

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, January 14, 1942

The treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor shows the Japs' character the same color as their skins.

Many a lawyer who thinks he has an open and shut case, finds he opened his mouth too often, shut it too little.

Then who was it that correctly dubbed Il Duce as Mouse-Ilini? Whoever it was, was no lover of rats.

Basketball

Pursuance of the usual interscholastic basketball schedule for Brunswick county surely comes among the less essential problems of our time, but we strongly favor playing the games scheduled among teams of the five-school league.

We have been asked to make sacrifices in the interest of our national safety. The chances are that sooner or later we shall be called upon for actual suffering and hardship.

That will come soon enough at best, so we see no need of practicing fortitude in denying ourselves things that bring pleasure to many, the sacrifice of which will do nobody any particular good.

We recommend that this year's basketball activities for the high school teams be limited to games with other schools in the county, and that no games outside the boundaries of Brunswick be authorized. If this plan is followed the most interesting feature of the cage season will be retained with little economic loss for anybody concerned.

Mr. J. Berg

Death came to Mr. J. Berg in the seventy-fourth year of his life, and that, according to any standard of longevity, is a ripe old age. Yet up until only a few days before his passing there was not a man in this community with a fresher, more optimistic outlook.

A native of Denmark, Mr. Berg came to this country and to this community in time to devote practically all of his manhood to public work. A pharmacist in the U. S. Public Health Service until his retirement three years ago, he was active in every progressive civic enterprise undertaken by his friends and neighbors.

Our late fellow citizen left a pattern that may well be followed by some of the younger men of this community.

Grow A Garden

The county is largely rural in its population, so there should be no trouble at all in having most of the families of this section grow gardens this year.

This is a movement that is being pushed by our government under the title of "Feed For Freedom," "Victory Gardens" and other popular phrases.

There isn't a family in this county that cannot find a spot for a garden. We say that without fear of contradiction, and if this is true, then there is no need for our people to be caught napping, nor to fail in producing most of their necessary foodstuff this season.

Two Fronts

The United States must fight on two fronts.

First, there is the military front. American soldiers, sailors and airmen are fighting and dying in the Pacific. They are living up to the highest traditions of this nation's military history.

Second, there is the home front. We have said, time and again, that we are fighting to defend and perpetuate freedom. That is true. But the defense of free-

dom at home, as on the war front, demands more than lip service. It demands straight thinking from all. It demands a people who will look squarely at the facts, no matter how unpleasant they may be.

We will, of necessity, demand and accept a large measure of economic dictatorship during the war. Whether that dictatorship ends when the war ends, will depend upon the resolution and the understanding of the American people.

The free enterprise system is at stake in this war. Anything which weakens and emasculates free enterprise is the enemy of the nation. We cannot have an ever-expanding bureaucracy and have efficiency.

There is nothing dramatic about these statements. They are simply homely truths. The winning of this war—and the winning of the peace that follows—will depend on how well the American people understand them.

There has never been such unity as this country has at present. Every American stands solidly behind the President in the pledge to wage war until international gangsterism is destroyed.

It's A Nice Building

The USO hut on the garrison in Southport is a nice building. We hear, too, that there is a considerable quantity of nice furniture in it.

But it isn't doing the visiting soldiers, sailors and coast guardsmen one bit of good standing out there locked up.

We know that with the war and its added burden of responsibilities there has been less time for tending to the more frivolous side of life; but here is a project that is all complete save for the final impetus to get things underway.

The money is available, the building is completed, the furniture is here and the men in service are constantly in and out of the community. The only thing lacking is interested effort of the powers that be.

Take Care Of Your Automobile Tires

The tires which are on your automobile right now will have to last a long time—That's the admonition which is forthcoming from Washington at the present time. Rationing of automobile tires has already begun; in Brunswick county 35 tires will be rationed out during the month of January to those vehicles which are considered essential to operate.

Therefore, it behooves every person who drives an automobile to do everything he can to preserve the tires which he has on his automobile at the present time, to the end that they may last as long as possible.

There are many ways in which tires may be made to last longer. Nothing wears out tires so rapidly as operating your car at high speed, taking curves on two wheels, fast getaways and quick stops. Negatively then, it follows that avoiding these common, though dangerous and reckless practices, will contribute to the life of your tires.

Moreover, defense officials have called upon the motoring public to cut down on their joy riding, avoid trips which are not essential, and see to it that Sally entertain Johnny in the living room rather than riding on the highways.

