

# The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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## By The Rocket's Red Glare . . .

Independence Day is a serious affair this year. Not in a long time have we Americans been brought to so keen a realization of the unique quality of the life that this country is privileged to enjoy. So "Fourth of July celebrations" and the traditional "shootin' off firecrackers" are likely to yield first place to measured consideration of the real meaning of American independence.

It's interesting to notice in this connection that the actual material needs of our defense program are making it necessary for all of us to "fall in step" with this new approach. For the United States is "keeping its powder dry"—not shooting it off indiscriminately to advertise a national holiday.

In New York City, for example, reporters discovered that all but a tiny portion of the pyrotechnical output of companies in the field is now being devoted to the nation's defense program. Fireworks companies are making signal lights, smoke bombs, hand grenades, trench mortar shells, and various other flare and explosive devices for our armed forces. Further than that, we are reminded that most of the rest of the world is on fire when we learn that imports of firecrackers from China, main foreign source, have been virtually cut off.

"No time and few materials for fireworks—we're working 24 hours a day for the army and navy," says one big company. Like many other companies and industries who have turned away from peacetime products to go "all out" in the national emergency, the fireworks folks are putting the welfare of the whole country first.

And that's the best possible insurance that there will be a real Fourth of July to celebrate when the present emergency has passed!

## Health Is Part Of Defense

In the present defense program, individual stamina is required not alone of the man in uniform, but also of the man back of the lines who provides him with the equipment he needs. And American industry is safeguarding the health of its millions of workers through steadily expanding plant health programs, as a survey of industrial health practices conducted by the National Association of Manufacturers discloses.

More than 2,000 companies replied to the survey, directed by the noted author and medical consultant, Dr. Victor G. Heiser. The following were the most salient facts established by the returns:

1. Industrial health programs—long effective in one form or another in most large American companies—are being increasingly developed in the smaller plants of the nation.

2. These programs have not only brought about improved labor relations—partly, perhaps, because physical examinations have "put round pegs in round holes"—placed men in jobs to which they are physically geared.

This comprehensive survey on industrial health practices yields a fund of valuable new information that will aid all industry and the nation as a whole. Americans can take comfort in the fact that, just at this time when extraordinary physical demands are being made upon industry in connection with defense, industry has reached its highest pitch in the field of health practices and gives every evidence of continuing to move ahead to new highs.

Some telephone company should merge with a frigidaire manufacturer and produce a comfortable weather phone booth.—Life.

## Ruthlessness Triumphs Again

Provided John L. Lewis does not repudiate the Mediation Board's findings, the nation has been saved from a coal famine and a shutdown of defense industries by the Southern coal operators accepting the decision of the Board which wiped out the long-established differential of 40 cents a day in wages between Northern and Southern coal mining.

Wages have always been less in the South than in the North because of the cost of living and other conditions. Such differentials exist in virtually all lines of industry, and in the case of coal it was about the smallest of any.

What this decision will do to the Southern coal industry remains to be seen. The Southern mines were paying \$6.60 a day; they will now be raised to \$7.00, the same as the Northern mines. The previous differential of 40 cents a day was largely needed to offset freight rates which were necessary to haul the Southern coal longer distances to Northern factories to compete with Northern operators in those territories.

Under the abnormal conditions of the moment, the imperative demand for coal may keep up production in Southern mines even under uneconomic wage differentials. But when anywhere near normal conditions return, the Southern coal miners may well find that the arbitrary demands of their leaders, enforced under threat of stoppage of coal supplies to defense industries, will lead to the closing of many Southern mines and the unemployment of countless thousands of Southern coal miners.

Labor leadership which, under threat of sacrificing the nation's safety, forces dislocation of the normal functioning of an industry, can only bring disaster for that industry and its workmen when the crisis which permitted such ruthless practices, has passed.

The small mine operators and the workmen will be the ones who suffer most when the normal laws of supply and demand again begin to function. In the meantime the public pays tribute to greed for power.

## Can't Swallow Own Medicine

At the recent meeting of the American Medical Association, Doctor Nathan B. Van Etten, the retiring president of the organization, urged the medical profession to defend its policies against criticism by authorities whose mental processes seem to have been influenced by Moscow and Berlin.

