

MANY FROM COUNTY IN COMBAT ZONES

TROOPS TO GUARD T. V. A. PROJECTS FROM SABOTAGE

Army Will Send 2,000
To Patrol Dam Sites
Many Already Here

Faced with the ever-increasing danger of sabotage, T. V. A. officials have called on Federal troops to patrol dams in this area.

Army officials have announced that more than 2,000 soldiers will be sent to the dam sites within the next few days.

Already small detachments have arrived at many of the projects in this vicinity, and more are arriving daily.

The two dams nearest here, Nottely and Chatuge, are both ahead of schedule. They should be structurally finished within the next two months.

Meanwhile Nottely's force of 25 trucks is eating enormous holes in the "borrow pit" back of the dam proper. The "borrow pit" supplies dirt for the fill. New equipment is on order, material being slated for transfer from finished projects.

Men are still being employed in an ever-increasing intake of personnel. The commissary is jammed with men dashing in to grab a sandwich and a cup of "graveyard" (black) coffee. When machinery is in need of repair, parts are ordered by wire. Railroads and transfer companies are experiencing a boost in trade that should make the income-tax man happy.

Despite the shortage of labor, the dreaded "77", or "walking papers" are still being turned in. There are no jobs for men who choose to shirk.

Away from the roar of trucks, up in the steep walls of the quarry, wagons and churn drills keep up an incessant chatter. Electricians are constantly renewing lines that have been damaged by flying rock from thundering charges of dynamite.

It is interesting to note that much of the equipment on order can not possibly be delivered in time to aid these projects. The natural assumption is that a great deal of it will be resold to other jobs being contemplated.

Five Town Light Posts Wrecked By Autoists; One Pays; Rest Escape

Anonymous and supposedly tipsy automobile drivers have knocked over five of Murphy's electric light posts in recent weeks. Town Clerk Eph O. Christopher announced yesterday.

Of the lot but one has appeared at the Mayor's office to pay the damages.

Mr. Christopher would not reveal the name of the offender, shaking his head grimly and pointing out:

"Such honesty must be rewarded with secrecy. Besides, he paid the city \$8.50 to repair the pole."

The average damage done by the others is about \$25 per pole.

The poles were knocked down, according to Clerk Christopher, at night.

(Continued on back page)

'Readybilt' TVA Homes Exhausted Next Week

Unofficial reports to the TVA are that the first of the fabricated bungalows scheduled to be sent to Murphy to relieve the housing situation should reach here sometime next week.

It originally was planned to send at least sixty of the houses here, for erection in Bealtown. Plumbing and lighting arrangements have been completed, long since by the Town.

Caught Flat-footed

The conflagration which long has had all but the Western Hemisphere in flames, finally has enveloped the United States.

Few in this section were surprised. Most of us knew it had to come.

Apparently, such was not the case with our armed forces. The Pacific bases, which the Army and Navy considered almost invulnerable, were the first to feel the strength of a Japanese air arm that most of us had regarded as "puny".

The highly-touted Army and Navy "contacts" in oriental embassies and consulates either were asleep at their posts, or their warnings went unheeded.

The latter probably is more nearly correct, because the only cabinet officer who seemed to pay any attention to the growing tension in the East was Cordell Hull. He was devoting days and nights to the effort of effecting a peaceful compromise with Japan while Stimson and Knox, blinded by the glaring possibility of a Hitler-dominated Europe, turned their backs.

It has been suggested in Congress that both these gentlemen be called before the legislative branch of our Government and explain the reason for the lethargy of our Armed forces.

We think it a good idea. Only the future can tell what explanations they will give, but unless a lot of persons change opinions between now and then, the excuses won't be satisfactory.

They, particularly Stimson, must have suspected something. Less than a week before the Japanese sent their bomb-wrapped war message, several trainloads of troops from the maneuver areas in North and South Carolina passed through Asheville, headed for the West Coast. The trains had right-of-way clearance across the continent and no stops were to be made enroute.

It is not likely they were sent just to enjoy California sunshine.

