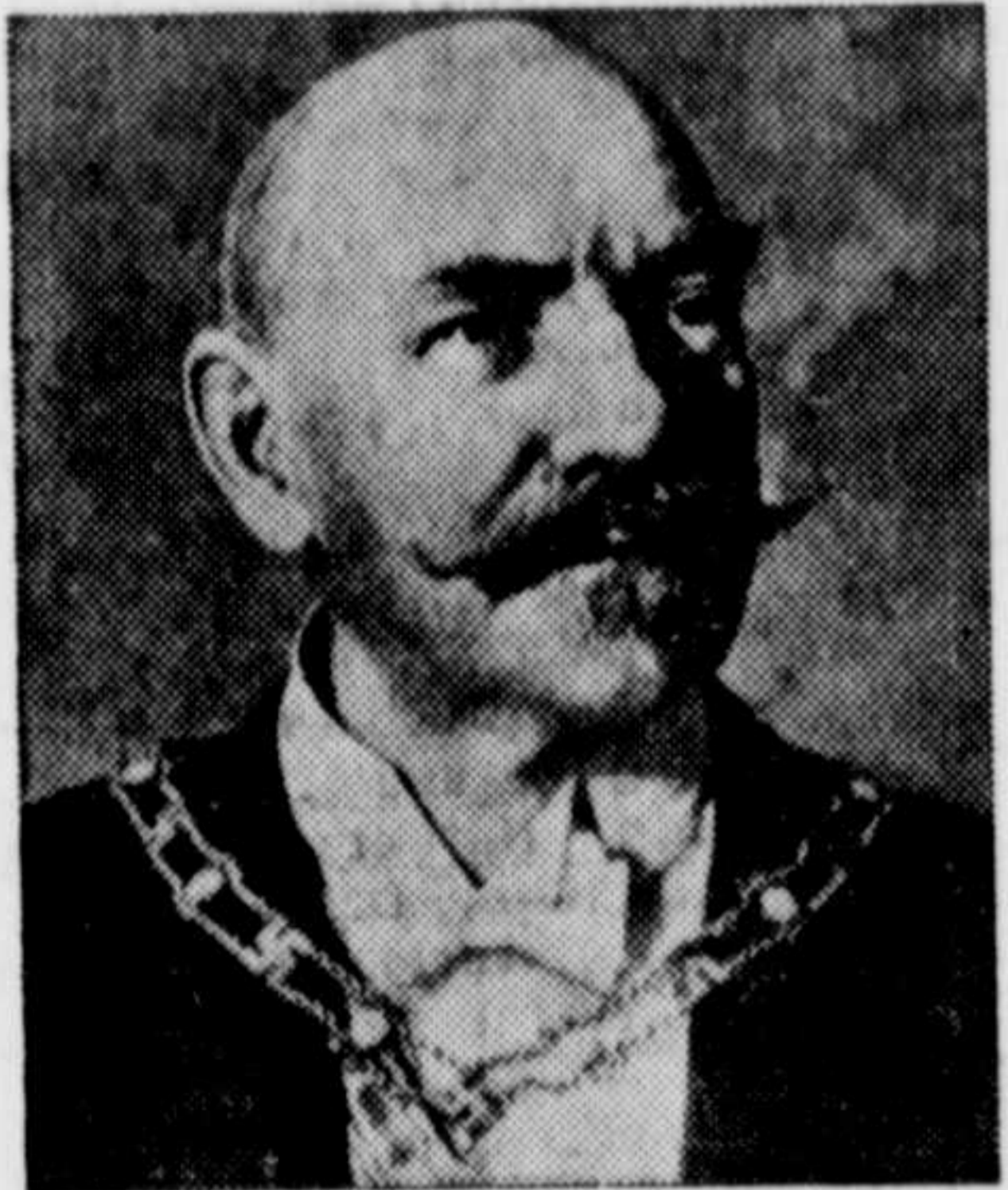
### EUROPE: The Wars

**Northern Front.** Soviet troops captured the entire northern tip of Finland, placing the Arctic sea outlet in Soviet hands. Finns still held Viipuri, western anchor of the Mannerheim lines, repulsing furious Soviet attacks. Civilian bombings continued.

