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Then of course a man can embellish himself by putting up a good front.

Old men sometimes get second sight. Young men always take it when a bathing beauty goes by.

An average citizen is one who imagines himself a second Tyrone Power, but whose passport photo flatters him.

Blackouts are the thing all right. We're even being kept in the dark about the alleged Bolton military project.

An educated man is one who won't think you're cussing him if you call him erudite.

Some men don't ask much in the way of a legacy. They just want to be left to themselves.

**Traffic Down 42 Per Cent**

FINAL estimates derived from 19 "magic-eye" traffic counters placed at strategic points on important highways throughout the State show that during a two week period preceding rationing, from April 26 to May 9, travel in North Carolina declined 20 per cent over a similar period in 1941. However, from May 17 to 30, after rationing came into effect, travel declined 42 percent below the 1941 figure.

The survey, made under the supervision of James S. Burch, Statistics Engineer for the State Highway and Public Works Commission, shows that on the week-end of May 9-10 the public took one last fling bringing the amount of driving almost to the 1941 high travel level. However, by the next week-end travel had taken a huge drop.

Present indication of the traffic survey is that the North Carolina motoring public has recovered from the first shock of gasoline rationing and travel all over the State shows a definite trend toward slight increase.

Hardest hit are the main travel routes through North Carolina. U. S. 1, near Raleigh, and U. S. 19-23 near Asheville, show a larger percentage travel drop than the 41 per cent average.

Travel will continue to decline as the pinch of lack of tires is felt more and more, and as citizens become more and more conscious of the emergency now facing us.

**Long, Hard War**

Cecil Brown, the well known foreign correspondent, recently made a speaking tour of this country. In a radio broadcast from Los Angeles, he said that he had been enormously impressed by the incredible strides American industry is making in producing for war. At the same time, he added, he was disturbed by the excessive degree of optimism held by many of us. In short, too large a proportion of the American people are not yet convinced that this will be a long and hard war.

That kind of optimism is not held in informed circles. Most of the experts still think that another New Year's day will come before the United Nations will be able to engage in major, continued offensive drives against the enemy. In 1943, they forecast, a gigantic effort to knock Hitler out of the war will be made. Then, in 1944, the United Nations will be able to turn their full and undivided attention to Japan. And so, by that year's end, the war may be over.

Other experts consider that time-table too optimistic. They argue that both Germany and Japan have immense armies and resources, and that it will take another year or two to wear them down and bring them to their knees. In any event, no informed commentator subscribes to the current rumors that the war is likely to be ended before 1942 passes. And none of them make the popular mistake of thinking that minor United Nations' vic-

tories constitute major disasters for the enemy.

In the meantime, this country has reason to be immensely proud of the quality and character of its fighting forces. After the debacle at Pearl Harbor, it took us months to get organized. For a long time there was a lack of accurate coordination between the various branches of the military services. Now, apparently, conditions have undergone a great change for the better. The gigantic Japanese-American sea engagement around Midway island is an example. The Japanese, after making their feint at Dutch Harbor with a few bombers and pursuit planes, apparently expected that American commanders would hysterically disperse their forces. In all probability, they definitely expected to take both Midway and Oahu. But the American commanders, working on extremely accurate information provided by the Intelligence services, were ready. The Navy, the Army and the Marines worked in perfect harmony. The result was the most serious setback Japan has yet taken in the Pacific war. That battle, coming on top of the Coral Sea engagement, must be causing plenty of headaches among the moguls in Tokyo. They caught our forces asleep at Pearl Harbor. But our forces are 100 per cent awake and on their toes now.

This latest Pacific battle is important for the beating handed Japanese military power. Its greatest importance lies in the fact that it may have tipped the scales of Pacific naval power in our favor. After Pearl Harbor, the Japanese fleet was supreme in the Pacific. Japan also had air supremacy. Now American war vessels which were damaged at Pearl Harbor are back in service, new ships have been sent to join the fleet, and our air power has been tremendously increased. Our production capacity is many times that of Japan in all fields. The Mikado, in brief, doesn't look as big and tough as he once did.

