

Tuesday, October 4, 1938

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## Chamberlain Returns from Meeting with Hitler Promising 'London Laid Waste in Our Time'



British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain holds aloft his hard-won obliteration treaty with Hitler.

### Siegel, Shuster Sign Lucrative Publishing Contract

D.C. Buys Rights to  
'Superman' Character  
for \$25, Sandwiches

NEW YORK, Oct. 3. — Writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster signed a contract with Detective Comics today, granting the comic-book publisher rights to their fantastical "Superman" character in perpetuity in exchange for \$25 apiece and a pastrami-sandwich luncheon.

"We're very pleased with this arrangement," said Siegel. "D.C. seems like a real nice company. The gentlemen there have solid handshakes and saw fit to pay us in cash right up front. And, boy, those pastrami-on-rye sandwiches they bought us at Goldstein's Deli sure were thick and delicious."

Publisher Jack Liebowitz said he is proud to have purchased all past, present, and future rights to Superman, who represents truth, justice, and the American way.

"Superman's crusades for fairness and defense of the helpless are now the copyrighted property of D.C.," Liebowitz said. "Any income derived from likenesses, insignia, or fictional stories of his epic battles against evil shall be regarded as the earnings of this company."

"We look forward to helping D.C. develop our—excuse me, their—Superman character into a true American hero who stands up for the little guy and everything that's fair and just," said Shuster.

### Flash Gordon Serials Testing Limits of 'Special Photographic Effects'

Spectacular 'Man in Albino Ape Suit' Effect Outshines Even Last Week's 'Man in Tin-Foil Shirtcuffs' Effect

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Oct. 3. — Be it a rocketship that travels through space with a bright hail of sparks shooting from its engines or a frightening outer-space hoodlum with a menacing rabato of felt and cardboard almost too large to be believed, the magic of "Flash Gordon's" special photographic effectsmen will dazzle even the most hard-to-please picture-goer.

While young audiences are enjoying the seemingly lighthearted fun of these outer-space Saturday matinees, sophisticated special photographic effectsmen are behind the scenes pushing the bounds of science to create the exciting images that tell the story.

Norman Dewes, Special Properties Engineer on the popular series, uses his extensive knowledge of string, knots, and match-lighting to create some of the picture's dazzling flying-rocketship effects. He also summons his great skill in hammering, gluing, and dangling for some of the sequences that keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

Dewes, in fact, is known as one of the best dangles in Hollywood's elite special-photographic-effects community.



Buster Crabbe as Flash Gordon in the interior of one of the series' ultra-realistic space vessels.

Over four feet of industrial-strength twine was said to have been used in the filming of the recent "Attack of the Hawk Men" scene in "Flash Gordon."

"Some of the most stunning footage came when smoke bombs were virtually swung from one ship to another using very thin rope to create the effect of hurtling space cannon balls," Dewes said. The complicated effect, which constituted only a few seconds of screen time, cost more than forty dollars.

Dismissing the outrageous figure, Dewes says extreme measures must sometimes be taken to ensure that the most spectacular image ends up on the screen.

The average moviegoer may not understand the complicated technology

that takes place behind the scenes, but that doesn't worry experts like Dewes. In fact, he says the best effects are the ones no one notices.

"When Flash fought the albino ape-beast from the Planet Mongo, the highest compliment we got was, 'You know, you can't even tell that's a man in an albino ape suit. You'd swear it's an actual albino ape-beast from the planet Mongo.' That's when we know we've done our job," he said.

But then there's the secret everyone wants to know: How is actor Buster Crabbe's face made to look as if it's actually bleeding from a fist fight? Dewes answers furtively that "a good magician doesn't give away every trick."

Sorry, fans!

### Triumphant British P.M. Says England Will Be 'Bombed to Oblivion'

'I Have Mr. Hitler's Solemn  
Word,' He Says

LONDON, England, Oct. 3. — A beaming British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain returned from the momentous Munich Conference today, having secured a promise from Chancellor Adolf Hitler that Germany will not rest until the British Isles are buried under 900 feet of rubble and corpses.

"London laid waste in our time!" Chamberlain proclaimed to his countrymen on national radio upon his return. "I have Mr. Hitler's good word: He will personally see to it that every last one of us is enslaved under the Aryan yoke."

#### DETAILED PROMISE

With tensions worsening throughout Europe and the threat of war looming ever larger, Chamberlain met with Hitler last week in Munich in the hopes of securing a lasting peace with the German leader. The British prime minister said the mission was accomplished "smashingly."

