

The State Port Pilot

Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, February 7, 1945

Are Free Again

The brilliant reconquest of the Philippines by General MacArthur is a matter for genuine rejoicing on the part of the American people. From a humanitarian standpoint the release of several thousand internees and prisoners of war, in the retaking of Manila, is especially pleasing.

The Japanese people have never lived up to the code of civilized countries which give and expect humane treatment of prisoners of war. With the liberation of prisoners during the past week a small measure of the cruelties that the Japanese practice on prisoners of war is just becoming known.

At the moment there is no way for the American people to mete out punishment to those who are responsible for cruelties to prisoners of war. We are a civilized country; we cannot turn around and take it out on the Japanese whom we hold as prisoners of war. We can only fight on, freeing the men and women whom they hold prisoners as fast as we can.

But when the Rising Sun has set we will be untrue to the principles of a great nation if we fail to see that just and adequate punishment is given those of the Japanese War Lords who are responsible for the torture of helpless prisoners of war.

Rescue

For sheer drama and heart-warming reaction, it would be hard to surpass the story of the rescue of the 513 prisoners from the Nueva Ecija prison camp in Luzon Men of Bataan, Corregidor, and Singapore, shut off from their world for many seemingly endless months, but ever held closely in the hearts of their countrymen. Exhausted, ill-treated, undernourished, but never quite without hope, for always there was faith in their American comrades' promise to return.

There is nothing one can add to the throat-catching picture of these men—486 Americans, and the remainder British, Netherlanders, and Norwegian—some walking, some riding, and some carried on the Rangers' backs, proceeding to safety down a highway flanked with an honor guard of the newly arrived G. I.'s. But we all can join in prayers of thankfulness for the liberation of those who proved such heroes in the last days before the fall of the Philippines. And we can supplement the decorations which General MacArthur has given to the rescuing American and Filipino Rangers, by our own deep gratitude for their bravery.—The Christian Science Monitor.

The Crash Of Doom

If Berlin fails to fall to the Soviets, it will be the Russian miracle before Moscow, Stalingrad and Leningrad in reverse. But there appears now no likelihood that the Germans will be able to repeat the achievement of the Russians. Before the imponderable power drive of the big Red Army, Berlin appears destined to fall in crashing crescendo. The hopelessness of the situation for Germany is obvious. There is simply no safe direction in which the Germans can retreat. If they retreat westward they are retreating into the jaws of powerful Allied armies preparing momentarily to touch off a mighty offensive along Germany's Westwall. If they retreat southward, they are retreating into a pocket where Allied troops from the south and west and Russian troops from the east and southeast are poised to hem them in. If they retreat north, they stand in danger of being driven into the Baltic sea.

Never in history have any people been so completely fenced in by mortal enemies. In 1941 and 1942, Russia could retreat into the endless reaches of eastern Russia and Siberia. In 1940 and 1941, Britain could have abandoned the British Isles and carried on the fight from her dominions. But in what-

ever direction Germans move, they move nearer their enemies. And from every direction come land and air armies, endless streams of them manning never-diminishing ammunition and weapons intent upon crushing Germany and destroying every vestige of Nazism.

For Germany, it's the crash of doom.

Now It's Telephones

Telephones have now joined the ranks of the "necessities" which the government should make available to all people, according to proponents of a bill which has been introduced in Congress to set up a "Rural Telephone Administration" with a preliminary appropriation of \$100,000,000. Under it, loans could be made to individuals, corporations, state agencies, municipalities, and cooperatives, as well as to the Rural Electrification Administration, for the purpose of financing the construction, acquisition, extension or modernization of existing telephone companies, as well as to provide for the creation, when necessary, of new organizations.

As usual, the introduction of this latest proposed venture into business by government was preceded by a lengthy account of the failure of the private telephone industry to adequately serve rural areas now reached by thousands of independent companies. It was not pointed out that the United States leads the world in percentage of farms with telephone service, not to mention city service. From data now available, it appears that one-third of the total rural families have telephone service; this means that roughly, one-half of the families along existing pole lines now take service, while 80 per cent of all rural families lie either along telephone lines or close enough to them so that they can obtain telephone service without the necessity of a construction charge or other initial contribution.

The telephone industry is planning extensive expansion as soon as it can secure materials and labor. It is not asking for \$100,000,000 of the taxpayers' money to further such plans. Since 1935, in spite of war handicaps, it has succeeded in increasing farm telephones some 35 per cent, or about 500,000 instruments.

The question for the people to decide is where they want the government to stop its socialization program. If the government is to operate power companies and telephone companies at the taxpayers' expense, on the ground that everyone has a divine right to telephones and electric lights, what next? Of one thing they can be certain: as the list of material "rights" grows longer, the list of spiritual rights, such as freedom of press and speech will grow shorter.

Bulwarking Private Enterprise

The action taken by North Carolina banks to assure ample credit for post-war small business is admirable both as to the encouragement it will lend the small businessman and as to the contribution it will make toward meeting government competition in the lending field.

In the face of a hard-headed business policy once pursued by the banks, many borrowers have turned to government agencies for their loans where they could get money easier, for a longer period of time and at a more reasonable rate of interest. The overall effect was to encourage government usurpation of the national economy.

The policy now being pursued by banks is aimed at curbing government loans by providing a loan system to meet the needs of all borrowers, for small or large amounts. Because the great majority of the people of this country are still strongly in favor of free enterprise, they will welcome the opportunity to borrow money from a privately-owned institution if it can fulfill their requirements rather than from agencies the patronization of which tends to strengthen the stranglehold of the government upon the national economy.

I can assure you, so far we haven't seriously unjoined the Jap war effort.—Lt.-Gen. Millard F. Harmon, Strategic Air Forces chief in Pacific.

