

casserole

a supplement section
of the gateway

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**"So long Mom,
I'm off to drop the bomb,
So don't wait up for me."**

Tom Lehrer, the cynical genius of musical humor wrote those lines for an up-tempo little ditty on the next war.

Take two hours, a record player, and a collection of Lehrer's work and the result is a sick sensation, a complete revulsion, and a growing nausea as the world comes into focus through his tinted melody lines and jingle-jangle lyrics.

It would be nice to laugh and put on The Sound of Music. It would be nice to forget him. It would be nice only most of his songs hit too close to home.

Some gutty folk group should invest in hard hats and go down to the cenotaph and sing that song tomorrow. A society conditioned to the fight hard, tear-their-guts-out, sound of martial music on such occasions would be shocked.

The idea isn't as absurd as Remembrance Day is now. Read Marion Conybeare's article on this page.

Daniel LaTouche tells how student unionism moved out of the sand box and into action in the concluding article which started last week. The story is on C-3.

In the center-fold is Irene McRae on Cuba. She spent three weeks in the real banana belt last July.

On the cover is an Al Scarth photo of the cenotaph.

remember . . .

by Marion Conybeare

So you bought a poppy, eh?
Cost 25 cents, but you did your part and observed Remembrance Day.

And what now?

Why not think a little, and I'm not talking about the glory of war either.

Remembrance Day is a day wasted in the glorification of war and soldiering. Few persons look on it as a time for serious consideration.

To them it is just another holiday—an excuse to get away and take a break.

Remembrance Day should be a day to get oriented, to get in touch with the realities of everyday life, to bone up on world affairs.

Most of all, it should be a day to increase vigilance. A day to turn a watchful eye on the world.

It is a day to plan the future.

Get to know the ideas of the men who are in power. Learn what they stand for. Find out about their backgrounds, their childhoods, and every word they have ever written.

Make judgments. Are these men responsible enough to lead?

If not, kick them out.

Create a fuss. You get what you want when you feel like doing something about it.

Only you must want it badly. Democracy means constant learning and re-evaluating.

It isn't good enough to vote at election time on what is in the newspapers, and what is on television, or what someone else says.

Examine carefully. Keep up-to-date. Read, and read more than one newspaper.

Attend meetings and become acquainted with party and candidate policies long before an election.

Governments must be watched. This is the lesson of war.

The Germans were negligent in internal affairs, and major world powers were not conscientious enough.

They elected Adolph Hitler their leader, and this is the damning thing.

Granted, Hitler's final election was the result of gang force at the polls, but this is an excuse, and a weak one.

Deliberate ignorance elected the man who wrote Mein Kampf.

The last war was caused by laxness—and laxness outside Germany as well.

It is not true all politicians are basically crooked. But the crooks appear faster than bargain hunters at a \$1.49 day sale when people forget their responsibility.

But, enough said.

it may be too late

There are other aspects of Remembrance Day which make it important. Death is one of these.

Death—the one thing the modern world tries to blot out with fancy funerals and cemeteries, formaldehyde and the whole bit.

But death wasn't such an elegant thing 20 or 25 years ago. Men were not just buried with pomp and ritual—with dignity as some people say.

Dead soldiers were left lying in the fields for days, their bodies bloating huge with gasses from bacteria and organic decay.

The carcasses were collected en masse in trucks and hauled away for burial or cremation.

Life is cheap in war, and senseless death like this can be avoided.

I am just about through, but I do want to say something about what Remembrance Day should not be.

It should not be a day for Legionnaires to get drunk. It should not be a day to glory over battles and jangle medals.

Remembrance Day should not be an extra holiday. It must not become a march downtown to lay wreathes after a sad little parade.

Remembrance Day must not become a newspaper article on the glories of this, or any other country in fighting.

We must remember the incompetence . . . lest we forget another war will end everything.

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