According to Chamberlain, Hitler made a number of concessions at the conference, including assurances that he would continue Germany's recent military aggression and take control of Eastern Europe, including Poland, the rest of Czechoslovakia, Russia, Hungary, Rumania, and Albania. He also promised to sweep all remaining non-Germanic peoples off the face of the earth and create a glorious Third Reich of Germanic global domination lasting 1,000 years.

#### HITLER'S HONOR

"While many of you, my countrymen, harbored fears that the Nazis' intentions were less than honorable, after three days of talks with Chancellor Hitler, I am convinced that he has no desire to ignore England or any other neighbor of Germany. As Hitler himself told me, 'We will tear across Europe until every last nation falls. England will not be spared. London will burn. Millions will die.' These very words this delightful chap spoke to me."

Chamberlain said he is not

fazed by Germany's recent aggressive demands for the Czech Sudetanland province. "Mr. Hitler explained to me that, contrary to what is being said in the newspapers, Germany did not desire the Sudetanland solely to take control of it. Rather, the Germans are merely occupying the Sudetanland to ensure that its children receive a proper and high-quality Nazi education. Only through first-hand supervision, Mr. Hitler said, can the Nazis guarantee that the young people in its neighboring countries are getting the indoctrination they need to succeed in life. And I think he's quite right."

#### FUTURE MEETINGS

As a further gesture of his good will and friendship between Germany and England, Hitler presented Chamberlain with a gift of five Czech army generals' heads mounted on stakes. The heads, which Hitler acquired during a recent visit to Prague with Germany's Fifth Panzer Division, moved Chamberlain.

"What a wonderfully thoughtful gift," Chamberlain said. "Mr. Hitler said they are a traditional Bavarian good-luck gift. I believe the one with the moustache is General Jaroslav Sudek."

The British prime minister was so impressed with Hitler that he invited him to his home at 10 Downing Street for tea next Friday. Hitler politely declined, explaining that he would be in Czechoslovakia all next week, but said he plans to be in France within six months and in England by mid-to late 1940.

### Inside This Issue:

**TVA Brings Elec-  
trical Power to All  
of Unpopulated  
America**

(See story, page 13)

# WAA

HEADLINE CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Hitler Invades Britain, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, France, Greece, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Luxembourg

### French Surrender After Valiant Ten-Minute Struggle

Hitler Pleased to See Unconditional  
Surrender Already Prepared for Him

French Citizenry Welcome German  
Conquerors: 'We Kept Your Rooms  
Just the Way You Left Them'

De Gaulle Calls Capitulation 'An Example  
of the Finest French Military Tradition'

BORDEAUX. — A French military spokesman offered surrender yesterday after a fierce 10-minute struggle left as many as two-thirds of the French fighting forces dispersed on foot or in hiding.

German armies marching into the country had scarcely lifted the barrels of their guns before French forces still holding ground surrendered, dropped their weapons, and raised their hands.

At 7:44 a.m. Saturday, German Panzer and storm-trooper units crossed the Alsace River and entered French territory, where they were met with furious retreats of the French armies. German supreme commander Wilhelm Keitel was surprised and pleased to see,

upon overrunning fortifications along the river, a completed, notarized, and legally binding document of military submission atop a table in the French command headquarters.

Sources close to Keitel say the French commander "bravely remained at his post until the Germans were at his doorstep" to personally ensure the Nazi commander's signature on the document.

"In all my years in the Army, I have never seen such a fierce and swift submission," said Lieutenant-General Jean Jacques Claudelle of the 3me Infanterie. "This will certainly go down as one of the most efficient military actions in our history. Vive la France!"

### WAR BULLETINS FROM THE EMBATTLED NATIONS

#### LONDON POLITELY PREPARES TO BE BOMBED

LONDON. — Upon learning that Hitler had included Britain in the long list of countries upon which he declared war, First Sea Lord Winston Churchill took strong and immediate action. Within hours of the declaration of hostilities, British soldiers flooded the streets, filling bucket upon bucket with water in anticipation of the torrent of incendiary bombs which Nazi airplanes will soon rain down upon London.

"Lord Chamberlain signed a pact with Nazi Germany stating that, in the likely event of war, London would be bombed until no stone lay atop another," said Churchill, "and we intend to honor our agreement like gentlemen."