Men, like pins, are useless when they lose their heads.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

In my mail the other day I found a newspaper, "The Honolulu Star-Bulletin" which was sent by Ralph F. Frink of the U. S. Navy, a son-in-law of J. J. Ludlum of Shallotte.

Whether by accident or design I do not know, but the paper was dated December 7, 1944. The headline glaringly announced "B-29s Strike Again" which sounds quite different from the one which the Hawaiian paper was forced to print on that fateful day three years ago.

This Honolulu paper seemed to me to be very much like our own papers. I found the same comics, the familiar Dorothy Dix column, and the well known and inevitable political commentators, but then I read a society item which listed as hostesses for a dance girls with names such as Okano Fujita, Ayame Kamali, Hane Kawanishi and Chiyoko Miyasato and it brought me up with a jerk. (The dance, by the way, was to increase sales in the 6th war loan drive)

Thanks, fellow, for sending the paper. I enjoyed it and I've enjoyed relaying some of it to the folks here at home.

A letter from Cpl. Winnie Willis expresses the thoughts of a lot of Brunswick County boys and girls in the service. Winnie says that she enjoys the Pilot, that "there is no news like home news, no gossip like home gossip, and no folks like home folks."

Winnie was commended awhile back for a special project she and several other WAC's completed at their air field near Washington. Her main thought is getting the war over so that she can come back to her home here. Meanwhile, she comes back every time she gets leave.

CPL. AUDIE PHELPS GERMAN PRISONER

(Continued from page one)
Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have three other sons in service; Albert L. Phelps, S. K. 1-c, somewhere in the Atlantic, Sgt. B. D. Phelps, who is with a hospital unit in France, and Coolidge Phelps, S. 1-c, in the Southwest Pacific. One of their nephews, Pfc. Aldred Phelps, is recovering in a hospital in England from wounds received in Germany on December 2. Two other nephews are also overseas and a niece is in the WAC in New Jersey.

County Over Quota In Polio Drive; Reports Incomplete

(Continued from Page 1)
ing is not indicative of the final figure raised in that area. Still unheard from the following areas: Orton, Winnabow, Leland and Bolivia. In a statement last night Mr. Lingle gave full credit to the fine workers in this drive and the cooperation he has received from the start. He expressed the apprecia-

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City Cut-Rate Store
SOUTHPORT, N. C.

tion of the National Foundation for the splendid work done and said that without the help of everyone the fine report could not be made.

Mr. Lingle especially praised the work of the students in his school. Though representing smallest school in the county, the students made a fine record for themselves. The second grade led the Southport school with \$63.00 raised. The third grade and the 8th grade also did especially good work.

It is hope that a final report can be made next week. In the meantime it is gratifying, says Mr. Lingle, to know that the county responded so well to the approval that the quota was doubled before the reports really started coming in.

Co-Defendant In Noted Case Under Criminal In Brunswick County Courts

(Continued from Page One)
ers Ward was located, alive and well in Florida. He was arrested and returned to Columbus county where he faced charges of attempting to defraud the insurance company. W. C. Ward and the third man on the fishing trip were also arrested on warrants charging conspiracy. They were held under bonds of \$5,000 each.

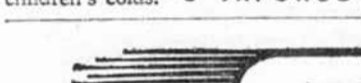
At the trial in Whiteville Willie Flowers Ward was convicted and given a prison term. W. C. Ward and the third man was also convicted. W. C. Ward now resides in Wilmington, where the present criminal charges against him originated with the forcing of the young woman into his car and the alleged criminal assault after he had driven her down into Brunswick county.

The Rovin' Reporter

(Continued from page one)
fact, the tales were so much alike that the O. P. A. got suspicious, the woman was refused the stamps she requested and to make certain that they acted right in refusing, an investigation was

CHILD'S COLDS

Most young mothers use this modern way to relieve miseries of children's colds. At bedtime they rub Vicks VapoRub on throat, chest and back. Grand relief starts as VapoRub...
PENETRATES to upper bronchial tubes with its special medicinal vapors, STIMULATES chest and back surfaces like a warming poultice. Often by morning most of the misery of the cold is gone! Remember—ONLY VAPORUB Gives You this special double action. It's time-tested, home-proved... the best-known home remedy for relieving miseries of children's colds.



made of the location where the first woman claimed to have a trailer camp. There was no trailer camp, no Gypsies, no trailer, no babies and no sign of such ever having been there. Returning to town there was likewise not a Gypsy here. They had left their cars on some other road and cleared as just as soon as they finished flim-flamming the public including the O. P. A.

Mrs. Babson Died On Friday Night

Mrs. Lanta Babson, wife of C. D. Babson, of Bolivia, Rt. 1, died in the J. Arthur Doshier Memorial hospital Friday night. She leaves a husband and several children.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday at the Smith cemetery in Waccamaw township by the Rev. E. B. Smith.

Is On His Way Back To States

Miss Melva LeHue, of Shallotte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. LeHue, has received a letter from her brother, W. K. LeHue, P. O. 3-c, saying that he is now on his way home.

He has been overseas nearly three years, having enlisted in the Navy in 1942. Serving continuously in foreign waters, this is his first trip home.

of the Southport Baptist church that Mr. James L. Kraft, Baptist layman of Chicago, will be the Baptist Hour speaker for next Sunday morning. The program can be heard over radio stations WBIG, Greensboro, and WTF, Raleigh, at 8:30 A. M. Eastern War Time.

HOME ON FURLOUGH

Allen Stanley of the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., is spending some time with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stanley, at Shallotte.

BAPTIST HOUR

Baptists in Brunswick County are reminded by Rev. A. L. Brown

Buy War Bonds regularly.

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