

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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A real egoist is one who jumps at a conclusion, then when he misses, claims that the elusion evidently moved.

The feeling of relief he felt after a hard job well done doubtless has fooled many a fellow into believing that he loves work.

Worry is the sweat and strain of the white collar man.

You needn't pay much attention when you hear somebody shouting. The important business of this world is disposed of in normal conversation

Need Scout Troop

Every time we see David L. Liles, Scout Executive for the Cape Fear Council, our conversation drifts around to the need for a Boy Scout troop in Southport. He was here Saturday morning, and we agreed that the need is more acute than ever before.

Without mentioning the value that comes to a group of boys who receive Boy Scout training under a good man, let's look at the tangible benefits that come to a community.

Recently when it seemed that all Brunswick was aflame with forest fires, an emergency call was sent in to Wilmington one night for a group of scouts to help fight the blaze at Orton Plantation. Scout Executive Liles gathered up some boys and came rushing to the aid of the weary firefighters.

Last Saturday we were in Wilmington, and there were the Boy Scouts on duty at every street intersection, helping the city policemen with traffic problems. They were rendering valuable aid, too.

It seems increasingly possible that there may be some development down here that will create emergencies into which a troop of well trained Boy Scouts might well be fitted. But unless some group or organization takes the initiative in sponsoring a troop we simply will not have them.

Drift Toward War

On the thiry of May, Joseph Alsop's and Kintner's widely syndicated Washington column said this: "The President has reached the moment when he must make the most serious decision of his long career. Within the last fortnight the leading figures of the Administration and the most influential military and naval experts have all but unanimously ceased to hope Britain can win this war without active American intervention. The President must therefore decide between war and peace for his country."

It is extremely significant that a good many other Washington writers, along with men in high governmental circles, are making similar statements. The recent aggressive speech of Secretary Knox, in which he said, in effect, that America will fight if and when national interests make war advisable, indicates the way the official wind is blowing. And the President went farther than he has usually gone, in his speech dedicating Woodrow Wilson's birthplace, made on May 4. He said, connecting up the present crisis with that which confronted Wilson in 1917, that this country would fight again whenever its basic freedoms were in danger from any quarter.

This does not mean that there is much likelihood of the President asking Congress to declare war upon the Axis. In official circles, it is believed that there is no need for that—some think that we might become active participants in the war without even completely severing relations between ourselves and Germany. What England wants now is our unlimited naval support and the British government is making it clear to American representatives in London that without that support, Hitler will continue to hold a disastrous advantage.

Lately there were reports that American cargo ships, with American naval es-

corts, had reached Suez, though the Navy Department at once denied that our ships were being used for convoy purposes anywhere. To many observers, it is evident that the President's extension of our so-called neutrality patrol far into the Atlantic, greatly increases our chances of becoming involved in grave international "incidents." Theoretically, this patrol is simply supposed to spot German subs and raiders and to then inform British convoys and fighting ships of their location. Actually, it would not come as any particular surprise if the Germans attacked our patrol vessels—and our vessels roared into action in reply.

Some influential circles are in favor of using the American Navy to convoy ships right into British harbors if need be—they argue that it simply doesn't make sense to permit our planes and tanks and munitions and other implements of war to be sunk. The finest fighting equipment ever made is of no service to the democracies, on the bottom of the ocean.

What opposition may be expected to the steps that might lead us to war? At the moment, it looks as if Congress will back up the President in any course he may decide upon. The leader of the official opposition, Wendell Willkie, said on May 3, that he is absolutely in favor of delivering the goods to Britain, "whether it be by convoy, airplane accompaniment or any other method deemed best." He is authoritatively reported to have sent the President word that he would support him in any such move. The isolationist groups, of which the America First Committee, with Colonel Lindbergh as its best-known speaker is leader, will fight any further aid-to-England steps, as they have fought all such steps in the past. But, judging by the polls and the temper of Congress, these groups have relatively little public or official support.

Japan may cause trouble—if she threatens Singapore, the Dutch East Indies, French Indo-China, or the Philippines, it will be necessary to keep a large part of our Navy in the Pacific, where it cannot be used for convoy duty. However, we probably could spare the bulk of our destroyers for Atlantic service, and it is these speedy little craft which are most needed for fighting the U-boat menace. Both this country and Britain are also remarking ships into improvised aircraft carriers for use for convoy work. The airplane is an effective weapon against the submarine, both for spotting and attack.