#### GERMANS INVADE DENMARK; ARE MISTAKEN FOR ROWDY TOURISTS

COPENHAGEN. — Law-enforcement officials and city fathers in this Northern vacation paradise were turned out of their beds late last night by the news that Germans were setting fire to buildings, shooting citizens in the streets, and gang-raping the bronze Little Mermaid statue that overlooks the harbor. These acts, while at first appearing to be routine tourist misbehavior, were later determined to be perpetrated by invading soldiers.

"The Germans are the most active and rowdy vacationers of the season," said Copenhagen Director of Tourism Christensen Plads. Plads said that for the comfort, convenience, and safety of Denmark's new guests, all resistance would cease immediately.

#### KING OF NORWAY TAKES SHELTER IN BRITAIN

OSLO. — Adolf Hitler included Norway in his sweeping declaration of war Saturday, announcing that he would bring the mailed fist of Germany down upon the Scandinavian nation as soon as possible. King Haakon, expressing concern for the safety of his people and their future, has left detailed negotiation plans in the hands of his subordinates, and is making preparations to move himself and the entire Norwegian treasury to Britain.

"I leave Norway's future in the capable hands of my most trusted deputy, Mr. Quisling," His Majesty announced over his shoulder to the cheering crowd that saw him off at the

docks as he boarded a luxury liner for Edinburgh. "I assure you that he can and will provide for a peaceful co-existence with Mr. Hitler."

The King assured his occupied subjects that England would prove a safe refuge for His Majesty's family and treasured belongings.

#### HUNGARY SEEKS SAFETY WITH STALIN

BUCHAREST. — Hungary has taken a different tack from her French and Norwegian brothers in reacting to the inevitable German assault, adopting a course of action which may prove to be their salvation from tyranny and oppression.

"In the face of a mighty, iron-fisted enemy, we, the Hungarian people, announce our absorption into the rule of the just and fair Russia," Secretary Czepean of the Hungarian Parliament announced yesterday morning. "It is our belief that Stalin will care for us and protect us, and can be trusted to safeguard our future sovereignty."

Czepean said he believes that in this troubled time, Stalin "most certainly would not" initiate the wholesale slaughter of his people.

Stalin, who was present to accept the Hungarian offer, was seen to deliver a curt nod and smile for a long, unblinking moment.

#### U.S. GENERALS ENJOYING 'WIZARD OF OZ'

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As war is visited upon virtually every nation in Europe, response to today's news by American military top brass has been vocal. "This wonderful new Wizard of Oz picture is out, and it is supposedly shot in lavish color," General George Marshall said. "This is going to be a show my son will never forget." Admiral Halsey of the Pacific fleet broke from Marshall, opting instead to take his wife to the premiere of the new Alfred Hitchcock picture, *Jamaica Inn*, starring Charles Laughton and Maureen O'Hara.

### More European Surrender and Defeat News

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Now Hating  
Orientals Also

# THE ONION

**Kids!** Send  
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## DASTARDLY JAPS ATTACK COLONIALY OCCUPIED U.S. NON-STATE

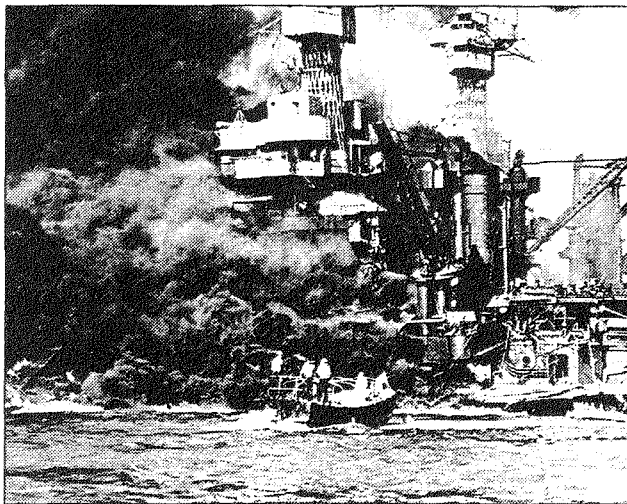
### Coca-Cola Named Official Soft Drink of Second World War

In an exclusive sponsorship contract signed by all Allied and Axis nations, Coca-Cola was named official soft drink of the war today.



The Coca-Cola insignia is to be stenciled on all vehicles and helmets, and Coca-Cola banners are to be placed in high-visibility locations near all major battles.

Coca-Cola is also slated to be the sole beverage served to citizens of occupied nations and prisoners of war on both sides.



Smoke pours from the ravaged U.S.S. Oklahoma, a once-proud symbol of American imperialism in the Pacific.