**Western Front.** Reconnaissance flights and patrol clashes.

### Finnish Finish?

Off to Berlin one day went 70-year-old Per Eivind Svinhufvud, former president of Finland. He made a brief flurry in the news, obviously a peace envoy. Then he disappeared, but Per Svinhufvud had



PER SVINHUFVUD  
... started something in Berlin.

done his work well. Within 24 hours Moscow had invited Finnish Premier Risto Ryti and three aides to visit the Kremlin and talk peace. That Germany's hand was behind all this none doubted, for Naziland would like to have Russia at peace, thereby making Soviet war materials available to the Reich.

Up north, Scandinavia cheered; a Russo-Finnish peace would relieve the terrific pressure Sweden and Norway have felt from France and Britain on the one side, and Russia and Germany on the other. The allies had sent Finland only a smattering of help, leaving friendly Scandinavia exposed should Russia win. But if Scandinavia worked for peace via the dictator nations, an early and safe peace might be arranged.

After several days a truce was reported near, leaving frontiers substantially where they have been pushed by fighting thus far. But there was still a good chance that it would bog down.

### British Gesture

Off to Rome went Nazi Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop to capitalize on an Italian peevish. Several days earlier Britain had clamped a blockade on Italian coal imports from Germany, halting 16 of 11 Duce's freighters into port. Angered, Rome dispatched threatening notes.

Obviously von Ribbentrop hoped to win Italian sympathy against Britain, but the Englishmen acted too fast. Without warning, London suddenly released all 16 Italian freighters and won an Italian promise to ship no more German coal by sea.

Herr von Ribbentrop, the wind taken out of his sails, eased back home after visits with Mussolini, King Victor Emmanuel and—unexpectedly—Pope Pius XII. Observers guessed that von Ribbentrop heard plenty from both Mussolini and Pope Pius about alleged German atrocities in Poland. They also guessed, but could not be certain, that he had urged Mussolini's mediation to help end the Russo-Finnish

## NAMES

in the news . . .

**HAROLD L. ICKES**, secretary of the interior, and enthusiastic third-termite, sounded off in *Look* magazine on G. O. P. Hopeful Tom Dewey. Said Ickes: Dewey is a "clamor boy"; he is "photogenic, radiogenic and a dude . . ."

**F. LYNDEN SMITH**, Illinois public works director and ousted state Democratic fund collector who was "banished" for criticizing Gov. Henry Horner, suicided at a Springfield, Ill., hospital.

**FATHER DIVINE**, Negro spiritualist, was ordered by New York Supreme court to repay a follower \$3,937 which she had placed in his care.

**DOROTHY LAMOUR**, movie songstress, lost her tonsils.

**ADOLF HITLER**, speaking at Germany's "memorial day," pledged "victory or my life."

**JOHN D. M. HAMILTON**, national G. O. P. chairman, announced his party will issue no 1940 convention book (for which industrialists are asked to contribute) and asked the Democrats to do likewise.

war. Still a third report: That he sought Italian co-operation to form an economic bloc of all eastern Europe, eventually including Russia and the Baltics.

### DOMESTIC:

#### Farmers' Congress

"It is more than ever important to have a government . . . that can act to protect the interests of our farmers as well as our business men when foreign trade conditions are upset."

Thus did Franklin Roosevelt address 500,000 farmers in 24 states assembled at 50 and 75-cent dinners to celebrate AAA's seventh anniversary. For the President and the farmer, things were looking up. A few hours before Mr. Roosevelt spoke, the senate finance committee approved a three-year extension of the reciprocal trade program, already okayed by the house. Chairman Pat Harrison of that committee was pretty sure the measure would pass.

Meanwhile another senate committee was even out-doing the President to help farmers. An appropriations sub-committee upped the house-approved \$749,561,000 agricultural appropriations bill to \$958,000,000 (the President had recommended only \$788,929,519). Chief boost was a \$212,000,000 fund for parity payments. In addition, the subcommittee directed that RFC should lend \$100,000,000 additional to farm agencies (thus avoiding new appropriations) and that \$60,000,000 of benefit payments be shifted to this year's funds from next year. This brought the total to more than a billion dollars.

