

**The State Port Pilot**  
Southport, N. C.

Published Every Wednesday

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(On Leave of Absence, In U. S. N. R.)

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Wednesday, January 17, 1945

War does not determine who is right—only who is left.

No one is ever too old to learn, either.

Truth is elastic. And if you stretch it too far it will fly back and sting you.

Gossips always burn scandals at both ends.

**Violent Deaths**

The exact number of Brunswick county men who lost their lives in service in 1944 is unobtainable at this time owing to the fact that few reports of casualties during the month of December have been made public by the War Department.

Coroner W. E. Bell and other Brunswick officials are inclined to think, however, that violence and accidents claimed the lives of fully twice as many residents of the county as were killed on the field of battle in 1944. "Accidents and deaths by violence" embrace everything from murder on down to deaths in wrecks, in burning buildings and drownings. In one wreck in 1944 three lives were lost. In the burning of a house, near Wilmington, three lives were also lost. Quite a number of people in Brunswick met sudden death in various forms during the year.

**Things Move Faster**

Perhaps it is the preparations that are being made to re-examine and re-classify a lot of men who have not been in essential work. But at any rate things are moving faster at the saw mills and with pulpwood production efforts in this county.

During the past year we frequently visited a saw mill that was in continuous operation, when the logs kept coming and the mills own labor supply was sufficient to keep things moving after the logs arrived. At no time in 1944 was it noted that there were enough logs on hand for more than one full days work. Frequently the log yard was entirely bare and the mill force was semi-idle.

This week an ample supply of labor was handling things at the planeing mill and lumber ward. The sawmill was rushing things with more than a week's supply of logs on the log yard and trucks were coming in hourly with huge loads. Somewhere back in the woods, one of the key points, plenty of men were felling trees, cutting them into saw logs and loading the trucks as fast as they returned.

So far as could be noted, and from information at the office, that mill is now really making a show of production. Other saw mills in the county also have labor more plentiful and more dependable.

Pulpwood producers are also finding greatly improved labor conditions. There is beginning to be an understanding that it is work or fight this year.

**The Useful Blacksmith**

Humble as his labor often is, there have been times in the history of the United States when the blacksmith was the most important man of his community. A great deal of dependence had to be placed on him and he was seldom found wanting.

During the past few days the "Smithy" with his anvil has given away largely to the "mechanic," which can and often does apply to anybody who can handle a pair of pliers and a screw driver. The village blacksmith has been going the way of many other things, "gone but not forgotten," and often sincerely mourned, like other worthwhile things that have been lost.

The war, more than any other thing, has caused the few remaining blacksmiths to again be recognized at something like their real worth. This is especially true in farming communities. Many a farmer, hard pressed to get needed work done and unable to buy

tools, has turned to his friend, the blacksmith with simple but highly essential jobs of repair work.

The farmer who had reasonably good machinery when the war began and has handled that machinery with reasonable care, does not worry at prospective breakdowns so long as he knows a good blacksmith. The county is fortunate in having several of them.

**Preparations For 1945**

Pointing out that this is the beginning of a new year and that it is important that farm men and women know something of the outlook for prices and production of certain crops and animals, the county and home agents are now busy holding meetings with the object of getting and giving information for 1945.

Such gatherings are timely, and they should be generally helpful. The work of preparing tobacco seed beds is now about finished. At the moment there is as much of a lull in farm work as is ever found on the farms. The folks who will make the 1945 crops can well afford to take a couple of hours off from real labor to gather and learn something of the general trend of things.

Farming is no longer done blindly. Practically everything must be studied and consideration given to everything from labor to weather and the price trends on the things that are about to be produced.

**Polio And Hickory**

The establishment of a polio treatment center near Hickory last summer within three days after the site had been chosen is called "The Miracle of Hickory." One day it was a small summer camp for underprivileged children. Fifty-four hours later it was a functioning hospital, receiving polio patients. Within 48 hours after C. H. Crabtree, North Carolina representative of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, was on the long distance wire to New York discussing the gravity of the polio situation in North Carolina, \$50,000 had been sent to North Carolina to provide for immediate hospitalization of polio victims in whatever hospital facilities could be found.

That \$50,000 was merely the down payment on the National Foundation's pledge that no victim of infantile paralysis shall lack care, regardless of age, race, color or creed. Whatever more might be needed would be forthcoming instantly.

On June 21, it was decided to establish a hospital at Hickory in Catawba county because it had been determined that that area was the center of the epidemic. On June 24, the "Miracle of Hickory" began with the opening of the hospital, less than three days after Crabtree and two doctors had decided upon its site.

The story of that hospital has been well-publicized. Life magazine featured it in one of its issues. The people of Hickory, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, county and state officials combined efforts to achieve a miracle in the treatment of infantile paralysis which has scarcely been equalled in this country in the treatment of this dread disease.

**Past-War Possessions**

When Hitler was riding rough shod over Europe and the Japanese were sweeping southward in their campaign of conquests, and the United States appeared slow in converting its industries to war production, we heard daily, and with some reason, that we were liable to do too little too late. But once we struck our stride our production became the marvel of the world and the bane of the enemy.

The Associated Press announces that the Foreign Policy Association surveying the world situation finds that when the war is over the United States will have:

- 60 per cent of the world's war industries.
- 65 per cent of the naval units.
- 70 per cent of the merchant marine.
- 75 per cent of the transport and commercial planes.
- 60 per cent of the fighting and bombing planes.
- 60 per cent of the silver
- 80 per cent of the gold.

