

The State Port Pilot

Southport, N. C.

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We Don't Believe It

Reports that came out of Berlin Monday were to the effect that Hitler was fighting with his troops on the streets of the German capital, against the rampaging Red armies.

Such reports must have been intended purely to inspire more fanatical fighting among his followers. When the truth about the taking of Berlin is written it will be found that Hitler was spending the time hiding in the safest hole he could find.

Give the Allies a little more time and they will see to it that the world's greatest criminal of all times gets into a hole for keeps.

We Are Civilized

For months in Germany, the country which Hitler once controlled and which he brought to the lowest depths of misery, the ever-victorious allied armies have been uncovering proof of Nazi crimes that surpassed the Spanish Inquisition.

Torture in the worst forms that could be devised by man, has been inflicted upon slave labor, inhabitants of conquered countries and in many thousands of cases upon equally helpless prisoners of war. The same thing holds true in Japan, German's ally and one-time co-dreamer of world conquest.

On a recent Saturday afternoon we noticed a large open commercial truck with no guard in evidence, unless he was one of the two men in the cab of the vehicle. The back of the truck was filled with Germans, prisoners of war, talking, laughing, waving to people as the truck passed. Inquiry revealed that the truck load of men were being taken down to a nearby beach to be allowed to bathe and have Saturday afternoon off. Those fellows were well fed, well clothed and unmistakably happy.

We wonder if they ever compare their lot with that of prisoners held in their own country?

Find Little Change

Men who have been in service overseas for any length of time, and who have seen the confusion that exists in places they have been, are puzzled when they return to the United States and find everything at their homes just about the same as when they left.

Of course there are some changes. Folks who were left behind are now a little older; some of the youngsters have grown up; many familiar faces are no longer soon. Aside from this, however, the returning service men are finding few changes. The appalling destruction encountered overseas where the war is being fought makes it difficult for the returning service man to realize that home and, to a large extent, the people, are just as he left them.

One thing is sure: If he folks here at home could see the destruction that exists in the war torn countries they would thank God that we are carrying the war to Germany and Japan, without waiting for them to bring it and its destruction here.

His Last Assignment

Ernie Pyle, homely little columnist and world-famed war correspondent, has covered his last assignment at the front and among the foot soldiers whom he loved and who loved him. He was killed last week by a Japanese machine gunner.

He was long known for his feature stories and spot news reporting, both of which were tops. His dispatches from the European theatre of war were read by millions, and he was claimed by foot soldiers as their own. He apparently cared little for the ranking officers. Hating war, but recognizing its necessity, he was always right where the fighting was, sending home news of G.I. Joe.

The news of Pyle's death has been

a great shock to the English speaking people. The Doughfoots have lost their best friend.

Ernie Pyle has now joined the ranks of those to whom he dedicated "Brave Men" in these words: "In solemn salute to those thousands of our comrades—great, brave men that they are—for whom there will be no homecoming, ever".

"We Got Power"

In war, failure to meet an assignment is inexcusable, on the part of civilians as well as the military. At home no industry has lived up to the demands of war with greater exactitude than the electric light and power industry. In addressing the members of the industry, Rear Admiral W. R. Monroe, U.S.N., said: "You delivered, each and every one of you—from executives in the front office to the men who climb the poles. When we called for power we got power and not—thank God—alibis."

When Politics Spelt Tragedy

Criticism of the calibre of treatment being received by war veterans in the veterans' hospitals throughout the nation, is spreading with the rapidity of a prairie fire. American men in the armed forces on active duty receive the best medical care in the world. But when they are retired to the status of veterans and are referred to the tender mercies of the Veterans' Administration they are subjected to incredibly poor hospital and medical care, according to reports. They have been receiving this kind of abuse apparently because the veterans' hospitals are swamped in red tape and high authorities are politicians rather than medical experts. Altogether, it is a shameful episode, and not the least tragic fact is that it will take precious time to effect a clean-up.

With public opinion aroused, there will undoubtedly be an investigation—a bill has already been introduced in Congress demanding a thorough one. But there will be interminable delays while the bureaucratic machinery of government turns out endless reports. Some day, months or years from now, veterans lying helpless in wards of these government hospitals, who all this time are getting care which would not be countenanced for a moment in a modern hospital, may get relief, if still alive.

This is what happens when politics is mixed with medicine. It is an example that should awaken all of us to the danger of hasty action on the question of how far we permit government to go in controlling civilian medical care. A mistake could mean lowered medical standards and the needless sacrifice of countless lives.