Gloom fell over the house, which had previously clipped some \$300,000,000 from budget estimates on 10 different appropriations in the hope of saving enough to prevent new taxes or a boost in the national debt. When the senate appropriations committee okayed its subcommittee's action, and when senate leaders expressed certainty that the big farm bill would pass, the gloom became thicker. One salvation might be to make big cuts in relief and defense appropriations. Another, which President Roosevelt reportedly discussed with congressional leaders, was a revival of the new tax program.

#### Also in congress:

**Hatch Bill.** Not sidetracked for the farm bill, as everyone expected, amendments to the Hatch "clean politics" act were pushed through the senate. Aim: Curb political activity of 500,000 state employees.

**Wagner Act.** Chairman Mary Norton (Dem., N. J.) of the house labor committee charged that 21



WELLES AND LEBRUN  
A baptism of fire.

amendments to the Wagner act, as proposed by a special house committee, would practically repeal the law. It was a good bet that the house would kill all the amendments.

#### Welles Junkie

Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles continued marching through the chancelleries of Europe in an attempt to dig out "the present phase of the European situation." Neither he nor anyone else could really dig it out, because the European situation was more perplexing than anything the world has seen in 20 years (see EUROPE).

Arriving in Paris after visits at Rome and Berlin, Mr. Welles lunched and dined with President Albert Lebrun, Premier Edouard Daladier and many a lesser statesman, receiving his baptism of fire when anti-aircraft batteries sounded off against a Nazi reconnaissance plane. He heard the same old terms: (1) No peace so long as Hitlerism reigns in Germany; (2) liberation of Poland and Czechoslovakia; (3) "guarantees for the security of peoples and the integrity . . . of all nations."

Next stop was London, where he was closeted with Foreign Minister Viscount Halifax. Expecting to discover nothing there, Mr. Welles nevertheless had important business: (1) to caution British leaders that war measures such as interference with U. S. mails and shipping were having an adverse effect on U. S. sympathy for the allies; (2) to buy six suits of clothes from a Hanover street tailor. In view of the utter confusion in which diplomacy found itself overnight, observers guessed Mr. Welles would have to visit Paris and Rome again.

## TREND

**POLAND.**—Forty thousand German artisans have been sent to conquered Poland to take over small businesses and "purify" libraries, according to authentic reports.

**AVIATION.**—It was revealed in Washington that the war department will soon release for Anglo-French purchase one of its newest and fastest fighting ships, the Curtiss P-40. Meanwhile an allied purchasing ministry announced it was ready to order a billion dollars' worth of U. S. aircraft.

