

THE Perquimans Weekly

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1944

SOUND SPIRITUAL LAW: And his mercy is on them, that fear him from generation to generation.—Luke 1:160.

The Drive Is On

This week saw the beginning of the Fourth War Loan drive during which the Treasury Department urges the men, women and children of this county to invest a total of \$227,000 in war bonds, to help raise the sum of 14 billion dollars needed to finance the war.

The County War Finance Committee is busy now making calls and taking applications for bonds. Have you signed yet?

If not, now is the time to begin. Go to your bank or postoffice and buy as many war bonds as you possibly can. The drive is on.

Our armed forces are now storming the very gates of the Axis and to insure final victorious results, they must continue to receive the materials of war which gives superiority over the enemy.

The dollars you lend by purchasing war bonds provide these materials. Let's not fail in this task of meeting our quota during the Fourth War Loan.

Russia To Dominate Europe After War

The people of the United States might just as well begin to learn some of the simple ABC's relative to the settlement of affairs in Europe, including the Polish question.

We have considerable sympathy for the aspirations and ambitions of the Poles. Out of the settlement of this war there should arise, no doubt, a new Poland. But this does not necessarily require that it should contain every square mile of territory that was Polish in 1939.

The supreme fact, to be recognized in considering every European settlement, is the might and power of Soviet Russia. When Germany is defeated, Joseph Stalin will have ample force at his disposal to apply a Russian settlement to all questions arising in Eastern Europe.

This fundamental power is the No. 1 fact affecting the determination of the boundaries and the existence of smaller states. It can be erased only by the mobilization of greater power, able to operate effectively in Eastern Europe.

We hope that the Soviet Government will conclude that its interests suggests a policy of cooperation with Great Britain, the United States and other nations but it is also possible that the Russians will decide to make their own disposals, with an eye to the future security of their country.

If Russia puts no faith in international cooperation, the cold fact is that the entire area of Eastern Europe will be completely dominated by the Soviet. This includes Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Rumania.

These states can expect no armed assistance from the United States or Great Britain if they elect to make war against Russia. The quicker their friends understand this, the sooner and safer will become their independent existence.

The Russians, as nearly as we can make out, are not yet sure that a reoriented world will follow the defeat of Hitler. They are probably doubtful of the effectiveness of any understanding with the Western Democracies.

Even if Stalin and his advisers are ready to consider the possibility of mutual cooperation, they seem inclined to create conditions which will safeguard Russia in the event that the new collaboration collapses.

Desperate Air Defense

As more information comes in on Tuesday's great air battle over Germany the impression of determined but desperate defense is increased. It is still not clear whether the Germans thought the attack by 700 American bombers and their fighter escorts was aimed at Berlin. The actual targets—plane factories at Halberstadt, Ocherstehow, and Bismarck—are quite possibly more vital than the capital itself. Indeed they are so vital that the

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

Senator George's Tax Views Says Income Levy At Top War May Require Sacrifice

Senator Walter F. George, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, points out that since 1940 Federal tax collections have risen six hundred per cent, or from \$5,925,000,000 to about \$41,000,000,000 for the current fiscal year which ends June 30th next.

The Georgia legislator reports that many persons in and out of Congress believe the limit has been reached in raising additional revenue and that to comply with the recommendations of the Treasury Department "would shatter the public morale."

There is much to the point made by Senator George, who calls attention to the increased taxes paid by individuals. He says that few persons realize that with the carry-over of the 1942 or 1943 tax, required to be paid in 1944 and 1945, "no individual, no matter how high his income," will have left more than \$25,000, assuming his income remains constant and that his uncancelled tax is paid out of current income.

It should be considered, as Senator George suggests, that Federal taxes must be added to various State income, excise and sales taxes, as well as other property taxes and special taxes of political subdivisions scattered throughout the country.

The Senator makes it clear that to raise \$8,000,000,000 more, as recommended by the Treasury Department, without resort to compulsory savings, a general retail sales levy or other new methods opposed by Congress, would, in his own opinion, disrupt the country's economy not only for the present but for the post-war period.

The Senator's argument, contained in a recent radio address, emphasizes the plight of individual taxpayers. It is undoubtedly true that many Americans are paying what would have been considered exorbitant taxation on their incomes in pre-war years.