### Text of President's Address

For those readers who were unable to tune in, The Onion presents below the complete text of yesterday's emergency congressional address by President Roosevelt, which aired opposite "Fibber McGee and Molly," of which this newspaper remains a proud sponsor.

Today, December 7th, 1941, a date on which I had no special markings in my calendar of any kind, especially not any sort of note that read, "Pearl Harbor to be attacked by 'surprise' today," the United States was suddenly, and without several days' advance warning from reliable intelligence reports, deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

It is only by sheer coincidence that I spent the last four days composing this stirring speech ahead of time, in order to rouse the American public into a state of unbridled bloodlust and pro-war xenophobia. I had no foreknowledge of this attack and, in fact, spent much of the past four days whistling to myself idly.

The recent, unexpected order to move all of the United States' modern aircraft carriers out of the base at Pearl Harbor just days before the attack, and to replace them with outdated, expendable battleships, was also a coincidence. It should not be inferred that, as commander-in-chief of the American Armed Forces, I had complete foreknowledge of the Emperor's battle plans. I was just as shocked as all of you when I found out about it.

Japan has, precisely on schedule, embarked upon a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific rim. The American people are now willing to support whatever war plans their government sees fit, even if the Department of War had worked up these plans long before the fact, which is most certainly not the case.

Always we will remember the character of the onslaught against us, thanks to this expert public-relations coup, which has fixed in the minds of all Americans an image of the Japanese as a devious, dastardly, cowardly enemy which attacks without provocation and is, therefore, deserving of the worst collective race-hate we as a nation can muster.

Therefore, I ask, largely rhetorically, since we have already made up our minds, that Congress declare that a state of war exists between the United States and the Japanese Empire.

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

## HOT DOG! NOW WE CAN FIGHT!

### Best Years of Our Lives Begin Today

An Editorial Passed by the Onion Editorial Board

As America reels from the shock of the Japs' underhanded sneak attack and grimly prepares to fight on every battlefield of the globe, one thought echoes through our nation: Hot dog! Now, finally, we can fight!

Our brave sailors at Pearl Harbor did not die in vain, because—glory be!—we're going to war! We've got men to avenge and plenty of stand-up fellas with which to avenge them. We'll smash the yellow war machine and hand Hirohito his head in his hat before you can say Jack Robinson!

And just let that sausage-chomping Hitler try something! American soldiers will teach the Jerrys a thing or two!

Now that we have a chance, we can lick the whole wagonload of crummy creeps—Germans, Japs, Italians, what have you. Bring them on! We've got the gumption, the stick-to-itiveness, and the Yankee ingenuity, and, what's more, we enjoy a good fight. As long as we keep Old Glory in our hearts and the enemy in our sights, we'll win. Just see if we don't!

### Beach Lovers Unhurt in Pearl Harbor Attack

See story on page 13



## Congress Declares War After Sneak Attack on U.S. Imperial Holding

### FDR: 'We Conquered the Hawaiians First' French Surrender

PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 7.

— The Empire of Japan launched a villainous attack on democracy, freedom, and decency Sunday morning, when her military forces bombed the tiny island paradise of Hawaii, which U.S. forces rightfully subjugated over a hundred years ago.

Japanese planes also attacked the U.S. territories of Guam, Wake Island, and Clark Field in the Philippines, all areas rightfully considered U.S. brown-people holdings.

The U.S. Senate voted unanimously to declare war against the Japanese Empire, which they ruled can have no claim on the territories, since "America conquered the ignorant savages upon these lands first."

**AMERICA RIGHTFUL OVERSEER**  
The declaration asserts that America is the rightful unwelcome overseer on this island non-state.

"If anyone is to commit acts of violence against these simple, naked, U.S. non-subjects, it shall be us," President Roosevelt said to reporters after his urgently assembled joint session of Congress. "This attack on Hawaii, rightfully overrun by white men, constitutes a grievous act of war against the United States."

"The U.S. was first to claim, subdue, and summarily tax without representation this tropical Eden, and the first to indoctrinate the lesser peoples upon it," Roosevelt added. "It is our intention to enforce the proposition that only U.S. forces can be permitted to rape these lands. On this day, December 7, 1941, it was Japanese forces, not American forces, who did the raping. It is, therefore, a date which will live in infamy."

#### TERRIBLE TOLL

Fifteen hundred American soldiers stationed on the subjugated island of Hawaii are dead. Roosevelt urged Americans to say a prayer for the families of these brave servicemen who gave

their lives in the name of imperialistic occupation.