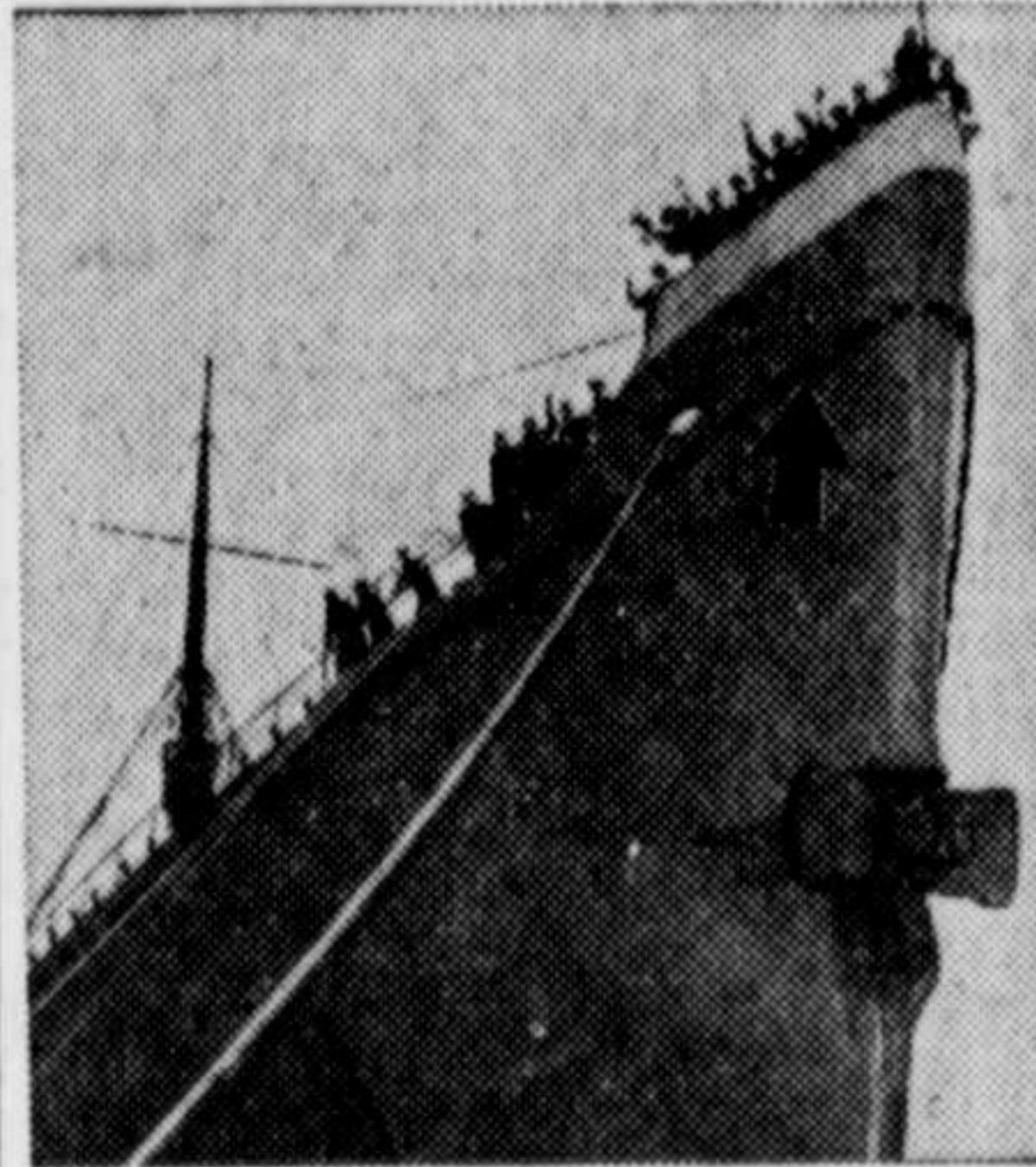
**DEFENSE.**—Removed from the list of 17 "strategic" materials essential for U. S. defense were aluminum (because the U. S. aluminum industry has conserved its Arkansas bauxite); optical glass (because U. S. optical glass is now as good as the world's best) and wool (because substitutes and supplies are being found here).

### MARINE:

#### Contraction

For several months German airplanes and U-boats have sprinkled the sea with dangerous magnetic mines. When a ship approaches, its steel hull attracts the mine, which explodes. In early March, when Britain's stupendous, 85,000-ton, \$28,750,000 *Queen Elizabeth* reached New York on her secret maiden voyage, she wore a girle of 10 to 12 heavily-insulated cables strung on metal fixtures riveted into the plates.

Elizabeth's crew was tight-lipped, but naval experts were pretty sure her girle was an effective anti-mine device which may make Brit-



ELIZABETH AND GIRLE  
Her crew was tight-lipped.

ain's shipping invulnerable to the latest Nazi weapon. One opinion: That the girle sets up a field that neutralizes the magnetic mechanism of the mine. Another: That the cables form a loop antennae for transmission of powerful radio beams sufficient to explode mines.

### MEXICO:

#### Oil Settlement

In March, 1938, Mexico incurred the ill will of many a government by expropriating the oil properties held by 17 U. S., British and Netherlands companies. Since then the companies themselves and their governments have tried in vain to reach a settlement. Mid-March brought first indication that Mexico, whose oil has been unwelcome on the world market, was ready to come to terms. From Mexico City came reports of a settlement with the Sinclair Oil company, whereby Mexico would pay for expropriated property with 9,000,000 barrels of oil (market value is about \$7,000,000). With the impasse broken, 16 other unhappy companies also hoped a settlement was near.