Right now the seriousness of the situation has not fully broken upon us, but anyone with an eye for the future can easily foresee that six months hence will bring about an entirely different situation. The wise motorist will operate his car today with an eye toward the day when his present tires have to serve their purpose because new ones will not be available.



Just Among

The FISHERMEN

BY BILL KEZIAH

Seems we were mistaken in thinking that the war might take the mind of sportsmen off of fishing. Despite the fact that it is not the best time of the year for such things, we are getting letters every day asking about fishing. Some of these letters come direct to us and others were originally directed to nationally known fishing editors, who passed them on to us after writing their own answers

As an example of this passing on of matter, a China Grove man wrote Bill Ackerman outdoor editor of the Outdoorsman and Editor of Ackerman's Hunting and Fishing Guide. The China Grove man wanted to know about fishing along the coast of North Carolina and in Florida.

"I am sending a copy of this letter to my friend, Bill Keziah, boss of Southport. He will be glad to give you first-hand information, help you all he can on arrival and put you in the best fishing and hunting sections. You will hear direct from Bill in a few days."

Of course, it is gratifying to have the big fellows among the outdoorsmen to take time out to write a glowing letter regarding this part of the state and to send us a copy of it in the assurance that we would carry on with the contact. A few days ago this same Bill had an inquiry about duck and geese hunting at Southport. He sent us a copy of his reply and we promptly wrote the inquirer, telling him to go to Currituck county for duck and geese hunting; that we could not hold a candle to that section for such hunting, but we had the best fishing hole on the coast. A copy of this letter to the inquirer was, of course, sent Bill and he was so pleased at our recommending another section of the state, rather than our own for this especial sport, he wrote us one of the nicest letters we have received in many months.

This past week must have been less cold at Greensboro than we had supposed it was. Anyway, we heard from McDaniel Lewis, investment broker and a good friend of ours, Saturday. He wanted to know if we could charter a boat for him and Charley Farrell and other Greensboro boys to make a trip to the gulf stream right away. The temperature went down to 15-above-zero here that same night, a most unusual drop. We shivered about all night and wondered how the dickens Mack could get his mind on a gulf stream fishing trip with the weather like it was.

John F. Potter and his son, John F. Potter, Jr., are credited with bringing in over 100 huge sea trout the other morning. Many of them went above five pounds in weight and the folks who saw them acclaimed them as the prettiest lot of fish they have seen. They brought a premium price, owing to their kind and size.

One day this past week Captain Barkley Tomlin of the Mande and Mable brought in 26-bushels of jumbo shrimp and at the same time he had 600 pounds of sea mulletts. The total is said to have brought him a good price for a day's run. It was the kind of a catch that keeps many of our boats going in any sort of weather and with varying success.

And while one is speaking about good catches, there are still plenty of devotees of rod and reel (or pole and line) who don't mind what sort of weather we have. One of these guys, George C. Swain of Supply, was in town this week and was telling us that during one of last week's coldest days he went fishing with pole and line. He brought in 20 puppy drum and topped them off with a striped bass, or rockfish, that weighed eighteen-and-a-quarter-pounds. Just at Christmas Mr. Swain, who is a member of the board of welfare, was out with that same favorite fishing pole and he got 28 drum that ran up the total weight of 130 pounds. He had to use salt mullet for bait and said that if he could have

This Week In . . . DEFENSE

Today there probably isn't anybody in this country—farmer, villager or city man—who doesn't know we're all of us in this war. Of course, everybody knew right after Pearl Harbor that we were in for a fight. But not everyone knew what that fight was going to mean to the civilian; what he could do, what was expected of him . . .

Well, we know now. We know that in addition to producing as it never has before—on the farm and in mine and mill and factory and office—civilian America is going to have to sacrifice, conserve materials needed for the tanks and guns and planes and ships and uniforms and all the hundreds of things needed to create a victorious army and navy.

This war already is in the mail order catalogues, you might say. And pretty soon it is going to show up in the clothing stores and in the five and tens and almost everywhere else. We know now that we're going to have to make the old car do and the old tires do and perhaps the old suit or dress as well. We're going to get along with less of a lot of things before we lick the Japs (who have shut us off from rubber and other vital supplies) and whip Hitler.