From the facts presented by the Senator, one is inclined to agree that Federal taxation of individual incomes is high enough but there are other facts involved in the discussion.

There is no way to escape the financial burden of warfare. The nation is engaged in what amounts to two serious wars at the same time, which require the expenditure of cash at a rate unprecedented in the history of mankind.

Certainly, individuals who make up the nation must understand that those at home have a burden in connection with modern war. The burden consists at present of certain rather minor inconveniences in regard to essential commodities and the necessity of paying part of the expenses of the grim struggle.

Every loyal American wants to do his, or her, share on the home front, but in accordance with human nature, most of us are extremely reluctant to accept the necessity for financial sacrifice. We can find all sorts of excuses to avoid taxation which means definite and non-transferable reductions in our planned style of living.

We are not inclined to insist upon heavier rates on individual incomes but, if necessary, the people of the United States can pay heavier taxes for victory.

It will mean reduced standards of living, a postponement of desired luxuries and pleasures and a painful contribution to the common cause. To suggest that this is impossible is nonsense, even if one admits that the bulk of our people do not desire such an experience.

U. S. Has A Polish Question That May Become Political
 The much discussed Polish question concerns the United States to this extent, that in New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Michigan and some other states, there are numer-

ous citizens of Polish birth and their votes may be thrown to one party or another on the issue of what Russia does to Poland. This is obviously unfortunate. Citizens of the United States should vote according to the interests of this nation but there is no way to dissipate the natural ties that lead many of them to look with affection and concern toward the land of their nativity.

If the "Polish vote" becomes decisive in close states, and it may be so in view of political leaders, there will be a tendency to play up to the Poles, regardless of our relationship with Russia. A matter of deep concern, our future cooperation with the Soviet for world peace, will become the football of politics.

The observations made in regards to the Poles apply equally to those of other nationalities—Germans, Italians, Russians, Swedes, Irish, English and others. All of these foreign-born, and some of their descendants, will be deeply influenced by settlements that affect the lands of their birth. In fact, there are so many foreign-born, and children of foreign-born, in the United States that some observers assert that it is almost impossible for any American government to stay in office without making a definite play to their voting strength. Naturally, the Germans will be interested in the fate of Germany, where many of their relatives live. The Italians will be concerned with Italy, and so on. It is a distinct threat to the development of a firm foreign policy that will have regard to nothing but the self-interest of the United States.

Year, we come to our annual speculation as to the operation of German U-boats in the Atlantic Ocean. The shipping situation has improved so much within the past twelve months that it is doubtful if many Americans appreciate the full extent of the defeat inflicted upon the Nazis.

Only a year ago, there was something like consternation in this country over reported depredations of U-boats. German construction was exceeding the sinking of U-boats and there was talk about a great Spring offensive. Estimates as to the extent of losses suffered in 1942 approached fantastic figures.

Recently, a joint Anglo-American statement reported on cargo tonnage lost in 1943, putting it at only forty per cent of 1942. This is indefinite because no official report has been made as to the tonnage lost in 1942.

Not much information comes from the additional statement that the tonnage of new merchant vessels constructed in 1943 was more than twice as great. Figures of the Maritime Commission indicate that American shipyards constructed 1,896 ships of 19,238,626 deadweight tons in 1943, but "more than twice as great" can mean anything below 9,600,000 tons.

Some light on the extent of our losses comes from a German broadcast which claims that Nazi forces sank 754 Allied ships during 1943, including 607 merchantships totaling 3,784,500 tons.

Consequently, it appears that the Germans claim to have sunk less than 4,000,000 tons of merchant shipping in 1943. It is interesting to note that German claims credit the U-boats with sinking 593 merchant vessels of the 607 claimed to have been sunk.

It is reasonable to conclude, on the basis of the German broadcast, that shipping losses in 1943 aggregated 3,784,500 tons, or less. In fact, it is extremely improbable that the Germans destroyed as many tons as claimed in the German broadcast.

It seems indisputable that the Allied shipping situation has improved very greatly and that American shipyards, alone, constructed in 1943 four times as much tonnage as the Germans were able to destroy.

Congressional Strategists:
 The statement by some Congressmen that a cross-channel invasion of Europe is unnecessary and that we can win the war without such an enterprise is a typical example of the politician who says something without regard to its implication.