The War Department indicated that it is unknown how many native savages were injured or killed.

Roosevelt cautioned that, after this attack, "All oppressed peoples in lands under U.S. territorial and military rule may be in danger of foreign territorial and military rule."

#### 'ABSOLUTELY TRAGIC'

"We were just getting through to these Hawaiian heathens," said U.S. missionary Father Percival T. McDowell. "And we have so much more to teach them, such as God's place for dark-skinned brutes in His Kingdom of Heaven."

McDowell said the Japanese may have set back his tenuous progress with their evil attack. "It is tragic, absolutely tragic, that this act of war should come along at such a crucial time in our occupation of these Godless islands."

McDowell fears that, should the Japanese take Hawaii, they would indoctrinate the savages in the ways of their mysterious "Shinto" witchery.

### INSIDE:

#### Lou Gehrig Dies of Lou Gehrig's Disease

See story on page 3

#### RKO Wants Out of Welles 3-Picture Contract After Dismal Citizen Kane Debut

#### INEPT, NON-LINEAR STORY STRUCTURE CONFOUNDS CRITICS, AUDIENCES.

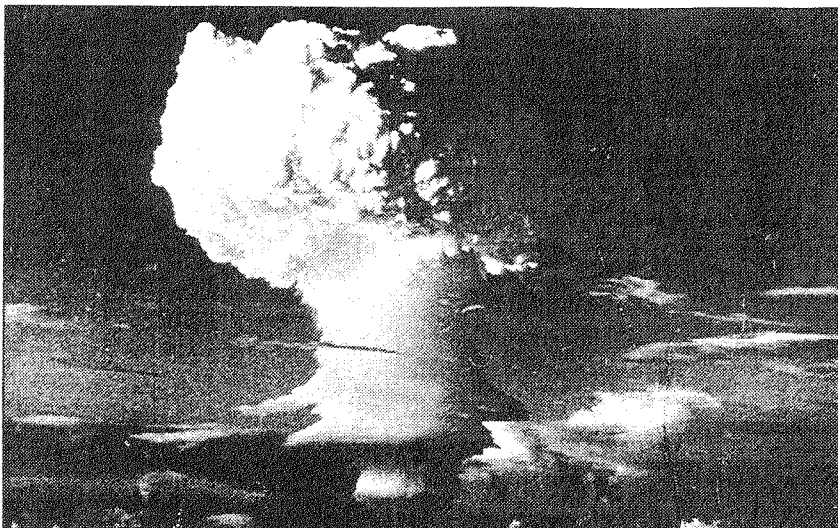
See story on page 8



## Nagasaki Bombed 'Just for the Hell of it'

**SECOND A-BOMB WOULD HAVE JUST SAT AROUND ANYWAY, SAY GENERALS**

**FRENCH SURRENDER**



U.S. filmmakers and photographers were lucky to get a second chance to capture pictures of the beautiful A-bomb mushroom cloud.

GUAM. — The world's most destructive weapon, the atomic bomb, was used for a second time against nearly defeated Japan Thursday, in a raid against the industrial city of Nagasaki.

Military officials explained that the bomb, which vaporized thousands of innocent Japanese civilians, charred thousands more with third-degree burns over their entire bodies, and obliterated the city with an explosive force equal to a half-million tons of TNT, was dropped "just for the hell of it."

"We still had one device remaining after our spectacular display of force in Hiroshima the other day," said B-29 pilot Col. Paul Tibbets, "and because of the wonderful success of that bombing, we were aware that Japan was already moving toward surrender. If we were going to drop the other bomb, we had to do it quickly, before peace made it inadvisable."

### NIGHT AS WELL

Tibbets, who also flew the Hiroshima mission, said he decided to fly this one because he "was just sitting around that day." He said he was at the officer's club playing pinocle when it occurred to him that the weather was perfect, he had enough flyers to man the B-29, and nobody was using the bomb. "So we went and asked the base commander if we could drop it on Japan somewhere," Tibbets said.

Pacific Supreme Commander Douglas MacArthur approved the bombers' mission without hesitation, saying they "might as well."

"These bombs don't come cheap, and it seemed a shame to have the war go by without using another A-bomb," MacArthur said. "I imagined Little Boy being dropped on some uninhabited Pacific island for a bunch of damn scientists, or sitting in a dusty museum somewhere, or being dismantled, and I said to myself, 'You know, that's just not right.'"