When we finally take the offensive in the Pacific, we may expect hard going for a considerable time. It is obvious that Japan has developed the mandated islands, as well as her own islands, to a very high degree so far as military power is concerned. She may have literally hundreds of air, naval and submarine bases and her plan has been to create a ring of steel about her own part of the Pacific. It will be a real job to destroy these positions—and we can't do it overnight. We must expect losses as well as victories. But no one with any knowledge of American war production and American fighting spirit can doubt that the job will be done. The United Nations' commanders will not be satisfied with a partial victory this time. They intend to take the war straight to Berlin and Tokyo, and give the Axis powers a full taste of the kind of treatment dealt out to the countries they have subjugated.

**Shears And Paste**

**DREADNOUGHTS OF THE AIR**

(Greensboro News)

The decision of the Navy to defer work on on battleships and to concentrate on putting out new aircraft carriers is evidence that we are learning how to wage a modern war. Obviously a warship equipped with planes is a better weapon both for offense and defense than one equipped with big guns. It can see farther and shoot farther; it does not have to go to its target; its winged cannon brings the target to it. Nor does it have to await helplessly attack from the air; it sends out its fighter planes for its own protection.

The shape of naval battles to come is seen in the Midway engagement to be a fight between carriers. Fortunately, with most or all of Japan's seaworthy carriers knocked out of commission, the United Nations now have a big preponderance of these newly recognized "backbones" of the fleets.

But they are vulnerable to submarine attacks, to attacks from carrier-based planes which are resolutely pressed home without counting the cost, and they are even more vulnerable to the heavier bomb loads of land-based planes. There is too much water under them, too much air over them. The Ark Royal, the Glorious, the Lexington are witnesses of that.

The most potent weapon of the war is yet to come. It will be a bombing plane—a lineal descendant of the Mars—so heavily armored that it cannot be knocked down by fighter planes, so heavily loaded with bombs that it can demolish its objective, and so long-ranged that it can return to its base or go on to another one almost anywhere in the world. Such bombers will make carrier obsolete. While we concentrate on the carrier, we should concentrate on the next step also.

**THE HOME FRONT**

We have taken in our belts, we have tightened our economy so that almost nothing which might be useful in war is wasted on the non-essentials of ordinary living. Now we are fighting another sort of waste which we can afford as little as we can afford waste of materials. We are fighting the waste of what we call "Manpower" but which actually embraces almost everyone—man or woman or adolescent child in the U. S. A.

The Manpower Mobilization Program, with its aim of seeing that everyone has a job and that each is doing the job for which he or she is best fitted, is one attack on the problem of manpower waste. Another line of attack has been stressed recently in messages from the President himself, and from Paul V. McNutt, Director of The Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services and chairman of The War Manpower Commission. This line of attack hits at the waste of industrial manpower caused by ill health. Ill health is an enemy on the production front fully as much as on the field of battle. The Japanese on Bataan were aided by malarial fevers, which fought for them against our troops in the steaming jungles of that Peninsula. The Japs and the Nazis are aided by the disease and illness which fights on their side in the war production centers of America.

**Good Health Compulsory**

But the compulsion to remain fit extends beyond the factory front—it is a compulsion laid upon all of us. Indifferent health means indifferent morale, and indifferent morale is an invitation to defeat. The weapons with which ill health is fought on the home front are weapons known to every housewife—proper food, proper exercise, and proper rest. On the industrial front the problem is complicated by other factors. Several weeks before Mr. McNutt transmitted the President's message on health and morale to some 8,500 key executives in war production plants, the six Government officials most directly concerned with increasing our output for war appealed to War Production Drive Committees in more than 900 plants to fight sickness and accidents. Their joint statement pointed out, that sickness and injury lost 6,000,000 work days every month—work days which might otherwise have brought victory over the Axis that much nearer. And it pointed out the need for active public health departments in every community, with enough doctors, nurses, and hospital beds to care for workers and their families.