If our soldiers invade Europe, it will be because our military leaders, including General Marshall and others, believe that such an attack is necessary. So when a Senator says otherwise he is not only setting his judgment against that of the men responsible for our national safety but carelessly sowing discontent among ignorant people.

Luckily, the vast majority of our citizens have sense enough to permit military experts to conduct our warfare. Whenever the time comes that this nation allows politically-minded legislators to direct its strategy the republic will be on the way out.

Risky Venture To Set Apple Trees

It's a risky venture to begin setting apple trees now, unless the grower has enough capital to pay the cost of planting and caring for the orchard until it is ten years old, says C. E. Vandeman, horticulturist with the Experiment Station at State College.

He predicts that apples will bring good returns for the next three or four years or more but, if history repeats itself, the prices which farmers receive for their products, including apples, will decline rapidly just as they did in 1921.

He suggests that anyone wishing to enter the apple business should buy a small orchard of bearing age. "An orchardist, who now has a few hundred trees, should seriously consider setting out more trees, because that will be the best investment for the profits of the next few years," Vandeman says.

He points out that the 1943 apple crop was one of the shortest on record, particularly in the Eastern and

Central states. Also, the peach crop was extremely small and this increased the demand for apples and other fruits. The rationing of all canned and dried fruits further helped to increase the demand for apples.

Since apple orchards set during the next few years will not be in full production until they are fifteen to twenty years old, Vandeman urges growers to use caution in making their future plans.

Simple Tax Plan, Yoo Hoo! People Wonder About Reports
 About a year ago, the nation was excited over an easy, painless tax plan, proposed by Leardley Ruml, who asserted that it would mean increased revenue for the Government, free 75,000,000,000 from the hazard of income tax debt, simplify the whole system of paying income taxes and let all income taxpayers skip a year.

The debate waxed fast and furious throughout the country, until Congress finally adopted a compromise, including a 50 per cent cancellation of taxes for persons owing \$67 or less and seventy-five per cent of the year's taxes for all others.

The unabated fourth, or about \$2,000,000,000 became payable over a two-year period and a twenty per cent withholding tax became effective on July 1st at the source to make taxpayers current.

While there continues to exist differences of opinion as to the effect of the new plan upon Federal income and how the plan benefits those with large incomes in 1942 and 1943, there is general agreement that the simplification feature is a farce.

Under the law which existed prior to the pay-as-you-go act, the taxpayer made a return in March reporting his income for the year before. After calculating the amount of the tax due, the account was settled in cash by the wealthy and in quarterly payments by the bulk of Americans.

Under the new legislation the taxpayer will have to file a return in March, which is much more complicated than last year's form. This is a report on income for 1943, in order that actual income may be checked against estimates submitted to the Treasury in September and December.

In addition, the taxpayer must file an estimate of 1944 income, and, in addition, figure out the amount owed the Government under the one-fourth payment on the year skipped, which will be 1943, or 1942, whichever income is lower.

Taxpayers must also report the amount of taxes which have been withheld and already paid by their employers.

U-Boats Failed In 1943 Record Shows Nazi Defeat

With the beginning of the New

Notice To Readers

From time to time this newspaper receives from its readers such items as Cards of Thanks, In Memoriams, poetry and letters to the editor.

It is our rule that all Cards of Thanks, In Memoriams and poems are published only when paid for at our regular advertising rates, and the charges must be paid in advance.

As to letters to the editor, we are glad to receive them, and will publish them, free of charge, providing that they are not of a controversial nature and that the writer signs his or her name to the letters. Signatures are not necessarily published, but the newspaper must know from whom the letter is received. We shall not publish any letter not signed by the writer, and due to the shortage of newsprint, request that length of letters be as short as possible.

Central states. Also, the peach crop was extremely small and this increased the demand for apples and other fruits. The rationing of all canned and dried fruits further helped to increase the demand for apples.

BUY WAR BONDS!

Weather Forecast

Old Man Winter has arrived, and from all indications he will stay on a spell . . . so it's time to cut more wood and time to think about getting to work clearing out ditches and fence rows.

We can supply you with most of the Hardware items you will need to do these jobs . . . come in and get yours. Don't waste time, tires and gasoline hunting for items. We have them.

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- BUSH HOOKS — SPADES — FORKS
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