### REALLY GOOD PICTURES

Tibbets and his crew took off early the next day and set off for Japan, looking "for any non-military city of at least 30,000 civilians we could find," according to navigator Ed Parker. "There were clouds over a lot of the

island, which wouldn't stop us from dropping it by instrument, of course. But we had a camera plane along, and we wanted to get really good pictures, just to kind of make the trip worthwhile."

Photographers following in the chase plane said their photographs and films turned out "absolutely perfect."

### PRETTY MUCH WORTHWHILE

"Seeing that 500-kiloton bomb go off, being able to see that flash through my closed eyelids, watching the mushroom cloud of debris, thousands of corpses and dislodged soil climbing miles in the air—that made it all worthwhile," combat photographer Carl Stenner said. "Hell, the sound alone—like the fist of some terrifying war-god striking the accursed earth—would have made it worthwhile." Stenner said he remembers thinking at the time, "I'm glad we decided to do this today."

Early Japanese reports indicate that only about 40,000 people were killed by the bomb.

"That's okay, really," MacArthur said upon being informed of the death toll. "The important thing is, we dropped it. If we hadn't, it wouldn't have been able to kill anyone at all."

## War Department Gears up to Fire 1.5 Million Women

**Ladies to Return Triumphant to Kitchens**

**Homefront Workers to Receive Heroines' Welcome from Awaiting Pots, Pans**

With worldwide peace on the horizon at last, war contractors are getting ready to turn to the 1.5 million women who worked hard during the war building planes, ships and bombs for our boys and tell them, "You're fired."

The homefront laborers will soon be relocated to their natural environs. "The more than 1.5 million wives and housekeepers who bravely pitched in when the chips were down can finally be let go and sent off to do what they do best," said General Omar Bradley. "Tend America's kitchens and nurseries."

As manufacturing plants around America are converted to peace-time production, plant overseers say they can't get the women out the door fast enough. "Thanks for all the years of help, girls," announced supervisor Kyle Weatherby over the St. Paul Steel loud-speaker. "Now get on home."

### WELCOME BACK TO HOUSEWORK

Women's hard work in the fight to defeat the Nazis and

Japs will not go unrewarded. Across the country, ladies are expected to receive a warm welcome from their pots, pans, dish towels and floor wax. Waiting expectantly in cupboards and closets too long neglected, household disinfectants, cast-iron cookware sets, and diaper pails will be on hand to watch the spunky women return to their rightful command over the sinks and stoves of America.

"I could hardly believe what was waiting for me upon my return," said Julia Neiland, a soon-to-be former ironworks foreman from Youngstown, Ohio. "Not just an unclean house, but an unmade bed and uncooked dinner for five guests."

Neiland also has to get busy baking a cake and drawing a bath for her husband, Tom, who will arrive home soon after a ticker-tape parade in New York City.

"And someone will have to vacuum up all that ticker tape that he tracks into the house," she said.

## Big Band under Investigation for Swinging

NEW YORK. — Tommy Dorsey, the bandleader known for such elegant numbers as "Stardust" and "Once in a While," is under investigation by local and state officials for allegedly swinging during a Saturday-night performance of the up-tempo song "Boogie Woogie" at New York's Savoy Ballroom.

"While all details are not in yet, it appears that, midway through his concert, Mr. Dorsey made a sudden and inexplicable break from such tender ballads as 'Blue and Sentimental' and 'Smoke Rings' and began to

swing wildly," New York Deputy Police Chief Frank Landeta said.

According to several witnesses, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra played in a raucous and exuberant manner during the up-tempo "Boogie Woogie" number, inciting several hundred people to cut a rug and tear up the dance floor.

"This was no 'String of Pearls' or 'Serenade in Blue'—this band was swingin' and jumpin'," said Delores Young, 23, who attended the show with her fiancée Donald Halloran.

"Mr. Dorsey was blowing his trombone with a tremendous amount of pep. I would go so far as to say that he and his orchestra were stompin' at the Savoy."

"When Tommy Dorsey played 'Boogie Woogie,' everywhere you looked, there was jitterbugging and jiving," said Walt Jeffries, 27. "I might expect this sort of outrageous display from Count Basie, Woody Herman, or Benny Goodman. Or even Artie Shaw, for that matter. But Tommy Dorsey? Never in a million years."

Dorsey's court date has been set for Sept. 19.

### TOMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA



### INSIDE:

**WAR DEPARTMENT:  
'USE ALL THE STEEL  
YOU WANT NOW'**

See story, page 13.