

ROOSEVELT

L.J. - Sunoco. Thurs., Jan. 7, 1943.

Today in Congress, there were forty-four bursts of applause and cheering - and one big laugh. The applause and cheering ^{were} ~~was~~ hearty, as President Roosevelt gave to the new Congress a report on the war.

~~The President~~ ^{He} presented a review of the ~~fighting~~ ~~during the~~ past year, with special emphasis on the tremendous fight that Soviet Russia is making and on our own signal victory in the Battle of Midway. ^P He stated that the United States has seven million men in the armed forces and of these approximately a million and a half are ^{now} in service overseas.

He gave armament production figures to show ~~that our manufacture of warplanes has not been up to the original schedule - that schedule having been revised. The program called for the building of sixty thousand planes~~ ^{& that} during Nineteen Forty-Two. ~~Actually,~~ ^{military planes.} we turned out forty-eight thousand, ~~said the President.~~

And he pointed out that ^{our} ~~the~~ forty-eight thousand figure was greater than the combined plane production of Germany, Italy and Japan put together.

~~Our schedule of tank production too was sealed~~
~~down, but~~ ^{Also} We turned out fifty-six thousand combat vehicles - including tanks and motorized artillery.

~~The President's production figures went on with~~

Six hundred and seventy thousand machine guns, twenty-one thousand anti-tank guns, a hundred and eighty-one million rounds of artillery ammunition, and ten billion, two hundred and fifty rounds of small ammunition. These figures backed up the President when he said today, "The arsenal of democracy is making good."

~~And the weapons of that arsenal are being~~
~~employed against the enemy everywhere, and will be~~
~~employed still more busily - against the Japs in the~~
~~Far East,~~ ^{and} ~~against the Axis in Europe. "I cannot~~

~~prophsy, I cannot tell you," said the President to Congress, "when or where the United Nations are going to strike next in Europe. But," he added, "we're going to strike- and strike hard."~~

What about the end of the war? When? There has been a lot of talk about ^a speedy victory, but the President promised nothing of the sort. "I do not prophsy when this war will end," he said. "But I do believe that this year of Nineteen Forty-Three," he continued, "will give to the United Nations a very substantial advance along the roads that lead to Berlin and Rome and Tokyo." So that is all the President ventures - his belief that we will make a substantial advance during the coming year.

~~His only other statement along this line was the following: "I tell you," he said to the legislature, "it is within the realm of possibility that this~~

Seventy-Eighth Congress may have the historic privilege of helping greatly to save the world from future fear." Which would seem to indicate that the end of the war and the peace making task might come during the life of the present Congress. Its term of service is two years. So we have the implication that victory may be less than two years ahead.

As for the peace to come, the President reiterated that this nation must play its full part in the world settlement. ~~to come. He spoke of the few Americans who think, said he - that this nation can end this war comfortably and then ^{-crawl} ~~slink~~ back into an American hole and pull the hole in afterward.~~ "We have learned," ~~the President added,~~ ^{said he,} "that we can never dig a hole so deep that it will be safe against predatory animals." And he added this phrase: "Pull the fangs of the predatory animals of the world."

Which was one way of stating, ~~the prime condition of~~
the peace to come - ~~xxx~~ ^{that} the enemy countries, Germany,
Italy and Japan must be disarmed and kept disarmed.

All these ~~things~~ are things that drew congressional applause and cheers. And now on to the presidential phrase that got a big laugh. ~~The President spoke about criticism of the government. "Much of this self-criticism has had a healthy effect - it has spurred us on. But," he added, "there has been some criticism, based on guesswork and even on malicious falsification of fact." He said that some people called Washington a "madhouse", which can be amusing,~~ ^{said he. But he added,} ~~And the President sometimes thinks it is amusing. And he crashed through with this phrase: "Washington may be a madhouse - but only in the sense that it is the capital of a nation which is fighting mad!"~~

He admitted that there have been mistakes and

that many ~~of the~~ government restrictions have been a nuisance. ^{Which brought him} ~~The President used these words:~~ "burdensome government regulations which were a nuisance to everyone." Whereupon he got around to the subject of questionnaires, those complicated forms that are such brain twisters to fill out. "We all know," said F.D.R., "that there have been too many complicated forms and questionnaires. I know about that. I have had to fill some of them out myself." ~~said he.~~

And that was what got a big laugh in Congress - the President himself bedeviled by those head-breaking perplexities with which his own subordinates have been tormenting so many unhappy citizens.