The President, commending Government and community efforts to improve health and morale, emphasized the need for eliminating from war industry centers, that "major source of infection" the Red-Light District, just as such districts have been eliminated from the neighborhood of Army camps and Naval stations. And the Warpower Commission chairman, addressing "war industry executives" called venereal diseases "one of the most menacing" of the hazards to the health of workers, added that "many millions of lost work days could be saved and . . . Needless accidents and spoilage of materials . . . prevented, with improvement to workers' health."

**Drives Seek Rubber, Tin**

We are in the midst of a brief and concentrated drive to get all the scrap rubber we can back to the reclaiming plants. We are launching another drive to collect tin cans so that we may have tin for bushings which reduce friction in the engines of our military aircraft and for other vital military purposes. Response to these drives once more emphasizes our united effort against the common enemy.

To most of us this unity was to be taken for granted but there were those, both before and after Pearl Harbor, who thought and spoke differently. These people said we were not alert to the danger, they said we could not convert our industries to war in time to help our allies, they said we could not give our sons freely to the fight for freedom, that we were too soft to accept rationing, price fixing, and those other measures which meant for all of us an end to "living as usual." But almost every day that goes by disproves these lies, affords additional proof of our unity in endeavor, a unity to strike terror to the heart of our foe. Probably the most striking proof of unity on the home front has been the signal success of the War Production Drive, a drive which could not have succeeded without the whole-hearted collaboration of management and the worker.

Many thought, when the War Production Drive was first announced, that management and labor could not work together even to get more tanks and guns and planes and ships and get them faster, but today joint committees of management and labor are working together in more than 900 plants of war production and neither side—neither the side of management nor the side of

labor has tried to use the plan to chisel something out of the other fellow.

**Seek Honest Answers**

The committees tried honestly to find answers to these questions—How can we get more production from our machines? How can we improve quality of workmanship? How can we prevent waste of man-hours and material? The President's goals in ships and planes and tanks and guns hung upon the ability of these groups to find answers to these questions. And they have succeeded. That is why War Production Board Chairman, Donald M. Nelson, said last week that "there is a new spirit abroad in this land—or perhaps it is just a spirit that was always there."

And Mr. Nelson added—"America today is really beginning to work at full speed for the first time. We are just beginning to realize what our strength really

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Moore announce the birth of a son, James Boyd, at Doshier Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, June 23.

**TONSILECTOMY**

Little Erlina Lee Drew, of Southport, underwent a tonsillar operation Monday at Doshier Memorial Hospital.

**OPERATION**

Miss Addie Johnson, of Southport, underwent an operation for removal of her appendix Friday at Doshier Memorial Hospital.

**APPENDECTOMY**

Mrs. C. E. Lamb, of Southport, underwent an operation for removal of her appendix Wednesday at Doshier Memorial Hospital.

**SURGICAL PATIENT**

Mrs. Edna Willis, of Southport, entered Doshier Memorial Hospital as a surgical patient Tuesday.

**APPENDIX REMOVED**

Mrs. M. C. Sawyer, of Southport, underwent an operation for removal of her appendix Monday at Doshier Memorial Hospital.

**MEDICAL PATIENT**

Raymond Earl Holdcraft stationed at Oak Island Coast Guard Station entered Doshier Memorial Hospital Friday as a medical patient.

**PATIENT**

Tom Morgan, of Oak Island Coast Guard Station, entered Doshier Memorial Hospital Monday for medical attention.

**HOSPITAL PATIENT**

Ralph Doshier, of Southport, is a medical patient at Doshier Memorial Hospital.

**IN HOSPITAL**

Carl Eriksen, Jr., of Oak Island Coast Guard Station, entered Doshier Memorial Hospital Sunday as a medical patient.

**RESIGNS POSITION**

Marion Gatlin, for the past several years a popular member of the Shallotte high school faculty, has resigned to go into business at his home in Raeford.

**Personal**

Richard St. George and Orvil Cottrell, of Penns Grove, N. J., returned home Monday after spending several days here with relatives. Mrs. St. George remained for a visit of a few days before joining them in Penns Grove.

A. J. Robbins and his daughter, Mrs. Alvin Starling and two children, Alvin, Jr., and Bettie Joe, of Orlando, Fla., are visiting at the home of Mrs. J. N. Daniels.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Dye and children, of Wilmington, spent the week-end here with Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Robinson.