We know these things now, but there is something else we should realize, too. And that is that the government, short of depriving our armed forces of the materials these forces need to beat the Axis, is doing everything it can to see that no one lacks tools with which to produce, food to eat and clothes to wear, fuel to burn and a stout roof over his head.

The government is controlling prices to guard us against ruinous inflation. The government is trying to assure tires and autos to fulfill essential services in every community. The government is seeing to it that there will be enough farm machinery in good repair to take care of the all important 1942 crops.

Here's the way the 1942 program for farm equipment has been handled by the Office for Production Management's priorities division . . .

The basic problem was to mesh this program with the Department of Agriculture's program for food; to provide more machinery where it will be needed and to curtail production where—as with wheat—the agricultural plan calls for smaller crops.

It's obvious that since farm equipment is manufactured entirely of materials vital to the armed forces—the kinship between tank and tractor is apparent—the problem had to be considered cautiously. There was a second factor, too—the certainty that many more civilian plants must be converted to war work.

What the OPM has done is to hold down on materials for new machinery (to about 83 per cent of the 1940 level) while raising the quantity earmarked for repair parts manufacture to approximately 150 per cent of the 1940 output. Repair, wherever possible, is the thing, and the OPM has asked that farmers begin these repairs as quickly as possible.

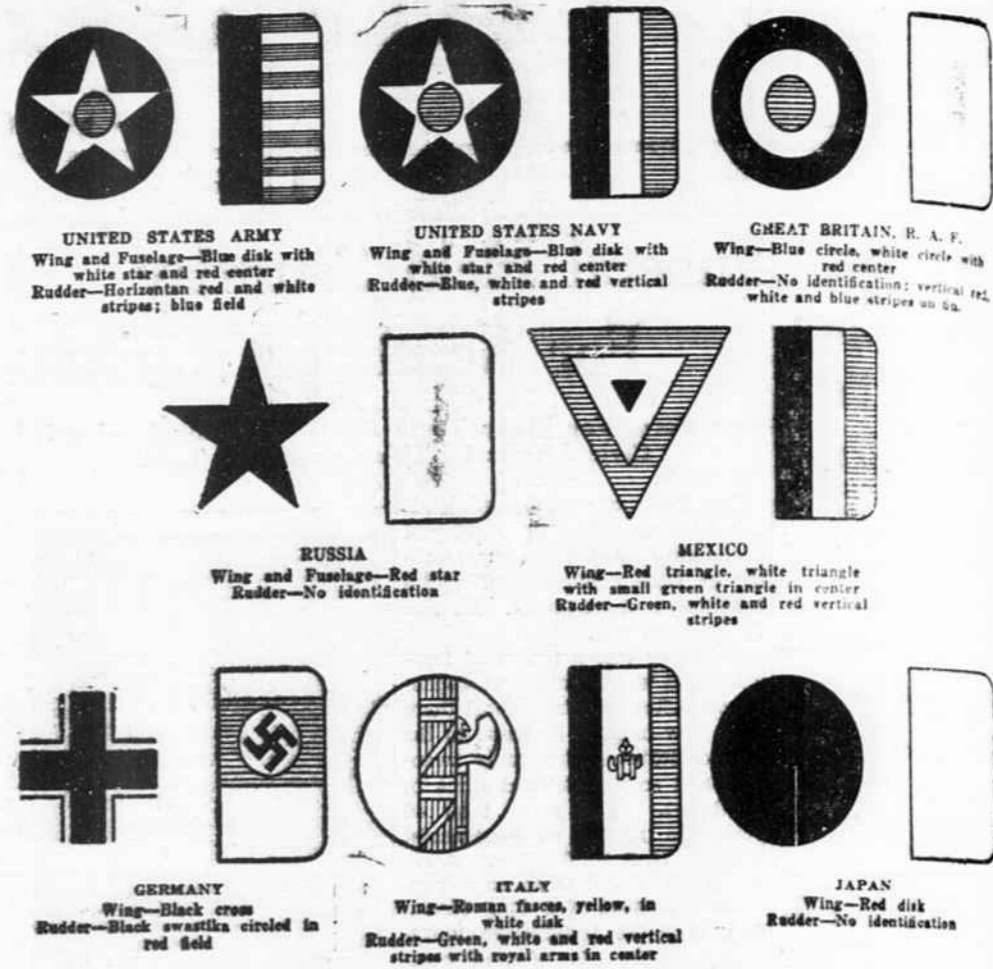
Here's the way it works out: The agricultural program, for example, calls for increased production of pork and lard, milk and eggs, in 1942. And so new machinery used to produce these food-stuffs will be available in greater quantity than machinery for raising and harvesting wheat, because the agricultural plan calls for a 16 per cent reduction in wheat acreage.