"Some esteemed persons," he said, "have admitted that freedom to choose a doctor was quite right for themselves as they carried their arthritis to Philadelphia or Boston; their surgery to outstanding operators, and their eyes to the best ophthalmologists. Their denial of the value of free choice applies only to other less fortunate people. Mass medicine is wonderful for everybody except themselves. They would prescribe, but cannot swallow their own medicine."

The agitation on behalf of socialized medicine is a difficult phenomenon to understand. It will be remembered that shortly before the last election both President Roosevelt and Wendell Willkie came out squarely against it. The figures show that, under private medicine, the standard of health in America has become the highest in the world—and that was true long before war brought disease and pestilence to Europe. Especially noteworthy progress has been made in extending first-class medical and hospital service to persons of small means.

The drive against private medicine, therefore, must be largely judged as part and parcel of the drive against private enterprise in all fields—as part of the drive to bring about some form of state socialism here. In this drive, the welfare of the people is given little consideration. Its most aggressive backers are men who seek political power and political advantage. Everywhere socialized medicine has been established public health standards are lower than in this country. That is fact—not theory. When the medical profession fights regimentation, it fights for all the people.

Nazis now are making an ersatz meat from wood. It would be amusing to hear a Berlin gourmet call for a steaked plank.—Omaha World-Telegram.

Of course, with no more Sunday driving, there would be no more Sunday drivers. They can, however, go back to changing seats in canoes.—Detroit News.

The most fatal place to take the wrong side is on the highway.—Greensboro Daily News.

# Abnormal Absurdities

By DWIGHT NICHOLS, et al.

### Snake Beats Ride

Outstanding among the freak news items of the week was that of the hitchhiking snake.

A car from the Blue Ridge country parked on Main street Saturday and a long black snake lazily crawled off the spare tire on the back.

Presumably the snake, which wanted to come to the town it had been hearing so much about, had beaten a ride from the unsuspecting motorist.

### From Knop Sack

We herewith borrow two items from the Knop Sack, publication of the Boy Scout Camp Lasater and edited by Bob Harris, of Elkin:

"An oyster met an oyster  
And they were oysters too.  
Two oysters met two oysters  
And they were oysters too.  
Four oysters met a pint of milk  
And they were oyster stew."

"The Lord gave us two ends,  
One to sit on and other to think with.  
A man's success depends on which end he uses most. It's a case of heads, you win, tails, you lose. Take your choice and try to pick the right one."

### Going in Circles

It is difficult to reconcile all that is going on.

The Federal Power commission says there is a shortage of electric power in several areas, including North Carolina and the shortage that is supposed to be described with badly sounding adjectives. Sharp curtailment was asked on the part of civilian users.

Stanley Winbourne, state utilities commissioner, says that is no such thing as a shortage in North Carolina and people have absolutely no cause to worry.

Over in Tennessee, where we had been taught to believe everything was electrified, they say the situation is "acute."

At the same time that a drive to collect old aluminum pots and pans was being organized out of Washington comes the news that the army had ordered great quantities of aluminum cooking utensils while we were being led to believe all aluminum was needed for airplane works.

In North Carolina there is a great drive to produce food and feed. Meanwhile the farmers are asked to vote on wheat crop reduction and how!

One government agency tells how nice it is to go certain places for week-end trips and Harold Ickes says cut out Sunday pleasure driving to conserve gasoline.

So what?  
Are they going to ask us to put electricity in bottles and save it up for defense?

Let us get up a defense project, hack the saved electricity up some mountain cove and conserve it.

### Grow Your Own Car!

Henry Ford envisions a day "only a few years off" when a farmer will grow most of the materials going into his automobile or truck. "We will soon have an experimental body ready at our plant made chiefly of plastics from cellulose fibers easily grown," the motor car manufacturer declared in an interview.

"The plastic body will be several hundred pounds lighter and will be a better body," Mr. Ford went on. "The field of plastics is almost unlimited and we'll see them made more and more in houses and offices instead of wood. Many new materials, which are made from fast-growing plants, will aid in conserving minerals in years to come. A farm boy ought to be able to fill his pockets full of seeds and make himself a good living from them," he declared.