War Bond Drive

Now that the 7th War Loan Drive is near and almost everyone is doing his bit to help put it over it would be well to call attention to the part the banks of our State are performing in connection with the sale of War Bonds.

Banks sell War Bonds all the time, not just during the drives. During the drives, however, their work is much heavier and unless one is connected with a bank, their attention is not called to the work the banks are doing. The public has little idea of the amount of extra work they are doing in connection with the sale of War Bonds.

The banks are only too glad to do this work, but they do deserve a good strong "pat on the back" as there are probably very few people who realize the amount of credit they merit for all their efforts in selling Bonds. Remember, that banks do not get one cent for doing this work. The work is very exacting also, because if an error is made in issuing a bond another one must be issued because the Government does not permit an alteration or erasure on a Bond.

According to our information the percentage of bonds sold and processed through banks of the State of North Carolina during the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th War Loans constituted approximately 75 percent of the sales, even though the Government has a post office in every city and town and they also sell War Bonds. This is a record of which the banks can be justly proud and full recognition of this support has been given to banks by the Treasury Department of Washington, D. C. The banks are doing this fine job not only to serve the nation in time of war, but also to help keep the dollar sound by contributing to the prevention of inflation. We can say, that the banks would appreciate and are entitled to this recognition from the general public.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

NOTICE

We have two perfectly good stories which should have gone in this week's Pilot, but we can't print them because there was no name signed to them. We'd like to know who sent them so that we can have them next week.

This can also be a reminder for all future contributions: we can't possibly publish news unless we know who sends it in. We won't sign your name in the paper, but it is necessary that we know it.

No General has captured the public imagination and won more admiration from an erstwhile begrudging people than General George Patton. An unfortunate affair some months ago threatened to put an end to the legend which was forming around the swaggering general, but he made a mighty comeback in his sweep into Germany from the time of the Normandy break through.

This week another incident has been added to the long list of dramatic episodes and it is one which will elevate him in the estimation of those of us here at home.

General Patton, after capturing the Bruchewald prison camp and witnessing the horrors which he found there, compelled the civilian population of the adjacent town, both men and women, to walk through the camp and see for themselves evidence of the bestiality of their Nazi regime. A news release states that some of the Germans, on being marched by the half-burned bodies in the crematoriums, tried not to look at the spectacle, but American officers, on orders from General Patton, forced them to turn their heads toward the scene.

Of course this doesn't lessen the harm already done, but it will help drive through the heads of the remaining Germans, that they are responsible for allowing such things to happen. It might be a good idea for all Germans to have to witness such sights. Maybe then they won't expect to be let off without punishment for their great crimes.

The Rovin' Reporter

(Continued from page one)
With acreage taken into account, Grover Gore of the Grissettown community, undoubtedly has the finest field of oats we have seen, excepting our own. After taking us over the better part of Shallotte township last Saturday LeRoy Mintz, the Brunswick county soil conservationist, sarcastically inquired, "Now will I have to take you over Waccamaw township next Saturday to show you some better oats than yours are?"

Couple of years ago E. C. Blake, a rather wide-awake farmer and trucker from up-state, became interested in Brunswick farming possibilities and bought the Swain place in the Midway section. Last year he produced some wonderful truck crops. Last week he was telling us he was growing 35 acres in truck crops and everything was looking fine. By way of illustration, he had four acres in tomatoes already loaded with blooms. Also four acres in beans, that were getting well fruited.

Grissettown folks appear to be extremely well pleased over the fact that the W. B. & S. Bus, to and from Whiteville, now passes through there. The route is slightly longer than the direct Shallotte to Ash route over the paved road. However, the rerouting enables the bus line to serve a great many more people. At one time, Saturday, the bus enroute to Whiteville had 44 passengers. People along the River Road also seem greatly pleased at obtaining bus service, even if limited. It is naturally understood that with the end of the war efforts will be made to render better service on all of the bus company's routes.

Miss McLamb, the new Brunswick county home agent, has an apartment with Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Willis, at Shallotte. With her office at Supply the selection of Shallotte for her residence enables her to render much more efficient service as she is only seven miles from her office. She found it impossible to obtain accommodations at Supply.

Miss Bertha Pierce, one of the capable workers in the AAA office at Supply, has been quite ill since early last week. She is now a patient in a Wilmington hospital and it is understood that an operation will be performed this week.

"When the fishing law opens again, come down to Waccamaw and I will take you after some of those big red breasts," said J. P. Jones last week. Mr. Jones is a fresh water fisherman of parts and to him, like all fishermen who know them, there is no fish so

beautiful as those beautiful "red breasts" that are found so plentifully in the Waccamaw river.

