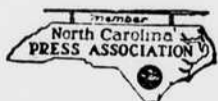


THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

CAROLINA'S FIRST
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CARROLL WILSON, Owner and Editor

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EDITORIAL

?? ? 1943 ? ? ?

No man knows what will happen in this New Year, to our mind, most fateful of all the war years. Success? Failure? Stalemate? What we do know is how we should face the New Year of 1943. We had planned what we would write on this subject but yesterday we received a statement from Senator J. W. Bailey which is so like what we wanted to write and so much better written that we use this column for it with the hope that you will read it, think deeply upon it, make it your New Years Resolution.

● ● From the outset I have taken the view that the war in which we are engaged is total war and will require total effort — meaning by total effort the undivided effort and unreserved devotion of every man, woman, and child in our country.

The year, 1943, upon which we are entering will in every day of it and every hour, be a time that tries the souls of men and women and children. This is not rhetoric. Our souls will indeed be tried in 1943 and all the way through. We ought to have an end of complaining and men ought to be made ashamed of complaining. We must assume the attitude of the soldiers who are now either fighting or preparing to fight in our behalf. They must obey orders. They must do their duty whatever the price. Some must die, others must be hungry, others may be captured, others may be wounded. Every one will be deprived of his liberty and his autonomy. We must pull the whole country together in united effort. The labor leaders must cease to think that they can use this opportunity to collect fees or increase their membership or aggrandize their power. Business men, farmers, and all sorts and conditions of men must cease to be thinking about how to get ahead or how to get money other than the necessities of livelihood. The object now is not political power, nor is it world advancement, or improved conditions or the making of money. There is but one objective now and that is the winning of this war. There is but one duty now and that is to sustain the Government and its Armed Forces. It is possible that by a great unity we may end the war within 1943 and it is certain that by disunity we can disrupt all plans and prolong the war for many years. We must endure hardship like good soldiers and each one of us do what he can to bring about victory and refuse to do anything that might retard victory.

I do not mean to say that reasonable criticism is out of order, but I question whether this criticism should be voiced in the streets or in the newspapers. If you have a criticism there are those with whom you can file it. If you desire information there are those from whom you can obtain it. Whatever we are doing here now in this country is reported abroad and complaints and failures to fall in with

VICTORY! is the Password



the Government in its plan and efforts are promptly reported to the Axis Powers with a view to improving their morale, and these complaints when so reported do improve morale and greatly strengthen the Axis Powers.

Let us undertake, every one of us, to convince them that our country is united and determined and that every one of us here will be doing whatever he may be called upon to do or suffer to sustain our war effort and win through to victory.

I think we owe this to our soldiers and sailors and men in the air. We owe it also to our country and ourselves and to God.

This is the first time our country has ever been called upon to unite in total war and the first time every man, woman, and child in it has been called upon to sacrifice himself or herself, to deny himself or herself of anything and everything in order that victory may be won.

This is my message to the people of North Carolina as we begin the New Year. I am deeply sensible of the great honor they have conferred upon me in electing me for a third term to serve them and our country in the Senate. I intend to render a faithful service by speaking candidly to them of their duty and by representing them faithfully in the Senate and here at the seat of our Government. The service will manifest itself in two ways — one by candid statements to constituents and the other by faithful representation both in the Senate and to the Executive Department of the Government and all its branches. Once the victory shall have been won we may go forward with our interests, our demands for advancement, our general hopes of progress, — but for the present let us devote ourselves with a single mind to one objective and that is victory in this war and so far as may be possible a permanent peace thereafter.

Since this is a New Year message I will express my wish for a Happy New Year for all our people and will add that we will find our greatest happiness this year in bearing our burdens and doing our part without complaint and with a hearty cooperation. Let us strive and endure in earnest hope that the present struggle will be the final World War — the final war. It is not necessary that we enter 1943 sadly or in dread. Let us enter it with hope and faith and unshakable resolution to bear every burden and do our part that the next New Year may come in peace or such prospects of peace and such retrospects of duty done as will make glad all hearts everywhere.

Josiah W. Bailey

● ● Tactless, irritating Leon Henderson is on his way out. His job was to ration and fix price ceilings, to preserve our supplies for the war effort and to try to prevent inflation which would whip us quicker than Hitler or the Japs. His was a heart-

less and a thankless job. But it was an honest job, a successful job and that is all that counts these days. 1943 and America need more men like Henderson.

His successor faces many more problems which will stir the public to quick fretfulness. Canned goods will be rationed soon. Meats will be rationed drastically. Milk and butter are next. Things will get tighter so far as gasoline and fuel oil are concerned. Clothing rations will come later. College educations will be just about out for the duration. And on and on the problems of Henderson's successor will grow. The answer is reasonably simple to reasonable people: This total war we are in will take two-thirds of everything we have or hoped to have. The remaining one-third is left for civilians. In order that the one-third be distributed as widely as possible, it MUST be rationed out.

With all rationing and paying heavier taxes to help win the war, the happiest people are going to be those who know that such things must be done in war times, prepare themselves for it, sacrifice gladly as long as they know that is their small part in the great effort and go to bed each night with a clear conscience of having done all they could to help win the war. Those who can not adjust themselves to this new situation are in for a Hell of a time.

Figures are showing that petty crimes are on the upsurge as expected during war times. The excitement, the change, the uncertainty works on some people. In order that there be no breakdown on the home front, these times challenge the best that is in our law enforcement agencies and our courts of justice. They must be on the alert more than ever. A breakdown of the home front of law and morals and decent living would be fatal for the men on the battle fronts are expecting us to keep those things intact for which they are fighting and dying.

While the nation mourned Pearl Harbor and remembered a year ago, eight major strikes affecting war production were in progress. Involved were 8,657 workers. The CIO had three

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