### What About The Next Day

The story is told of the preach-

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er who got in had financially because the church was about six months behind with his pay. One good sister decided something should be done about it. She called a meeting of all the brethren of means to be held at her house. She had some very old wine and she thought it would be a good idea to serve it as a kind of stimulant which she hoped would open the hearts and pocketbooks of the men who could furnish the cash.

She served some of the wine, which she called punch, the first thing. In a few minutes one of the men arose, said the church was behind \$500 with the preacher's pay and that the thing to do was to make up the money right there. He said he would give \$100. The next man arose after the second serving of "punch," made a glorious talk and said he would give \$200. After the third serving the kingpin of the entire community, the wealthiest one, arose, made a wonderful talk, said he had been blessed with wealth and that he insisted that he be allowed to pay the entire \$500.

Punch was served again as a tonic for celebration and the preacher, who had made the mistake of being present and enjoying the refreshments, arose and after a rousing talk said he didn't need the lousy old money anyway. The whole thing was called off.

## Cantaloup Crop To Top Records

Raleigh, July 1.—North Carolina cantaloupe producers expect to harvest their largest crop on record this season, Russell P. Handy, junior statistician of the State Department of Agriculture, reported today.

A production of 722,000 crates, 27 per cent above last year, was indicated in the June 15 summary of the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service.

"Of significance is the trend in cantaloupe acreage in the State which has gradually increased since 1940. The increase in production over last year is due primarily to the larger acreage planted for harvest plus a small increase in yield per acre.

"The 1941 crop will be harvested from an estimated 8,500 acres or 1,400 more than last year and 4,840 acres more than the 10-year (1930-39) average acreage."

## DEFENSE BOND QUIZ

Q. What is a U. S. Defense Savings Bond?

A. This Bond is proof that you have loaned money to the United States Government for national defense. Your Bond bears interest at the rate of 2.9 per cent a year, if held to maturity.

Q. Why should I buy Defense Bonds?

A. Because money talks. To dictators it speaks defiance. To friends of freedom, it says, "Here's my hand!"

Note:—To purchase Defense Bonds and Stamps, go to the nearest post office or bank, or Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C.

Use the advertising columns of this paper as your shopping guide.

## British Shift Gen. Wavell To India

London, Wednesday, July 2.—Gen. Sir Archibald P. Wavell, British middle eastern commander-in-chief whose desert armies drove the Italians deep into Libya before being forced back by the Germans, today was transferred to India, exchanging posts with Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck who is almost unknown to the general public.

This surprise military shakeup which stunned Britons was interpreted variously as evidence that: 1. General Wavell had been shelved because of the German breakthrough in Libya and the loss of the Greek island of Crete, or 2. That General Wavell was being sent to ready British Indian legions to defend that vast part of the British empire against a possible German attack through Russia and Iran. General Auchinleck, a tall 57-year-old Scotsman, is not well known to the public despite his successful work in directing the British attack on Narvik, Norway, his organization of English coastal defenses, and long career in India.

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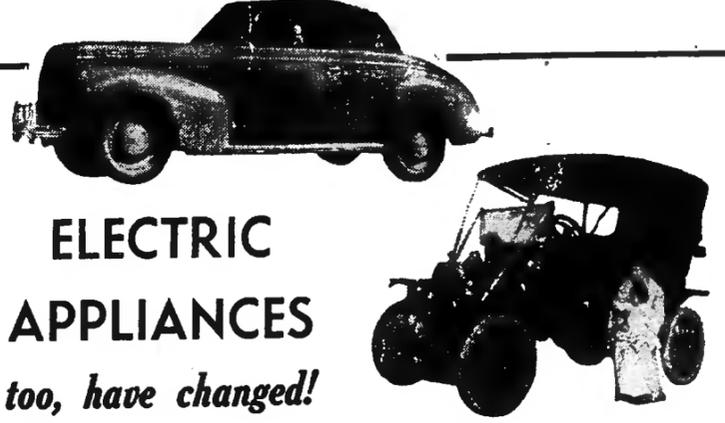
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