Shears And Paste

WAKE UP, MISS PERKINS

(Fayetteville Observer)

"There has never been a time in the history of the country when there was more unity of purpose, more unity of understanding than there is tonight."

The speaker was Frances Perkins, secretary of Labor in President Roosevelt's cabinet. She was talking to a gathering of AFL electrical workers.

And Miss Perkins did not mean a unity of purpose to sabotage American's defense effort and a unity of understanding to call capitious strikes wherever there appeared a good possibility of closing down an airplane factory.

It is unfortunate that she did not mean just that and say that because the inability of Miss Perkins and her camp followers in the high places of the United States government related to labor are endangering the freedom of this country as nothing else.

Time magazine, commenting on Miss Perkins' speech, says:

"Facts, as they often do, bore her out. With the soft-coal strike ended, the number of people on strike in defense industries had dwindled to 7,500."

That is 7,500 too many because it represents exactly the same damage to American defense as would be caused by the destruction in actual combat of three or more fighting planes.

One gets the general idea that this is exactly the purpose for which the strikes are called.

Nor can anybody be optimistic that this sabotage of American defense effort will remain at the "low" level mentioned by the magazine. Just as there are periods of pause between the blitz military blows struck by the Axis powers against the embattled democracies of Europe there are periods of pause between the blitz strike blows struck by the same powers against America's efforts to build a military machine to preserve the freedom of this continent.

We have been in one of these periods for the past several days, but on every hand we can hear and see the saboteurs bringing up their heavy artillery and mobilizing their subversive dive-bombers for another attack on the American production line.

Just Among The FISHERMEN BY BILL KEZIAN

J. Hammond Brown of the Baltimore American and Baltimore News writes us he is coming to Southport about the middle of June. He tells us that when he was ill in the hospital recently by a young lady here at Southport came darned near loosing a dancing partner. Brownie is president of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and is a mighty good sort of a guy.

And Bob Wilson, the "Up The Stream" fellow of the Washington Times-Herald. He said to us, among a lot of other things, "Bill, I can't go back on my old haunts, but Southport has them all beat. I am coming back about the middle of June." Bob, like all guys who love hunting and fishing and the great outdoors, is a swell fellow.

Among all those who were here last week was Don N. Carpenter, hunting and fishing editor of The Washington Daily News. He believes in the Southport fishing and preaches it by radio and writing, as well as by word of mouth. He can really be said to be the first outdoor writer, outside of North Carolina, to discover Frying Pan Shoals. We are looking for Don to be back soon. He and his party had had weather this trip, but didn't faze them. They made a good catch, anyhow, and they are coming back soon.

We never get a letter bearing the return address of The Charlotte News without knowing in advance that there is something good inside from our friend, J. E. Dowd, the editor. Two such letters last week and we were not disappointed in either. In one of his letters he sort of implored us to cultivate Managing Editor B. S. Griffin of The News. This means that both the boss and "B. S." want fishing stuff from Southport, especially pictures.

Come to think of it, Bill Baker, who is tops with a news camera and who spent much of last week here, should be sending us a layout or two of extra good fishing scenes taken on Frying Pan shoals last week. He came down to go out with Don Carpenter and Bob Wilson and both Bob and Don took a liking to Bill.

Frank O. Sherrill, the S. & W. cafeteria man from Charlotte and other parts, wrote us the past week and kind of swore he was going to be down here more this year than he was last. He said he knew the fish were biting good now and would keep on. He wanted to come down this last week, but it seems he was sick or something, and just could not get away.

Last week a charming young Washington matron, a bride of only a few days, came to Southport with her husband on a fishing trip. In fact, they were making the fishing trip their honeymoon, despite the fact that they could have afforded to go to Europe, if they had wanted to. She did not understand why we were so glad to see her until we explained that husbands always behaved better on a fishing trip when their wives were along.