Mrs. A. D. Ruark, Sr., of Wilmington, visited relatives here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. St. George, of Penns Grove, N. J., spent last week here with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Doshier and son, Dicky, of Wilmington, visited relatives here Saturday.

Alex Manson, of Jacksonville, Fla., is visiting at the home of Mrs. Geo. Watson.

Mrs. Ashley Toler has returned home from Washington, where she has been spending the past two weeks with relatives.

Miss Dolores Hewett left Sunday for Staten Island, N. Y., where she will spend two weeks as the guest of Misses Lois and Aileen Watts.

Dan and William Walker, of Jacksonville, spent the week-end here with their mother, Mrs. W. H. Walker.

A. T. McKeithan, of Camp Davis, spent the week-end here with his mother, Mrs. A. T. McKeithan, Sr.

Miss Myrtle Sue Brown, who has been visiting Miss Martha Gray Brown for the past two weeks, has returned to her home

**--- NOT EXACTLY NEWS ---**

The Victory Gardener in town to whom a drought makes the least difference is George Autry, who has installed a pump in the middle of his garden plot and waters his crop—without strain on the city supply . . . Edmund Newton, who has been studying commercial art at Cincinnati, has learned plenty in one year, and if you don't believe it you ought to see some of the samples of his work.

"That Hamilton Woman," starring Vivian Leigh and Laurence Olivier, is coming Monday and Tuesday to the Amuzu and promises to be one of the best dramas of the season . . . First cotton blossom

of the year has been sent in by John H. Brown, who is cultivating the Ward Farm this season. Interestingly enough, this same man was the first to report a blossom last year.

We can't help believing that a cool, clean, respectable place for the youngsters to dance would do well in Southport this summer . . . Brother Christian, back from a visit with his grand parents in Savannah, saw Joe Leighton and had a long talk with the popular orchestra leader. Joe and his band—only the drummer is left from the gang he had here last summer—have been at the DeSoto Hotel for several months.

in Benson.  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Fullwood and children, of Wilmington, spent Saturday here with Mrs. Ethel Fullwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Savage, of Wilmington, are visiting at the home of Mrs. Eva Wolfe.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Howard, of Wilmington, spent Sunday here with Mrs. Neils Jorgensen.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. McCall, of Wilmington, visited friends and relatives here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Aldridge and son, of Wilmington, and Miss Lois Dean Coleman and Santa Charles Coleman, of Raleigh, spent Sunday here with friends and relatives.

Mrs. Oscar Coleman, of Raleigh, entered Doshier Memorial Hospital last week for surgical treatment.

A. B. Weeks, of Charleston, S. C., spent the week-end here with his family.

John Dal, of Smithfield, spent the week-end here with Mrs. Dal, who is visiting her parents, Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Willetts, of Winnabow, spent Sunday here with Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Potter.

Mrs. George P. Howey and Meade Darst have returned from Rowland where they visited Mrs. Parker Howey for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Swain, of Pennscola, Fla., are visiting his mother, Mrs. J. D. Swain.

Mrs. Dora McDowell returned Saturday from Camp Blanding, Fla., where she visited her son,

Sgt. Lonnie McDowell, during the past week. On her trip she was accompanied by her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Hardwick and Miss Rachel Best, all of Wilmington.

Miss Edna Robertson, R. N., is spending her vacation at Kershaw, S. C.

Miss Annie M. Newton returned Monday after spending several weeks in Washington, D. C.

Miss Dianne Page, of Greensboro, and Miss Mary Anne Thomas, of High Point, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Cox.

C. C. Cannon was in Atlanta and Asheville on business during the past week-end.

Eddie Jelks, of Washington, D. C., is visiting his mother, Mrs. Martin McCall.

**SAVE TIME . . .**  
**SAVE TRAVEL . . .**  
**SAVE MONEY . . .**  
**Roland Simmons**  
**Service Station**  
**ASH, N. C.**

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If we pick grain up at your farm we will deduct an amount to cover cost of hauling.

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**— COME IN TO SEE US —**

**Chas. E. Gause**  
 TAX COLLECTOR