The most important question concerning this message to Congress was in the realm of domestic economy. There had ~~be~~ been rumors that the President would place before the ~~xxxxx~~ lawmakers today a program of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

super-social security along the line of one of the Four Freedoms - freedom from want. Some thought that the message would present a sort of ultra-New Deal. This would have been filled with drama, not to say dynamite, considering the new strength of the Republicans in Congress, with anti-New Deal elements virtually in control.

Well, The President did state bluntly that the new Congress must take up the subject of freedom from want. ~~And they say he made this insistence in spite of the advice of the administration leaders in Congress.~~ He stated the following: ~~"It is wholly possible that freedom from want will loom very large as a task for America during the coming two years."~~

But there was no suggestion of a program in any detail. The President ~~merely~~ stated that the people ~~must be protected against major economic hazards and~~

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must have the assurance of employment. Speaking of the soldiers who ^{will} return at the end of the war, ^{he} ~~the President~~ said: "They expect the opportunity to work, to run their farms, their stores, to earn decent wages. They are eager," he added, "to face the risks inherent in our free enterprise." Economic security should be regarded, ^{he} said the President, "not as an issue, but as a task."

Whereupon Congress
went to work.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

And The question of congressional committees was disposed of. ~~today~~ The Republicans, with their added strength, figured to have a larger representation on the committees. How much larger? ~~There was some dispute about that, but now both sides have agreed.~~ ~~Previously the majority of committee membership was~~ *at* ~~a ratio of sixty to forty. Now the ratio is to be fifty-six to forty-four.~~ The Republicans gain ~~an~~ ~~additional member~~ on a whole series of committees, ~~which~~ *all but one — the Ways & Means,* ~~formerly consisted of fifteen Democrats and ten~~ ~~Republicans.~~ ~~Now the figures are fourteen and eleven.~~ ~~Only the important Ways and Means Committee remains unchanged — fifteen Democrats and ten Republicans.~~

~~The new committee ratios were announced by~~ ~~Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn.~~ ~~And~~ ~~Some~~ of the most important ~~of committees~~ are so divided that Republicans combined with the Conservative Southern Democrats *if they wish* can assert control.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

Anti-
~~Many~~ administration measures were introduced promptly into the new congress. Republican Senator Butler of Nebraskas wants an investigation of Lend Lease. *He entered* ~~That~~ ~~He headed~~ a proposal that there should be an inquiry before more money is granted to lend lease. He said he was sympathetic to the aid extended to our allies but thought congress should find out whether the money is being spent properly.

Republican Senator Nye of North Dakota, former Isolationist, demanded an inquiry into the question of American food *and* ~~in~~ the United Nations. He wants Congress to investigate the ability of American farmers to provide the amount of food that we ourselves need for civilian and military consumption, plus the amount that has been promised to the United Nations.

And apparently there's to be a congressional resolution on the subject of Harry Hopkins and Mrs. Hopkins. Republican House Leader Joe Martin stated today that he expected congressional action concerning

reports that Lord Beaverbrook, former British Minister of Supply, had presented jewelry as a wedding present to the wife of the American Lend-Lease Administrator.

TT This news was taken to the White House, where the Hopkinses live, and presidential secretary Steve Early said he had no doubt that both Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins would be glad to appear before a committee investigating the Beaverbrook gifts of jewelry. Saying that he was not speaking in any official capacity, Steve Early proceeded to denounce what he called -- "malicious rumors and statements that are now being published by certain newspapers hostile to the government."

DEWEY

Much comment was expressed today on the inaugural address delivered by New York's new Governor, ~~yesterday~~ Republican Thomas E. Dewey announced a program for the state government during war time, a ~~program~~ ^{plan} that even his political opponents are praising. The Democratic NEW YORK TIMES today stated: "The roots of a definite program for full production and efficient distribution, with no sacrifice of the free enterprise system, may be in what he said yesterday."