The summer long visitation of flying fish out on the gulf and nearer inshore has not yet arrived. At least none of the boatmen have reported them. In a week or two they will be in these waters in swarms. Their coming will mean that the barracuda and dolphin are also here, to remain until late fall. Predictions, also, are that wider ranging of the boats will result in blue marlin and sail fish being taken this year in considerable numbers.

Our good friend Charlie Ferrell of Greensboro writes us he aims to be down some time soon. He and Mrs. Ferrell have just returned from a picture making and fishing jaunt into other haunts. In his letter he laid claim to having made a most extraordinary catch of freshwater fish and challenged L. T. Yaskell to beat it. Bob Wilson carried Charlie's letter off to Washington and we don't remember just what it was that Charlie caught.

United States Marshall Joe Young of Georgia was in town last week, and one of his first questions was regarding the fishing. We never found him any good at saltwater angling, but he always did pretty well with the freshwater specimens.

This Week In . . . DEFENSE

Maj. Gen. Hershey, Selective Service Deputy Director, speaking in Lafayette, Ind., said that misguided patriotism of employers was allowing many men to be drafted who are more useful in industry. Employers and registrants should not hesitate to appeal classifications, he said.

"All of us should carefully consider where we are best fitted to serve," Gen. Hershey said. "It is certainly neither desirable or necessary that each man dedicate himself to a future in the armed forces."

Selective Service Headquarters directed immediate classification of the 10,000,000 remaining registrants in order to obtain complete data on skilled workers and potential soldiers, and amended its regulations to permit induction of some of the registrants previously barred because of comparatively minor criminal records.

Gen. Hershey proposed amendment of the Selective Service Act to Congress to allow deferment by age groups so that those selected are of an age that will permit them to serve effectively in the reserve forces for ten years, as now required. He said only 11 per cent of the men inducted before March 1 were from 31 to 36 years and the greatest number were from 18 to 27.

LABOR TRAINING President Roosevelt asked Congress for \$158,000,000 to train 3,000,000 additional defense workers, of which 265,000 would be trained in engineering, 10,000 in chemistry, physics, and production supervision, and 500,000 in courses teaching rural youths industrial skills.

DEFENSE PLANTS OPM announced the Government, up to March 30, committed itself to pay for 331 new defense factories, costing an average of \$5,750,000 each, and estimated the number of new privately financed defense plants reached 904, costing an average of \$729,000 each.

SUB CONTRACTING Francis J. Trecker of the Defense Contract Service, speaking in San Francisco, said that not more than 50 per cent of the nation's machines are being used in defense production. He said if contractors do not voluntarily farm out their orders, sub-contracting would be made mandatory because there is so much work to be done all machines must be used.

LABOR DISPUTES The Defense Mediation Board announced settlement of 5 strikes, including controversies involving 61 plants and 160,000 employees of the General Motors Corporation and 8,100 employees of the Bendix Aviation Corporation. The U. S. Conciliation Service reported settlement of 33 strikes.

AGRICULTURE The Department of Agriculture, in a general crop report, said conditions indicated: (1) a winter-wheat crop of about 653,000,000 bushels, larger than 25 of the last 30 years; (2) a good, but not exceptional, rye crop, about 12 percent above last year; (3) a hay crop, probably larger than last year; (4) better pasture conditions in 43 of the 48 States; and (5) milk production and egg production per animal at new high records as a result of higher prices, an early spring, new grass and liberal feeding.

The Commodity Exchange Administration requested exchanges to study additional curbs on speculation in all agricultural commodities. Price Control Administrator Henderson asked four commodity exchanges to confer with him regarding prevention of undesirable speculation in cocoa, pepper, rubber and coffee.

AIR PROGRESS Maj. Gen. Arnold, Chief of the Army Air Corps, speaking in Washington, said the air force "is well on its way and will be ready when called on." The War Department announced the first 21 of a large number of "flying fortresses" had flown to Hawaii to strengthen the island defenses.

The Navy asked Congress to enact legislation permitting training of Reserve enlisted men as pilots. The President asked Congress for \$61,800,000 to expand the Civil Aeronautics Administration landing field program from 250 to 399 projects.

He was pained to hear of the three-year long dry spell that has seriously affected some of the choice freshwater ponds and lakes.

