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EDITORIALS

Of People and Things

Over the Top Again

It cannot but be a keen pleasure and a touching pride for the boys overseas to learn of the loyalty and the patriotism of the folks back home who have in every great bond campaign shown their appreciation for the fight that is being made for them and for their freedom and the safety of their homes.

It is with keen pride and gratitude that we are able to say North Carolina and Stokes county have always stood true, and both have far oversubscribed their quotas in every drive.

Stokes county has never yet fallen down on a great moral obligation, where the conditions were clear and understood. This consciousness must be exceedingly satisfying to our people.

But when we say "our people" it is with reservations, for it is a well known and disgraceful fact that many of our citizens who are financially able have not invested a dollar in war bonds, when they know that this money is being spent for the arming and feeding and clothing of the young men who have given up their all in the stupendous effort to save this nation, many of them now making the supreme sacrifice.

This is not the worst of the situation. Many of our citizens have not only refused to buy a bond, but have used their influence, both positively and indirectly, to disparage buying by others, and to discourage those who have bought.

Such action or attitude brings these slackers and saboteurs into a sinister light, and in its encouragement and comfort to the enemy amounts to treason to the country.

Not all of us can offer the government the tribute of the Bob Simmonses, with five boys in the service; of the Buck Cardwells, with five boys in the service; or the Roy Kings, with four boys in the service; of many other families with one or more boys now at the dangerous fronts of battle.

But everybody can do something. Everybody can buy a bond to take care of the boys the best that can be done.

Those who do nothing, and are even at work trying their best to undo what is being done by others, are inexpressibly contemptible in the sight of true Americans.

When the boys come home to stay how unenviable will be the position of those who have betrayed them at home.

Nearly every high authority says now the war in Germany will be over in 1944, and some even predict the end in 30 to 60 days. The Huns are reeling on every front. The Russians are blasting the German "sacred soil" at East Prussia, with 11 armies along the line. The Americans are within 70 miles of Paris.

Razing the Hell-Raisers

Unreasonable opposition born of senseless hate on the part of Senators and Congressmen of his administration has been an annoyance with which President Roosevelt has had to contend during his terms of office to a greater extent than possibly any other President of the United States since Andrew Jackson.

It must be quite a distinct relief to the President, as it is an unalloyed pleasure to his friends and supporters of his administration, to see the ranks of the Haters gradually but surely crumbling as one after another of them is relegated to that political oblivion from which he should never have been removed.

For instance, Senator Bennett Clark, whose pro-German vote in St. Louis was unable to save him from a crushing and ignominious defeat in the late primary. He is one of that isolationist coterie whose efforts have held down the nation's preparedness for war.

And old man Cotton Ed Smith who disgraced his State of South Carolina with his frothing animosity to everything the President advocated—no matter what it was. He was overwhelmingly and hopelessly laid on cold storage for aye.

Dies of Texas and Reynolds of North Carolina—each reading the handwriting on the wall, each refrained from running again, and their seats will be taken by progressive and patriotic successors.

Rufus Holman of Oregon, and Worth Clark of Idaho, rabid isolationists, senseless obstructionists, both beaten by liberal Republicans.

Jim Farley, ex-Tammany Hall chieftain, disgruntled because the people didn't want him for President in 1940, tried again, got one vote at Chicago, disgusted and foaming, retires consoled only by the \$200,000 fee he got from the Coco Cola people. He is effectually shelved.

Senator Byrd, illusioned by his fool friends, disillusioned by the delegations who swept the deck for Roosevelt, may retire to his economical spasms, sadder but infinitely wiser.

While they didn't get Wheeler and Nye—the arch Haters and Isolationists—each was renominated by the skin of his teeth, both will undoubtedly be defeated in the fall elections.

So passeth the Hell-Raisers.

Reports from the border belt tobacco openings this week are calculated to make farmers smile. The price is high, at Lumberton, at Taylor's warehouse, the highest average in the history of the market was made. Lumberton market sold 495,006 pounds at an average of \$43.43. Growers were paid \$214,982.74.

Road Commissioner For Stokes

When Governor Cherry comes into his office, it will be very appropriate that he appoint a Stokes county man as Highway Commissioner for this district, in order that Stokes county may share in the State's new program of good roads soon to be installed, either after the war is over or before.

When has Stokes county ever been honored by an appointive office of consequence? Other counties on every side of us have had this honor, and other counties on every side of us have been benefited by fine systems of good roads.

In the great highway program of the State there is an unwritten law, if not a statutory obligation, that a direct hard-surface road shall connect each county seat with its neighbor. But this obligation was disregarded in the case of Stokes.

No road in the district is needed worse than a direct hard surface connection between the county seats of Stokes and Rockingham. To reach the county seat of Rockingham, the traveller from Stokes must go some fifteen miles out of his way over a good road. A modern highway should be built directly east from Danbury to Madison. No other arrangement will be carrying out the State's obligation, which has been observed in most other counties. This neglect is clearly due to the fact that while other counties have had representation on the State Highway Commission, Stokes has not.

If Stokes county has no one capable of serving in the capacity of road commissioner, we should unite on either a Surry or Rockingham man.

But Stokes county has plenty of timber from which an able and conscientious Commissioner could be selected, for instance Lawrence MacRae of Walnut Cove, Harvey Johnson of German-ton, John L. Christian or E. F. Stone of Pinnacle, O. O. Grabs of King, and several others.

A road from Capella to Meadows should be built, the road from Walnut Cove towards Belews Creek is badly needed, and No. 89 from Westfield to Hardbank should be completed.

We shall be glad to see Governor Cherry contacted in time for this most urgent need for our county, which may certainly, we believe, be achieved.

The increased ceiling of \$250 on tobacco will make many extra dollars for the farmers. On the border belt leaf is bringing up to 48 dollars per hundred. The Stokes farmers are in for a killing—it looks now. Congratulations to the fellows who deserve what they get. May they get what they deserve.