The message to the State Legislature contained what the TIMES calls: "the maximum of practical suggestions, non-partisan for the most part, and the minimum of philosophy."

I don't suppose the rather majestic TIMES has any prejudice against philosophy, but some people do feel that government theorizing at times has soared aloft into the dizzy realm of metaphysics.

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CRILE

The last few days have witnessed the passing of three famous men of science and scholarship. The negro scientist - Dr. George Washington Carver; the revered former President of Harvard - Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell; and the physician of world renown - Dr. George Crile, who died today.

An editorial in the NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM draws a parallel of contrast between the two names of Carver and Lowell. The aged negro scientist who was born a slave, a son of slaves. He never knew the date of his birth and in his youth was swapped for a horse. Yet he achieved world eminence for his researches in the technology of agriculture. ^{TP} On the other hand - the Boston aristocrat of the Back Bay Lowells, born to wealth and learning, studying in the greatest of universities - to go on and win years of renown as an authority on political science and the President of Harvard.

Dr. George W. Crile died in Cleveland today in his seventy-eighth year. Fifty years of his life had been given to unremitting research in the most profound realms of medical science. He was the discoverer^{er} of adrenalin, which miraculous drug seemingly brought the dead back to life. He was the conquerer of surgical shock, and was the first surgeon to make blood transfusions. A long list could be compiled of his achievements in medicine, and he dealt^{ed} deep^{ly} into the mysteries of that phenomenon which we call life.

RUSSIA

Today the Germans for the first time admitted that they were on the retreat in southern Russia -- the Caucasus. Heretofore there have been occasional references to what the Nazis called -- strategic withdrawals, and a shortening of lines. But today the Nazi radio announced that the German army in the Caucasus had given ^{up} what it called -- "advance strong points." The whole tone of the thing was a grudging admission that the Nazis are retreating in the Caucasus.

Moscow states ~~xxxx~~ tonight that ^{German} they face a threat of huge disaster, with Rostov the gateway to the Caucasus ^{as} the next objective of the Soviet forces. Today they/captured a town only seventy-five miles north of Rostov. This represents an eighteen mile advance by the Soviet forces that have driven southward from the River Don. They have thrust a new wedge for eighteen miles toward Rostov, the capture of which would threaten the entire German army that is retreating from the Caucasus.

Moscow states that the Nazis are loosing five thousand men a day in killed and prisoners alone, not counting ~~the~~ wounded. *also* ~~And they are~~ giving up enormous amounts of war material.

AFRICA

In Tunisia, a German counter-attack has driven back the British near the town of Mateur. This represents no net loss of ground, because the British had previously driven forward and seized a couple of hills. These they held for twenty-four hours, and then withdrew - in the face of a heavy German assault.

The Nazi infantry ~~xxxxxxx~~ attack left the British troops in such an exposed position that they were ordered to pull back. ~~(The news of this relatively minor action is accompanied by the comment that it is just another indication that the Germans plan to hold their narrow ground in Tunisia with all the resistance they can muster - defending it inch by inch.)~~

At other sectors on the ground in Tunisia things are quiet. Secretary of War Stimson stated today that the fighting is greatly handicapped by rain - this in Tunisia, while sandstorms are doing the

handicapping in Libya, slowing down the British Eighth Army.

Secretary Stimson added that in the air war over Tunisia, the Nazis have lost nearly twice as many planes as we have. That air war is going on with plenty of vigor - the latest ~~air~~ news telling of another bombing of the Axis port of Sousse - where they have been bringing in reinforcements.

PRISONER

One of the most stately of war stories comes in the news today, stately with ancient reminiscence -- yet it has a cockeyed mix-up for a conclusion.

From London comes the word that Petty Officer Albert Penny of the Royal Navy is on his way home, after having been an escaped prisoner of war in Italy. Petty Officer Penny was captured by the Fascists, and was put into an Italian prison camp. He escaped, swiped a bicycle, and started pedalling. He took the road to Rome, heading for the enemy capital.

That might seem odd, but remember that in the Eternal City there is another Rome -- the Vatican. The British fugitive went pedalling through the spacious avenues of the Mussolini's big town, and proceeded to the Vatican. There he demanded sanctuary. And that does sound like medieval times, when anyone who took refuge in the Church was safe ^{from} ~~of~~ pursuit -- the right of sanctuary.