The North Carolina and South Carolina fishing parties are beginning to get numerous. Most of these parties fish just offshore, but an increasing number are calling for trips to the gulf. We hope to shortly have enough boats here, equipped to handle all sorts of parties, whether they are bound to the gulf or fishing just offshore.

--- NOT EXACTLY NEWS ---

Uncle Jim Lewis, who has been absent for more than two weeks from his duties at the postoffice while a patient at Dasher Memorial Hospital, is considerably improved and has the best wishes of everybody in town, both white and colored, for a speedy recovery. . . . Aunt Mary Ann Galloway, aged Southport colored woman who may be the state's oldest living person, was reported ill the first of the week. . . . There's talk of moving a couple of bowling alleys to town.

Here on a visit the first of the week, John P. Wonsavage, former member of the high school faculty, said that he planned to defer the visit until next year at commencement, when his first class graduates. But, it seems that Uncle Sam, has other plans for Johnnie's future, and since he fears that he will not be able to manage a furlough at that particular time he decided to come ahead. In other words, the music that's ringing in his ears is "Johnnie, Get Your Gun."

Big week at the Amuzu is being topped off with "Love Thy Neighbor" Friday and Saturday. This is to the rest of the week's bill like cream on strawberries. Carry your worries with you and leave them. Jack Benny and Fred Allen carry on their famous feud amid gorgeous surroundings. Rochester is on hand as usual. . . . It would be impossible for anyone to put his finger on an orchestra and declare it the best. We have insisted on the merits of Inconsistent Artie Shaw for some time and while we still relish his music, we have lately heard lots of the drummin' man, Gene Krupa. He has recently acquired a hot clarinetist

and the All-American negro trumpeter, Roy Ridge. Biggest surprise is his small doses of breaks. Formerly a drum playing with a background, he now is probably the best swing band in existence. Section for section hand is tops, even down to the new colored chick with a 'get with' voice. . . . Best of records are: Teddy Powell's and Harry H. versions of "Blue Danube, Spivak's "Intermezzo" and Louis Armstrong on "Peanut Vendor."

According to the prophet Nostradamus, Edna will win the current war. She will be saved 'daughter of her empire.' His predictions for the past four hundred years have been correct. Under how Lindbergh feels about this? . . . local library, while very good for the size of community, needs fresh contributions to help it abreast of the times. Payment of fines may be a big help. . . . Glad there are no no around town. We saw a newsreel before the running and would have been prepared to our shirt on Porter's Cap, who was lost in the away's dust. Cap is easily the most beautiful of horseflesh since Seabiscuit. Another special is King Cole, who ran second in the Preakness and won the Wither's stake this week. He is the greatest threat to Whirly in the Preakness at Belmont. . . . Taft Wright of the Chicago Sox, formerly of Lumberton, has been in action most of the season. He returned to the two weeks ago, however, and at this week he battled in runs in every game.

ARMY The War Department announced that it has selected the location of camp sites needed for "possible expansion of the Army" and is ready to start work on the new camps immediately if necessary. The Army announced its anti-aircraft strength had been more than tripled in the past year and a large portion of anti-aircraft regiments are equipped to transport every gun and every man in one movement.

FOREIGN RELATIONS President Roosevelt, notified of voluntary French collaboration with Germany, issued a statement "it is inconceivable" the French people would collaborate with a power seeking "utter destruction of liberty, freedom and popular institutions everywhere." At the same time the President ordered 13 French ships in U. S. ports taken into protective custody—including the "Normandie".

The President told a press conference that Germany's proclamation of a combat area in the Red Sea presents a question of German ability to make a blockade effective there. He recalled the U. S. has fought two undeclared wars to maintain freedom of the seas—against Barbary pirates in the Mediterranean and against British, French and Spanish privateers in the West Indies.

NAVY The Navy commissioned the 35,000 ton battleship "Washington". The Navy announced it acquired 26 auxiliary vessels during April at a total cost of \$11,750,000.