The point is:—If the Secretary knew enough to send troops from the Eastern Seaboard to the Pacific, why didn't he know enough to warn his outposts in the Pacific to be on the alert?

And if the able Secretaries of War and Navy suspected any Oriental upheaval, why didn't they make better preparation against attack?

Don't let's forget, incidentally, that the menace of a Nazi attack still exists. Monday night, DNB, the official German news agency, in a broadcast from Berlin, announced that Germany would not "declare war on the United States" but would strike savagely, without warning—and "sooner than expected."

We have seen enough of Nazi tactics to know that military attack need not necessarily be accompanied by a formal declaration of war. Japan itself attacked first, and declared war several hours later.

Let us hope that Secretaries Knox and Stimson do not turn their entire attention to the East now, and drop the German problem. We may soon be at war on both oceans.

If the United States had arrested or interned all Japanese at the outset of the Pacific dissension, we might have been a little better off.

Now is a good time to take such steps with all German nationals living within our borders. It may be contrary to international law—but international law was thrown into the discard several years ago.

It would be disastrous to be caught with TWO flat feet.

President Roosevelt has announced that the flow of aid to Britain and Russia will continue. But unless we want to commit national suicide, it certainly will have to be considerably cut down. That will please Mr. Hitler, no end. Maybe, indeed, that was why he persuaded Japan to attack.

Britain, if reports from American correspondents are true, has enough planes to last her for a while. London warehouses are said to be piled high with American aircraft that cannot be used because of the lack of pilots.

We could use these planes now! You can't win wars with gliders.

Nor can the wooden "big guns", which were towed through Cherokee County last week by American troops, be used effectively in anything but maneuvers.

And we hate to think of the scare that would be thrown into a regiment of Jap soldiers by our especially constructed stove-pipes, with the word "MORTAR" painted on them, and which are all the "heavy equipment" some of our battalions have.

But, black as the outlook is, there is one silver cloud of considerable size. The entire nation has forgotten personal differences, and is united for victory. Even Lindbergh has called on all to stand behind the President.

Best of all we shall have no more labor troubles. The strikes which have held back production so dangerously are dead; with us all we have crushed every foreign foe. Labor Leaders Lewis and Green have both agreed that there will be no more walkouts "for the duration".

This means that our factories will turn out planes, tanks and guns in ever increasing numbers. More and more ships will slide off the ways. Our man-power will be the best equipped in the world.

God grant that the unanimous speeding up, with a single purpose, has not come too late. But we must equip our own armies before any more aid goes to our allies. We must adopt the old slogan:

"After me, you come first."

One thing every American knows is that President Roosevelt spoke truth when he told the Congress:

"We shall achieve the victory—so help us God!"

New Rod and Gun Club Formed in Graham Exclusively For Western Carolinians

The Atoah Rod and Gun Club No. 2 has been organized to take care of the game situation on Atoah creek, the game situation on Atoah creek: especially bears.

Officers of the club are: Robert V. Shope, manager, Clyde McClung, president and Lawrence L. Hyde, secretary and treasurer.

Three big game-hunts will be held annually in November and December.

The club was organized after the bear fight and race November 24, when the bear that was in the race

blocked the highway and stopped the U. S. mail carrier from proceeding on his regular schedule. That bear escaped into the fastness of the mountains without a scratch, but not before fatally injuring one good hound and doing considerable damage to other dogs in the pack.

The first of the three scheduled hunts was held last week. The other two will be held during the holidays.

To be eligible to join the club, you must be a Graham county mountaineer, or born and raised in Western North Carolina.

War Fever Spreads; Navy Recruits Flood Enlistment Centers

RED CROSS ASKS ADDITIONAL \$1,000 FOR WAR NEEDS

Plea Telegraphed Here As Roll Call Brings In 3 Times The Quota

With the annual Red Cross Roll Call barely completed, an emergency plea has been telegraphed to Murphy for \$1,000 more to be raised by the Cherokee County Chapter. This amount is part of a grand total of \$15,000,000 to be used for war work.

The call is entirely separate from another plea sent to the Andrews Chapter.