Of course, nowadays, the Vatican ranks as an

independent state, which makes the right of sanctuary easier to extend. In any case, the Papal officials ~~sheltered~~ ~~received~~ Petty Officer Penny, and he remained in the Vatican for three months.

Papal diplomacy intervened in his behalf, and arranged for him to get back to England -- in exchange for an Italian ^{war} prisoner of equal rank. So Penny started home, and arrived in Lisbon today -- proudly displaying an autographed photograph of Pope Pius the Twelfth.

So far -- all is dignified and stately, medieval in fact. But in Lisbon today Petty Officer Penny heard that when he gets back to England he'll find himself in the middle of a mix-up. In a British town there is a Mrs. Penny who is under the mistaken impression that he is her husband. He isn't. Her husband is another Penny, also a British navy man and likewise an Axis prisoner.

The dispatch from London states that Mrs. Penny

has arranged a triumphal return for the homecoming hero, including a personal appearance at the hometown theatre. But he ^{, a good Penny, but the wrong one,} is the wrong Penny, [^] and he may be considerably embarrassed. Perhaps he will seek the right of sanctuary all over again, this time in a local pub.

GAS

Since ~~the~~ all pleasure driving is out, as of today, the question is -- what is pleasure driving? Here's an official statement, issued this afternoon, to define the kind of automobile riding that is permitted and not permitted in the seventeen Eastern states where the oil shortage is acute.

You are allowed to do family or personal necessity driving in cases where no other kind of transportation is available. This family or personal necessity driving includes essential shopping, procuring medical attention, attending religious services, funerals, *and* all meetings relating to your occupation. Also you can drive to meetings concerning public welfare or the war effort. *TP* Occupational driving is permitted -- taking an automobile to or from work. And soldiers or sailors on leave or furlough are allowed to go by car on visits to relatives or in making social calls. *Normal* Social calls are out so far as civilian automobile driving is concerned. They come under the heading of -- pleasure

driving. And so do motor trips to places of amusement theatres, parks, concerts, dances, ~~golf~~^{golf} courses and so on. Sightseeing, touring and vacation travel are considered pleasure driving.

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What about violations? ^{If} These are flagrant, inspectors of the Office of Price Administration can take away gasoline ration books from offending motorists. State and municipal law officers, the local police, are helping the O.P.A. officials, and are checking up on passenger cars at places of amusement; ~~They are~~ reporting cases of violation. ~~Whether or not the driving is for pleasure, it is up to the motorist to prove that his use of the automobile is was essential.~~

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And now Hugh what have you to report?

L.J. - Sunoco. Friday, Jan. 8, 1943.

Today's news ^{of course} brought pleasure driving reports from ^{all} sections ^{that is} throughout the seventeen restricted states along the Atlantic coast. ^{It's here in New York} ~~New York, for example.~~

~~Until yesterday, you'd always see a steady stream of passenger automobiles along the broad avenues leading to the big town. Today, there were mighty few. In the~~
~~city, ^{for example,} ~~itself,~~ buses, taxicabs and trucks were virtually~~
~~the only traffic. Last night, the traditional limousines were missing at the Metropolitan Opera House.~~

^{Today} ~~At~~ various places of amusement, police were stationed to take the license numbers of passenger cars.

At Rochester, New York, agents of the Office of Price Administration went among the audience at a concert by the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. The agents picked up people who had come in cars, and confiscated the gasoline rationing books of some and marked down the automobile license numbers of others.

At Bu~~ff~~alo, the police stopped more than three hundred motorists, questioned them and marked down license numbers where trips by the automobile driver^s seemed to be unessential.

Massachusetts reports that its highways were virtually deserted today. In Boston, the case of one ~~parking~~ parking lot was typical. Until yesterday, they usually had about two hundred cars parked, but today there were only two.

~~In the skiing country of New England, few skiers were seen sliding down the snow slopes today. The winter sports resorts not easily reached by train or bus, were hit the hardest.~~

Reports from the South show ^{some} three hundred alleged cases of forbidden pleasure driving in North Carolina. ^{TP} The O.P.A. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Regional Office at Atlanta, Georgia, reveals that four hundred and fifty spotters are on the

job in the southeastern states - checking up on passenger cars.