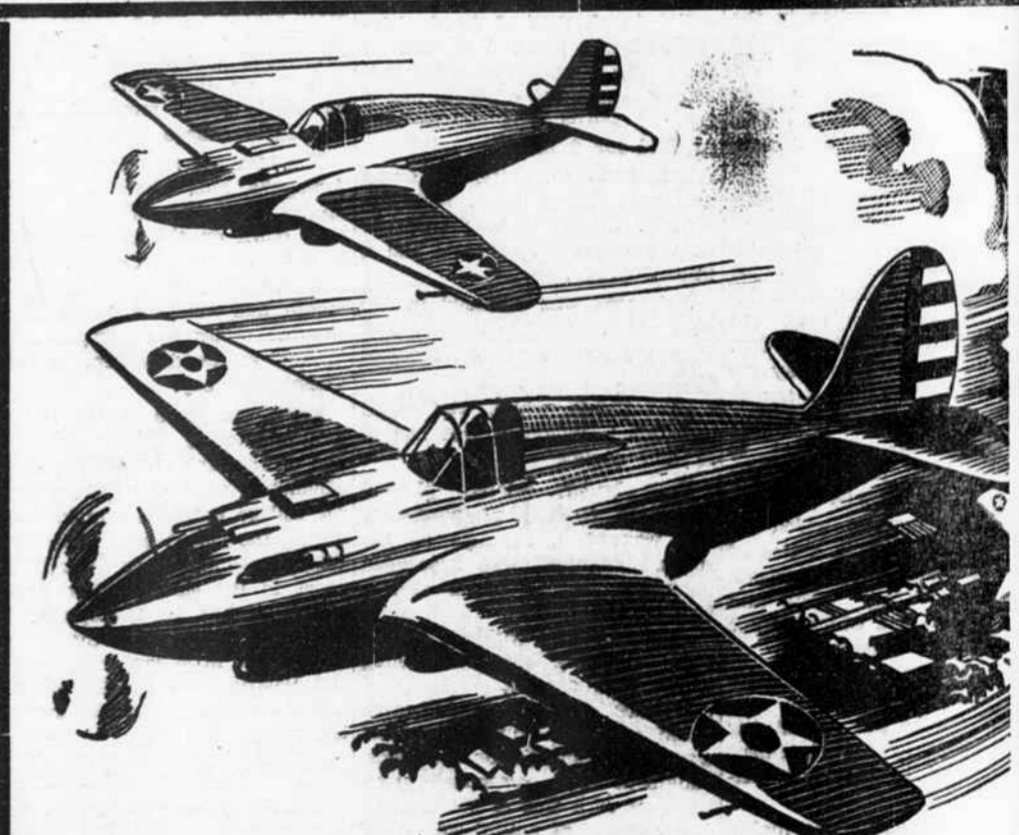
SHIPS Maritime Commission launched six new cargo ships and asked operators of American inter-coastal vessels for 40 of their 108 ships for the 2,000,000-ton shipping pool for national defense and aid to Britain. The Commission also conferred with Great Lakes shipbuilding companies regarding the construction inland of sea-going vessels which could be moved to the Atlantic via the Mississippi.

Defense Housing Contracting Palmer announced contracts awarded for 2,800 new defense dwelling units, bringing to a total of 63,200 the number ordered. He also reported completion of units, making a total of 10,000 now available.

To Be Here To Sign Recruitment Lieut. Commander B. A. G. ball of the Charleston Naval District has advised he will be in Southport Saturday, May 21, for the purpose of enlisting men in the offshore patrol service. He is especially interested in experienced boatmen who would like to be in a branch of service waiting on the selective service and being drafted for duty in the army camps.

Men who enlist in the patrol will be in service on the coast of North and South Carolina and Georgia.

Damascus, the famous city of the Holy Land, is shaped like a tennis racket.



The sound of roaring motors . .

They're getting louder and louder . . the throbbing, pulsing, beating roars of America in the air. They're heard around the world. They speak louder than a dictator can shout, for there have been delays, misunderstandings, bottlenecks—but the job

right along with births, deaths, triumphs and defeats. See that tiny silver "V" way up there? . . . that's America and the blue sky all around is time. America is going places . . in a hurry as usual . . going ahead with that slap-dash energy and drive that has made this country what it is

The State Port Pilot

Life isn't smooth or simple either, but it marches . . that will keep us ahead, and going! It's good to be an American.