### INTERNATIONAL:

Bloodshed and violence, which made headlines in Europe, also made news elsewhere:

#### Argentina

Alleged vote frauds in Buenos Aires province caused President Roberto Ortiz to supplant Gov. Manuel Fresco by a federal administrator. When the ousted National Democratic party threatened to recoup its position with force, President Ortiz declared martial law. Tear gas was used to disperse a crowd outside the provincial capitol at La Plata. After several days' experience indicated the government had a strange hold, the ousted government apparently decided to abandon force in favor of political action.

#### Palestine

To stave off Arab-Jewish violence during the European war, Britain's cabinet announced restrictions against purchase of Palestine land by Jews. Though Jews protested, the parliament in London backed up the cabinet's action. When word of this action reached Palestine the Jerusalem Jewish national institution declared a general stoppage of work. Ten thousand paraded through the streets, giving British police a tough battle.

#### China

Mid-March found Japan's army driving against Chungshan, birthplace of China's famed Sun Yat-Sen, located south of Canton. Meanwhile, as Japan completed her thirty-second month of a fruitless war, a new enemy appeared for both Japanese and Chinese forces. Chinese Communists in northwestern provinces, formerly fighting for the Chinese government, were reported drawing closer to Moscow, leaving Gen. Chiang Kai-Shek out on a limb.

## Kathleen Norris Says:

We All Have to Pay the Piper for Our Mistakes

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)



Several years after their divorce Mary and Paul met and discovered they loved each other still. The results were a second divorce for Paul and his remarriage to Mary.

### By KATHLEEN NORRIS

WHEN we are young we call the tune, and when we are old we pay the piper.

It's a terrifying thing to think of, but it's one of the inescapable facts of life. The cross you make for yourself in youth you must carry in old age, nobody else can carry it for you, and there's no putting it down.

That's why fathers and mothers waste their breath advising and warning. Don't drive so fast, darling. Don't start going with that particular crowd, dear. Don't eat too much. Don't drink too much. Don't marry until you really love; and when you do marry don't quarrel, don't waste money, don't flirt, don't be extravagant.

If this generation of children listened, and profited by advice, and if the next generation did the same, and if the parents themselves were wise good men and women who hadn't made serious mistakes themselves, what a world of high character and nobility and happiness we would have in a hundred years!

But alas, the parents are often as busy making mistakes as the children are, and when one mistake is superimposed upon another, and half a dozen more are thrown in from all sides, human lives get into terrible tangles, and only superhuman powers can straighten them out. Prayer will, humility and patience and faith will, but who believes that in reference to the tireless little tangles of every day? We save our prayers for the great crises of life, and even then usually bestow them generously on someone else. That Norma's baby will come safely. That dear George will get well. That Betty won't be so impatient with Gerald. We rarely pray that we ourselves will change, because one of the first things a baby learns, and one of the convictions that sticks to him most firmly, is that he is all but perfect.

If you've made a mistake and you have to pay for it sometimes it helps a lot to face the music honestly and say, "I was wrong. I was young and ignorant and hot-headed and blind, and I made a serious mistake. All right. That's past. Now for the future, without mistakes!"

#### A Ridiculous Mistake.

In a letter that lies on my desk a woman who calls herself "Mary, Paul's Wife," tells me of a rather ridiculous mistake she and her husband made, and of the price they have to pay for it.

They were married 12 years ago, and had two boys, now 10 and eight. Six or seven years after marriage hard times came; Paul lost his job; his wife went to work, and domestic trouble ensued. They were divorced by her wish, although she says when it came right down to leaving Paul she cried for four days and nights.