The pleasure driving dispatches include the mention of one automobile trip that was not pleasure at all - unless you consider talking on the radio an ecstatic delight. I don't know how the cop in Boston would have figured it - he didn't get a chance after the explanation he got.

A radio performer was driving in his car to the broadcasting studio, when he was stopped by a cop who was checking on pleasure drivers.

"Where are you going?" demanded the officer of the law.

"To work," responded the radio wisecracker, and he added: "I'm an oratorical engineer."

"Go ahead," said the cop, who apparently felt that "oratorical" was some kind of radio mechanism

SOCIAL SECURITY

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Well, Congress is going to get word from the White House about a great program for Social Security - freedom from want. Security which the presidential message to Congress characterized in the following words, "from the cradle to the grave."

At today's ~~White House~~ news conference, President Roosevelt stated that he will submit to Congress information and data on the subject - "facts," said he ~~with~~ emphasis. Upon receiving those facts, it will be up to Congress to work out a plan ^{for} ~~to~~ expanded the social security - freedom from want.

~~Asked whether this was a controversial issue, the President stated that there was no controversy as to the objective to be attained, but there were differences of opinion about the method.~~

TAXES

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President Roosevelt today had something to say about the plan for pay-as-you-go incometax. The Ruml Plan - which proposes to deduct taxation from income as it is earned, ~~tax money taken out of wages as these are paid to employees.~~ The scheme would involve the cancellation of one year of taxes - because if you were paying last year's taxation this year, and also this year's taxes this year, you'd be paying double. Would the cancellation of a year of taxes deprive the Treasury of that much money? Not at all, argues Tax Expert Ruml - and he explains the cancellation would be theoretical, with the Treasury merely collecting this year's money instead of last year's.

President Roosevelt stated today that he was in favor of the pay-as-you-go tax idea, but added that the cancellation of a year of taxation would involve serious problems. He admitted it would be a good idea

to have people pay their income taxes when they earn
the income. ^{Then} ~~Maybe~~ they wouldn't have the difficulty
of accumulating money to pay the income tax bill when

^{For as we all know it's} it fell due. ~~It is~~ hard to save the cash. And,
moreover, if you pay it as you earn it, you don't ~~xxxxx~~
spend it. However, the cancellation of a year of taxes
would cost the Treasury money - the President contended.

TP He was asked - "How?" There were a series of complicated
questions. One concerned the case of income taxes to
be deducted from estates at the death of a taxpayer.
The President refused to go into all the intricate
complications. He threw up his hands - an eloquent
gesture to express how intricate and complicated the
whole thing is.

MESSAGE

Here is something that was not in yesterday's presidential message, but should have been. In giving figures on American production, President Roosevelt should have stated: "In Nineteen Forty-Two, we built eight million, ninety thousand tons of merchant shipping. In this we exceeded the goal set," he should have said. ^{TP} Why didn't he? In a news conference today he explained that it was left out of the typed copy of the message - a slip by the typists. There was plenty of typing - there were many drafts of the message to Congress, as it was changed, cut and ^{edited to,} ~~added,~~ There was one version after another, and in the ninth draft the typists dropped out the line about our production of merchant shipping, *and nobody noticed the absence of it.*

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N.Y.A.

An economy blast was fired at the National Youth Administration today. A joint congressional economy committee is investigating the case of the N.Y.A., that New Deal agency which was created during the depression to give help and training to youth. Senator Byrd of Virginia gave some figures to support the contention that ^{now,}~~today,~~ in wartime, the Youth Administration is a wasteful extravagance.

In fourteen states there ~~were~~ seven thousand, eight hundred and ten N.Y.A. training ~~stations,~~ ^{stations,} ~~xxxxxxx~~, in which only five thousand, six hundred and eighty-five youths ~~were~~ registered to get training. In ~~Wisconsin,~~ for example, there are two thousand, eight hundred and seventy-six ~~xxxxxx~~ stations, and only one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six students. In thirty-seven states, there are more than seventeen thousand N.Y.A. stations that are not in use at all. In other words,

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the Senator sought to picture a huge organization, which is being put to mighty little use.