It is this supremacy that has brought Hitler to the verge of defeat and will finish the job of destroying Japan's military uprising and threat to the peace and development in the Orient.

When used in a marriage ceremony, the word "yes" can be a long sentence.

**The Rovin' Reporter**

(Continued from page one)  
farmer with being the largest grower of the weed. Even that might not settle everything. It sometimes happens, especially in these days of labor shortages, that some of the growers do not plant their full allotment. We have always thought, and it is still our impression, that Rice Gwynn, of Longwood, is entitled to the ribbon for being the biggest producer of the weed. Others to be considered are J. W. McLamb, also of Longwood; J. H. Milligan, of Ash; the Russ boys at Shallotte and probably a great many others.

Regardless of who may be the biggest producer of the weed in the county it is an undisputed fact that a lot of it is grown in Brunswick and much of it is tops in commanding the highest prices when placed on the market. With the heavy producing it is a little puzzling why no one has ever woken up and built tobacco marketing warehouses at Shallotte. A couple of warehouses there would get plenty of upper South Carolina tobacco, as well as the Brunswick crop.

Despite the heavy production of Brunswick wood for lumber, pulpwood and plings, towards the war effort, the pine woods that have been untouched by fire are growing so rapidly that the rate of the lumbering operations is claim is easy to believe especially when one notes how rapidly the woods regenerate themselves.

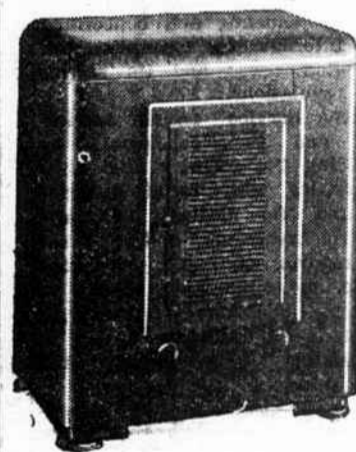
The scars of lumbering heal quickly, especially on lands that fires have been kept off. The crop is continually growing and that which is harvested is quickly replaced. As Brunswick people become more and more conscious of the value of their timber lands they will also become more and more alive to the need of preventing forest fires.

A lot of appreciation is felt for the Brunswick folks who give us little news items concerning service men, both those who are now serving overseas and those who come home on leaves or furloughs. A great many people are naturally interested in hearing of these men and it is felt that too much mention cannot be made of them when they are at or are heard from.

If your soldier boy or friend is at home or has something happen to him you should keep in mind that we are unable to mention it in the paper unless you or some one else tells us about it. Don't be bashful in such things, tell us of the men in service and we will do our best to see that they are mentioned.

One matter that should be mentioned here is the fact that the paper tries to use pictures of service men each week. The making of cuts from photographs costs \$1.50 each. Naturally, if the paper had these plates made at its own cost there would not be space for anything but the pictures that are sent in. As much as the paper would like to, it would be overwhelmed with an expense it could not stand. In all cases, except of pictures of very general interest, the cuts for printing pictures are paid for by those providing the pictures.

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FOR 1945

**City Cut-Rate Store**

SOUTHPORT, N. C.

**FREELAND MAN DIED SATURDAY**

(Continued from page One)  
ton, N. C.; Raymond Theodore Simmons, of the Navy; Jessie Oliver Simmons, Jaygold Simmons, Harold Simmons and Patrick Hubert Simmons, of Freeland. The daughters are, Mrs. James Smith, of Nakina; Mrs. William Midget, of Morehead City; Miss Dorothy Virginia Simmons, of Wilmington. Several brothers and sisters also survive.

**TAX LISTING PROCEEDING WELL**

(Continued From Page One)  
understanding the taxpayers all seem to want to get the job over with as soon as they they possibly can.

Usually many of them wait until the last moment and then find themselves in a jam, owing to the inability of the tax listers to wait on them promptly. It appears that the early listing will save trouble for a lot of folks this year.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE BADLY NEEDED**

(Continued from page One)  
their dependents by providing the Veterans Administration with social histories needed in determining diagnosis and treatment and for rating purposes.

Home Service assist servicemen, ex-servicemen, and their dependents in applying for family allowances and in presenting claims for pension and other government benefits.

Home Service offers consultation and guidance in personal and family problems to servicemen, ex-servicemen and their dependents.

Home services gives financial assistance to servicemen, disabled ex-service men, their dependents, and their dependents of deceased servicemen on the bases of need and within certain limitations.

If there is any one who would like to do volunteer work along this line, contact rs. P. Ruark, Exec. Sec. Brunswick County Chapter, American Red Cross, Southport. The office is in front of the post office. Volunteers to do typing and filing are needed.

**NON ATTENDANCE LAWS EVOKED**

(Continued From Page One)  
their assurance of future attendance of their children.

It is understood that in some of the schools the principals are having much difficulty in getting various students to attend. In some cases this is due to sickness, as appeared to be the cause in the above cases. In still other cases the children simply will not attend and the parents appear to have no disposition to make them go. As a result the school authorities are having to bear down on the offenders.

**CARD OF THANKS**

We wish to express to our friends our deepest appreciation for their floral designs and other expressions of sympathy at the time of the death of our wife and mother. These meant so much to us in the hour of sorrow. We want to thank our colored friends for their kindness and sympathy also.

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JAMES P. FURPLESS  
B. LANIER FURPLESS  
B. LANIER FURPLESS

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