She married a man named Ben, and Paul married a girl named Maude. Ben died, and two years ago Paul's first wife met him again. He is very prosperous now; he was not happy with Maude, and he and Mary very soon discovered that they loved each other still. He needed his boys, and the upshot of that accidental meeting was a second divorce for Paul, and his remarriage to Mary. They are now ideally happy, have a third small son only a few months old, and would be one of the world's contented couples if it were not that Paul has to pay Maude \$200 a month. That eats into Mary's very soul.

"Maude is well-fixed anyway," she writes. "She has a car, a beautiful apartment, and a maid. She goes away summers, entertains, dresses perfectly. We are paying almost a third of Paul's remaining income for our home, have three children, and only occasional help with household. Is it fair that the money that would give me a good nurse and great comfort must go to

### Pay the Piper

When we're young we call the tune and when we are older we pay the piper, says Kathleen Norris.

It's an inescapable "fact of life." Nobody else can carry your cross for you. There's no putting it down. That's why fathers and mothers waste their breath advising and warning. If all the warnings and advice were heeded we'd have a wonderful world in a few generations. But unhappily people go right on making mistakes.

And when the time comes to pay up, the best thing to do is to accept the bill and start paying. If it's money trouble, according to this writer, you have much for which to thank God. For many other troubles are worse.

This selfish woman who lived with Paul only two years, never made him a home or showed him any real affection, and doesn't need the money? Of course we want the boys to be well-schooled, to go to college, and yet that ridiculous \$2,400 must be taken out of our income every year for a woman who means nothing to either of us.

#### They Must Pay the Piper.

"When we remarried and made this arrangement, we felt that Maude would marry again, but she shows no disposition to do so, and as she is beginning her forties she probably will not. I don't know what we can do about it, but it does seem that we should do something."

My dear Mary: There is nothing you can do about it except pay the piper, and thank God that the mistake you made wasn't of a more serious nature and isn't going to cost you even more. Actually hundreds of thousands of families lost all their hard-saved capital eight or ten years ago, through speculation or unfortunate investments, and they have to pay the piper. Millions pay the piper with chronic indigestion and headache, because they WOULD eat and drink indiscreetly. An innocent small girl pays the piper because her mother would take her driving in a bitter wind, and the maid's operation that followed a head cold cost her her hearing.

Unhappy and unsuccessful lives are all paying the piper; paying him for parental stupidities, for bad home influences, for lack of guidance or intelligence or grace. Slums and drunkenness and poverty and illness are all preventable, and while we let them exist someone is going to pay the piper for each and every one. War is the cruelest and stupidest mistake human beings make, and how we pay for it, and how our children's children will pay for it someday!

So stop worrying about the money Paul has to pay Maude. You and he both acted like undisciplined children when hard times came; you didn't stick to him as a wife should, and the discovery that you did love each other, after the quarrel, is what you are paying for. Forget Maude; forget the details; only say to yourself that you won't make that mistake again, and will try to prepare your boys for marriage along better lines than your own were. See that they know fine girls, and are ready to assume the responsibilities of life courageously and wisely, and you'll more than make up for the errors in your own life, expensive as they seem.

**Mary Should Be Grateful.** When your worst trouble is money, you have much for which to thank God. A cruel or drinking husband, a crippled child, circumstances that separate you from those who love and need you, physical suffering from some chronic disorder, grinding poverty, quarrelsome atmospheres—these are real troubles.

## Strange Facts

Continuous Growth  
Versatile Products  
Mail Must Go On!

Although most creatures have a definite growth limit, others continue to increase in size as long as they live, among them being trees, fish, oysters, clams, shrimps, crabs and lobsters.

Products of the farm have more than 400 nonfood uses in industry. For example, corn is used in making adhesives, potatoes in laundry starch, soybeans in plastics, cattle grease in antifreeze mixtures, grape-seed oil in soaps, buttermilk in paints, and eggs in leather-dressing processes.

In many Japanese bedrooms the compass points are painted on the floor. Few Japanese will sleep with the head pointing north, the position in which they are buried.

Although the transatlantic clipper are built to carry 3,000 pounds of mail, they have transported 4,300 pounds, or 140,000 letters and packages. Incidentally, a clipper must carry all mail given to it by the post office department, even if it has to cancel all passenger bookings.—Collier's.

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