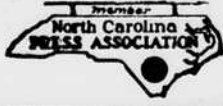


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EDITORIAL

WHEN THE SOLDIER RETURNS

Fighting men in combat zones give serious thought to the kind of a country they will return to and to what those at home are doing about the future.

A clear understanding of what many of the men are thinking was given in a letter from Major General Robert S. Beightler to Fred I. Rowe, of Hicksville, Ohio, Chairman of the Market Development Committee of the Associated General Contractors of America. General Beightler is a former director of highways of Ohio, and at one time was himself a highway contractor. For three years he has commanded a division of men from every state in the union, training them in peace and leading them in battle. Their concerns are his concerns. From the battlefields of the South Pacific he wrote in part:

"The soldiers must win the war to preserve their American society. This they are doing brilliantly, courageously and certainly. They understand this mission. In so living and fighting, and dying, there men find their reward in the belief and expectation that the homes to which they return, and the life they left behind, when the victory is won, will be substantially like those which they left behind.

"It would seem that nothing would be more reassuring to a soldier than evidence that all these problems, and these concerns of theirs, are being considered by their countrymen at home—now. Remove from his mind concern for the future and his fight today will be devastating; his achievement of victory assured.

"The specific attack to the specific problem must be made by the soldier's own townspeople, his own neighbors, and his former employer. Evidences of such local effort are already apparent in certain American communities. This kind of planning strikes home to the soldier in a New Guinea foxhole. Each soldier will feel that his countrymen are doing their full part to win the peace—just as he now does his full share to achieve the victory—if he sees that they are:

"Giving full and serious consideration to his individual problem,

"Cooperating with state and Federal agencies for an overall solution to the problems, and not sitting back and waiting for Uncle Sam to solve it,

"Planning real work for him—not a dole or charity,

"Making bold, decisive, well-thought-through plans for prosperous peacetime activities within his community, industrially and in all other endeavor, to maintain the business and production

Schools Open



(WNU Service)

facilities of the community when war production is no longer needed.

"Showing him that we are as determined as he that opportunities for unregimented, individual endeavor in the pursuit of happiness and security shall continue to be his birthright as an American citizen.

"Victory for us may bring with it bitter fruits if this serious problem is not anticipated and planned for now. It is a collective responsibility, and help in solving it must be provided by every American community and every American himself."

(Reprinted from *The Constructor*, April, 1944)

NO TIME TO LET UP

Today's war is like a huge assembly line. The finished product may be a barrage blowing up enemy tanks or machine-gun fire smashing a counter-attack but the beginning is in some kind of factory. If the factory fails there isn't any finished product and if the factory slows down there isn't enough finished product. And if there isn't enough finished product we don't win our war so soon and we spend more lives winning it. The assembly part of the line is just as important as the firing part of the line. It's one single process and every one is a soldier.

We haven't manned our factories, forges and foundries with soldiers and are not likely to do so. But workers, managers and owners will have to behave like soldiers if we are to keep the casualty lists down and get an early peace.

Not all of them are doing it. When bad news was coming they stepped up. Now that good news is in almost every day's newspapers they tend to let down. At least some of them do. People are leaving war jobs in order to get what they consider peace jobs. Management in many cases is itching to convert from war-time to peace-time production. No doubt they feel safer so. But if enough workers and enough managers and owners make this shift the country isn't going to be safe, because it won't be able to finish the war.

Such a failure is not conceivable. We'll finish the war, all right. But the responsibility doesn't lie on the other fellow. It lies on each of us: on labor to keep working in war jobs; on ownership and management to forget post-war opportunities until the Army and Navy don't need their product any more; on consumers to go without some luxuries until they can be manufactured without harm to the war effort. The soldier isn't feathering his nest to any noticeable extent. Why should the rest of us?

DISTOMO: SUCCESSOR TO LIDICE

Lidice was destroyed in June, 1942. The male inhabitants were butchered. The town was razed to the ground. The German authors of this act

boasted that they had removed Lidice from the map.

In fact, however, they made it immortal. And they made themselves immortal in infamy in the same way as did Eratosthratos, who burnt the temple of Diana at Ephesus, in 356 B. C., in order that his name might be remembered. Ironically enough, historians have spelled his name in three different fashions, so that it is hard to know which one to remember. It is odd that the name Hitler can be spelled so variously too.

The civilized world accepted this wanton act at Lidice as symbolical of that furer Teutonicus which has found its latest and most flaming expressions in Nazidom. But it is possible that few decent folk expected the Germans to repeat, again and again, the same barbaric stupidity. The decent folk were wrong.

Since Lidice, there has been the village of Czech Malin, utterly destroyed, its inhabitants (women and children included this time) burned alive. There has been the village of St. Ginggolph, France. And now, in July of 1944, we must add the village of Distomo, in Greece; another Lidice, after so many others.

Herostratus, the temple-burner, was content with his one fiery crime. Let us remember Distomo, not as an isolated horror, but as another strand in the rope with which Germany has tried to strangle all our world. Distomo will be rebuilt, but it is already immortal. How long, how deeply, shall we remember those who made it so, and how they set about it? How shall we spell their name?

Carry Food By Hand To Front Lines In Guam

During the battle for Guam, hot coffee, sandwiches and cookies were served twice daily to members of an engineer unit of Major General Allen Hal Turnage's Third Marine Division serving with assault troops.

This food was transported as far forward as possible by truck, then carried by hand to the front lines. The men also had field rations.

The unit's cooks alternated in carrying the food forward. They were Staff Sergeant William L. Slasor, of Lore City, O.; Sergeant Lee M. King, of Lillington, N. C.; Corporal Ralph C. Whitley, of Route 1, Roanoke Rapids; and Private First Class Wilbur R. Smith of Cambridge City, Ind.

On one of their food-bearing trips to the front, they found one of the engineers too busy working on the Japs with his rifle to drink his coffee and eat his sandwiches and cookies.

Family Reunion Held On Sunday

A family reunion of Mrs. C. W. Johnson and sister was held Sunday, September 10, at the Johnson home, 728 Monroe Street. Those who attended the reunion were: Mrs. Elva Wicker, and children, Mrs. Lee Davis, Mrs. Ida Clements and son, all of Hopewell, Va., Mrs. Margaretta Wicker and daughter Carol Ann, Mr. and Mrs. Joe McFarland of Roxboro, Mrs. Nellie Burnett and daughter of Tarboro, Mrs. Fannie Lassiter and children, Ryland Draper and daughter of this city, and Mrs. Thurman Lassiter and children of Lasker.

Moth eggs hatch more slowly in winter than in summer, often taking as long as four weeks in cold weather instead of four to eight days.