Not all of them know it, but the fact remains that as lespedeza spreads throughout the county as the most valuable hay crop that can be grown in this section, the farmers who grow it will be doing much to replenish the dwindling supply of quail. The birds thrive on lespedeza seed and what they eat does not constitute any loss to the farmer who grows the lespedeza. Unless our understanding is incorrect, Rice Gwynn, LeRoy Mintz, and various other farmers who are interested in wildlife, are planting varieties of lespedeza the seed of which are especially suited for quail feed. This planting is being done in places where there is little quail food and with the sole idea of feeding the birds.

Capt. W. T. White, skipper at the State Highway Prison Camp at Shallotte, stated Saturday that the camp farm was producing plenty of food stuffs for all of the 41 men now kept there. In addition to the good truck crops, the camp has an abundance of chick-



Pepsi-Cola Company, Long Island City, N. Y.

Franchise Bottler:—Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of Wilmington, N. C.

Hay And Grain Prospects Are Not Very Encouraging

(Continued from Page 1)
of J. J. Ludlum an especially fine field of oats was seen. Mr. Ludlum goes for small grain extensively and follows it a with lespedeza. Last year, he had nearly 50 acres in the hay crop and reaped an enormous harvest. It is thought his lespedeza may be all right this year as the good small grain crop nursed it along.

Between the fine farm of Herbert Russ and that of three colored farmers, brothers but whose were not learned, a 500 yard long drainage canal has just recently been blasted out with dynamite by Mr. Russ with the three colored farmers cooperating. This canal bids fair to prove very valuable from the standpoint of giving better drainage and the use of dynamite in its construction eliminated what would have otherwise proved an unsurmountable problem. The explosive cleared a way through trees, stumps and roots.

A little further on was the W. C. Gore farm, bought three years ago by Claude Gore, one of three very industrious farmers, all of whom are rated as tops at cultivating and building up farm lands. Mr. Gore has a great deal of land in grain and it was in air shape. He goes in for lespedeza extensively, produces a lot of corn, tobacco and other crops. In his immediate section he was one of the pioneers in ditching with dynamite.

The old A. J. Brown place, sold three years ago to James Higgins, a former Horry County farmer, was noted as being on the mend. A little further on the newer A. J. Brown place, also sold recently to Prince Hewett, presents a very attractive appearance, although it is located a little distance off the road. From there to the junction of the Whiteville-Grissettown roads are a number of fine little farms, all bearing evidence of being well tended. The names of the owners was not learned. Going towards Whiteville the

fine farm and attractive home of D. B. Frink was passed. Mr. Frink is a hard worker and uses brainwork with his farming operations. He not only lives on his farm but he is making a real success at farming.

Just beyond D. B. Frink's, the two places adjoining, is the unusually fine farm of his brother, Sam J. Frink. He is also a hard worker and makes farming pay in a big way. In this effort he is aided by the ownership of farm land that is tops for agricultural purposes.

Back towards Grissettown and just at the edge of the D. B. Frink farm was another long drainage canal that called for the expenditure of about \$400.00 to blow it.

Some fine farming lands and good homes were encountered all along the way to Grissettown. Beyond Grissettown and towards Seaside are the fine farms of the Grissetts. The father, Allard Grissett, died only a few months ago and one son, Walter Grissett, died still more recently. The elder Mr. Grissett gave six sons to the armed service, five of whom are understood to be still serving.

The object of the trip towards Seaside was to see an outfield of about twelve acres belonging to Grover R. Gore, brother of Claude Gore and of M. C. Gore, of Longwood. Three years ago, already owning and cultivating a fine farm of his own, Mr. Gore bought the old A. G. Frink place from Lee Frink of Supply and Mrs. E. H. Smith, of Southport. Information is that he has made enough from the farm in the three years to more than pay for it. His twelve acres in oats are perhaps the best in Brunswick this year.

Back to Grissettown through that thriving community and to Shallotte over Route 17, many fine farms, among them, M. L. Holden and the C. H. Russ were passed. Good land and good farm work was evidenced all the way.

REGISTRATION

City Registration Books Will Be Open For
Registration Of Voters On—

Saturday, April 28th

AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES

1st Ward—Capt. Fred Doshier's Store

2nd Ward—Harrell's Funeral Home

3rd Ward—Court House

SATURDAY, MAY 5, CHALLENGE DAY

TUESDAY, MAY 8, ELECTION DAY

REGISTRARS

1st Ward—Capt. Fred Doshier

2nd Ward—Mrs. Elizabeth Gilbert

3rd Ward—Mrs. Annie K. Vitou