N.Y.A. Director Aubrey Williams gave testimony defending his agency. ~~He indicated that some~~
~~xxxx youth administration stations were active and~~
~~some were inactive. In Wisconsin many stations were~~
~~established in vocational schools, said he, and school~~
~~facilities were used. As for the inactive stations,~~
~~the N.Y.A. equipment~~^{he said} ~~is either in warehouses or has~~
~~been loaned to war agencies.~~

Aubrey Williams argued that the N.Y.A. should be kept going, because it would be useful after the war.

~~He said that, as an experienced agency, it would be~~
~~valuable in dealing with post war unemployment.~~

REGIMENTATION

A startling statement was made at Denver, Colorado, today. The speaker was Governor Carr, who is retiring from office. He told the joint^t session of the State Legislature that there is inexistence a plan to remodel the United States on a dictatorial and regional basis. He said that in Washington, surveys are being made for a scheme to regulate the nation's physical resources - and to control industry, farming, education - and our lives, said Governor Carr. He ~~contended that the plan was really to establish government control over everything.~~ He said the country is being divided into regions, and these would amount to what he called "regional dictatorships."

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The Colorado Governor characterized the scheme in these words: "The most violent attack upon the American constitutional ^{system} ~~life~~ that has ever been made." When it is ^{published} ~~made public~~, it will shock the entire nation and will, "in the Governor's words, "develop the

bitterest issue that the American people have encountered since slavery." He added that the plan for what he described as regional dictatorships, will be released within six months - "unless something intervenes," said he.

FLYNN

President Roosevelt has appointed Edward J. Flynn Ambassador to Australia, ^{and} personal representative of the President. ~~there.~~ Flynn, long time political leader of the Democratic organization in the Bronx, managed President Roosevelt's last campaign for the presidency and is Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He will resign his chairmanship to go as ambassador and presidential representative in Australia.

HOPKINS

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Today there were vigorous denials of the story that Lord Beaverbrook gave an immensely valuable wedding present of emeralds to Mrs. Harry Hopkins. There is talk about congressional inquiry into the subject. - Harry Hopkins at the time of his wedding was Lend-Lease expeditor and Lord Beaverbrook was then British Minister of Supplies - on the receiving end of Lend-Lease.

Today in Washington Mrs. Harry Hopkins stated:

"Baloney. I don't even own an emerald. It's a lie."

In London, Lord Beaverbrook said: "It 'is all nonsense. The story is pure fabrication from the first to last word. But," he added, "the Germans will like it."

President Roosevelt today added some comment to the ^{views} ~~news~~ about the duration of the war that he expressed in his message to Congress yesterday. He was asked about the possibility of the war ending in Nineteen Forty-Four - by the end of next year. ^{And} He said Yes, he hoped ~~that~~ this would be the case, but ^{that} it was no more than a hope. He added that ^{"quick victory was"} ~~it was~~

^a ~~possibility~~", but he refused to expatiate on how possible that possibility was.

The President's tone was one of caution - and that fits in with official Washington opinions about too much optimism. They say a wave of over-confidence has swept over the country - talk about a quick ending of the war, victory in a hurry. (~~Government officials feel that this is decidedly a bad thing.~~) The optimism is excessive, and ~~it~~ hurts public morale.

~~(People feel that, if the war is going to end so soon -~~

FLAG

At Henderson Field, on the island of Guadalcanal, they have lowered the flag. They hauled down the Stars and Stripes - and then went ahead fighting the Japs harder than ever. It came hard for the marines and army soldiers out there to see their colors ~~when they~~ fluttered down from the flagpole. ~~ixxxxxxxx~~ They had been flying there day and night, ever since the first marine landed on the island - four and a half months ago. But now it was a part of military strategy to lower the flag.

When the flying field was captured from the Japs, one of the first things the leathernecks did was to put up a flag pole - and hoist Old Glory. The flagpole was hastily made, hewn roughly out of a length of timber, and after a while the flag was ~~xxxxxxx~~ weather worn and tattered. It was bombed by hundreds of Japanese planes. In the early Guadalcanal days,