The tire rationing program is another example of the government's effort to keep essential services functioning under conditions of an all-out war. The Japanese took away the tires from our pleasure cars when they blocked our Pacific import lanes. But that isn't going to hamper farm work. You can still get tires for farm vehicles—if you really need them. The physician can still get tires and the veterinarian. And the folks who decide whether or not these tires are needed will be, in most cases, neighbors—the local garageman, and a local rationing board probably no further distant than the County Seat.

As for that car you use for trips to town, Price Administrator gotten shrimp he would have caught twice as much.

Well folks, if you make any extra good catches of fish, or catch an unusual fish of any sort, how about seeing or writing us about it. The story about your fishing is not a fishing story if it does not get published. We can't say anything about the good catches of fish that we do not see or which you forget to tell us about. A penny post card or a three cent stamp is not too much to spend to let us know about it, if you are unable to see us.

How to Distinguish Nationality of Aircraft



Civilian air raid spotters will have no difficulty distinguishing Axis planes from those of the United Nations if they memorize the markings illustrated above. American and British planes have designs of red, white and blue, and Russia has a red star. Watchers on the southern border occasionally may see the red triangle of Mexico. Axis raiders are easily spotted through the familiar black cross and swastika of Germany, the round red rising sun emblem of Japan and the Roman fasces insignia borne by Italian planes.

--- NOT EXACTLY NEWS ---

Then there's the Southport mother who found out only recently the the buoy tender which comes here once each month is named the Mangrove and not the Man-Boat. The excitement of her young daughter was responsible for the misconception. . . . Bill Styron killed two birds with each barrel on a covey rise the other day, the first time we ever heard of double doubles on quail.

When North Carolina was snow-bound last week the managing editor of The News and Observer sought to pull Keziah's leg by wiring to query if there was snow on Bald Head Island. The return message, sent collect, didn't cost him much. It read: "Hell, no." . . . Work on the new theatre building in Southport is progressing now.

We never have seen gulls come inland as much as they do at Shallotte. One peanut patch near that place is blanketed down every day . . . On one of the coldest days of last week Capt. H. T. Bowmer had to make a trip to Bald Head Island with a load of corn for the hogs.

Lum and Abner, radio favorites of long standing, are the stars of the Friday and Saturday show at the Amuzi, "Dreaming Out Loud." And as an added attraction for the bird hunters, of whom there are many in these parts, the show is "Quest For Quail." . . . We have heard several prominent men, and some ladies, discussing in all seriousness the purchase of a bicycle for travel about town. The tire rationing done it.

Best joke we've heard this week is an account of several British prisoners in Lybia who gave their German guard a time of it by repeatedly fanning out. Finally a couple of the more restless fellows ran, and a machinegun volley was fired over their head to stop them. When it happened a gang of Italian soldiers popped out of a nearby trench with hands upraised in surrender. The result was that the Germans released the Italians and caught the English; then the English captured both the Germans and the Italians . . . Dr. J. V. Davis has sold his foxhounds and is now planning to get him a pack of beagles for rabbit hunting.

ped or retreated often 1st almost as long as new ones, and cost a lot less. Anyone who can think back to the last war and the inflation which came of it can't help but realize that it is as necessary to control farm prices in wartime as it is to control prices in industry. In 1918 the U. S. farmer had an income 24 per cent above their buying power in 1913, even allow-

ing for the high price of goods. But by 1922 the slump which followed the inflation had carried farm income way below the 1913 level. The Price Administrator, whose job is to see that everybody gets a fair deal and able to stand guard against such evils as another inflation, has indicated that there may be upward revision of prices on certain agricultural products. (Continued On Page Four)

PAY YOUR CITY TAXES NOW and SAVE MONEY

This is the last month during which your 1941 Taxes may be paid at par. Here is a worthwhile saving for you.

REMEMBER:-- Southport needs additional fire-fighting equipment.

Southport needs added police protection. Southport must meet the demands made of it in defense efforts.

YOU can do your part to relieve this emergency if you will call by the City Hall and pay your taxes at once.

E. R. WEEKS CITY TAX COLLECTOR.