The roll call quota for the Murphy district, which embraces all the lower end of the county, was \$650. According to Mrs. C. W. Savage, Secretary of the Cherokee County Chapter, and Roll Call Chairman, this section raised more than three times the amount asked. Although final reports are not in, Mrs. Savage said she expected the total to be about \$2,000—perhaps more.

Mrs. Savage added that the unusually large return was due, in no small measure, to the generosity of TVA workers, practically every one of whom contributed. Another factor that figured is that few head of families in this section are now unemployed.

The telegram announcing the request for \$1,000 for war work was received by W. Mercer Fain, Chairman of the Cherokee County chapter. When the Scout went to press, he had not made definite plans for conducting the new drive.

Although confident that the people of this section will go over the top again in their contributions, Red Cross aides admitted the task of soliciting will assuredly be more difficult than before. This is due to the fact that many people may not

(Continued on back page)

MANY FAMILIES OUSTED BY DAM MAY MOVE HERE

Clay County Residents, Flooded By Chatuge Must Move Soon

People of this section may expect their share of new residents soon—families soon to be flooded out by the waters of the reservoir of the new TVA Chatuge dam, fast nearing completion near Hayesville.

Five families must move within the next thirty days. Others also, may soon be forced to seek new homes.

To date, Macon county has gotten three families; Towns County, Georgia, has gotten four, and Union County has gotten six other families. The latter, however are temporary residents, who still are casting about as to where to settle permanently.

A number of other families have moved their homes to higher ground; but whether they will remain in Clay County depends on what this immediate section, among others, has to offer.

Latest figures list a total of 32 families who have not moved, and don't know where they will go. All they know is that they will have to move, somewhere

Local Men Take Tip From Topsy Ex-Tar And Enter Service

Parents throughout this entire section waited anxiously at their radios the past three days for news of their sons stationed in the Japanese War Zones.

Cause of the unusually high number of enlistments here during the past few months, Cherokee County is particularly well represented in the danger areas.

Throughout the past three days rumors that one or another local boy stationed either in Hawaii or the Philippines had been killed, would spring up, only to be discredited by the War Department.

Army officials explained that because of the suddenness and fury of the first Japanese attacks, many American bases in the Pacific are still in a state of confusion, and it probably will be several days before completed casualty lists are known.

Some of those known to be in danger zones are:

Merle Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Davis of Grandview, N. C. He is in the Headquarters Detachment of the Medical Corps at Honolulu. Letters were received from him Friday, prior to the fatal bombing which took place Sunday. He mentioned making the army a career. No further word has been received from him. He enlisted last June.

Porter Ramsey, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Reagan Ramsey, of Cherokee County. He is stationed in the Philippine Islands. He attended school in Murphy, and enlisted in the army four years ago. No word has been received by his parents who were mailing a Christmas bundle to him when news of the bombings was released.

One of the most anxious relatives in the county, is Mrs. Neva Holt, wife of Dr. E. L. Holt, of Murphy.

Mrs. Holt has two brothers, both in danger zones.

The youngest brother, Raymond Ward, who just returned from convoy duty with the United States Navy in Iceland, called Friday aboard the U. S. S. Duquesne from Norfolk—"probably for the Orient."

The vessel by now probably is well into the Pacific.

The other brother, Harry, has been stationed with the Royal Canadian Army in Hong Kong for the past few months. A member of the anti-aircraft division defending the British Gibraltar of the Far East, Harry and his battery probably were one of the principal targets of Japanese bombers in their three raids on that city during the past week.

But the dire news of American loss

Free First Aid Classes Started For Women

Classes in first aid have been started in Murphy, the first session having been held Tuesday evening at the TVA medical building, across from the post office. Although inaugurated by TVA women, the classes are open to all, without charge.

Classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, at two o'clock, in the Womans' Club rooms, and on Tuesday and Thursday nights at the TVA medical building. Dr. Birdsong, of the TVA will instruct the evening classes, and Mrs. Birdsong will instruct in the afternoons.

The course will last about three months, and will include all instruction given by the safety first teachers of the U. S. Bureau of Mines.