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TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1942.

With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God.

—Roosevelt's War Message

Star-News Program

To aid in every way the prosecution of the war to complete victory.

Public Post Terminals.
Perfected Truck and Berry Preserving and Marketing Facilities.
Seaside Highway from Wrightsville Beach to Bald Head Island.
Extension of City Limits.
35-Foot Cape Fear River channel, wider Turning Basin, with ship lanes into industrial sites along Eastern bank south of Wilmington.
Paved River Road to Southport, via Orton Plantation.
Development of Pulp Wood Production through sustained-yield methods throughout Southeastern North Carolina.
Unified Industrial and Resort Promotional Agency, supported by one county-wide tax.
Shipyards and Drydocks.
Negro Health Center for Southeastern North Carolina, developed around the Community Hospital.
Adequate hospital facilities for white. Junior High School.
Tobacco Warehouses for Export Buyers.

Development of native grape growing throughout Southeastern North Carolina.
Modern Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

TOP OF THE MORNING

Lord, grant that we may never rest in what we know;
Thy spirit, hath much deeper things which He would show;
We know more from day to day, and wiser grow.
So as nearer to life's end we daily come;
Grant our desires may ever burn while here we roam,
Fully to be, to have, to know, when we reach home.

—OLNEY.

Not A Penny

Ordinarily it is impossible to think of a drive without thinking at the same time of a donation. For the most part, the two words are synonymous.

But there is one exception. The present war bond drive is not being conducted for donations. Not one penny is being asked for by any worker. Instead you are requested only to determine how much of your income you can devote to the purchase of war stamps and bonds and sign a pledge committing you to that purchase.

If you are already making regular payroll deductions, you are meeting the need unless, of course, you can do more. If you are not, you are expected to do so, whether you work for wages or salary or have an independent income. In the war crisis, it is the imperative duty of every citizen to subscribe as liberally as possible to these bonds, the revenue from which will be applied to the payment of the war's costs.

Remember, too, that if the revenue derived are not giving the government a thing. On the contrary you are receiving something of great value. War savings bonds represent the best investment in any government security now on the market. The interest they earn is larger than most available securities. And they have the additional advantage of being backed by the credit of the United States—the best in the world.

Remember, too, that if the revenue derived from this source falls short, it will have to be obtained by straight taxation, which, to taxpayers, represents an outlay without financial return.

Bar Examinations

Among young men nearing the end of their schooling, there is a growing impatience for graduation day so that they may enroll in the armed service of their nation. They see before them a bigger job than they have ever done, and want to be about it.

This is the American spirit that has brought the United States successfully through every war crisis, and will do it again. From the men who left their Harvard class rooms to volunteer in Washington's tatteredmation army to their fellow students at our present-day universities, the determination to survive as citizens of a free country or go down fighting has never changed. It will never change.

Its very existence imposes an obligation of vital importance upon government. It calls for reciprocal action. A single example will show how government can make some small return to the graduates whose hearts are set on doing their bit for victory.

It has been the custom to hold bar examinations in North Carolina in August, approximately two months after fledgling lawyers have completed their studies. If the same rule prevails this year, law graduates will have either to pass up the examinations or forego military training for two months.

Those who pass up the Supreme Court test will still have it to take upon their return from the war. They would not be entitled to practice their profession until they had taken it.

In view of the exceptional circumstances it would seem reasonable to expect the examination to be moved up, to follow shortly after graduation day at law colleges, so that the men who pass may be members of the bar before they put on their uniforms and so that none may be held at home for two months of impatient waiting.

Exceptional times require exceptional rulings. Certainly no man who wants to join up for the duration should be blocked by a non-essential precedent.

Join Y. Now

The Young Men's Christian Association faces a crucial period in its existence. Since the war program brought a great influx of new population to Wilmington the association has had to do as best it could to meet tremendously increased demands without additional working funds. How well it has done this is to be the credit of its administration, but it is a regrettable fact that much that it could have done has had to be passed up because funds were lacking.

If the Y. M. C. A. is to occupy its proper place in this growing community, if it is to give the service it should, and gladly would, it is necessary that the membership be vastly increased. Membership fees will go far to place it in a position to function as a going organization.

This places its future squarely up to the men of the community. Are you willing to do your part for its success?

The annual membership campaign is now in progress. Before its close a solicitor will call upon you. In the meantime consider well if you are doing your duty by your city and one of its most vital institutions by remaining off its membership roster.

Russia Knows

Among all nations fighting the Axis, Russia has no fear of ending the war with Hitler triumphantly this year.

That ought to mean something, because it is Russia alone that has taken Hitler's measure.

Russia knows that Hitler's forces are not invincible. Russia knows that the element of surprise, which carried Hitler to his early successes, is now eliminated. And Russia knows that with implementation from this country and Britain the scourge of Europe can be completely knocked out—not at some remote time, but during 1942.

When the Russian soldiers took an oath to make this the year of Hitler's final defeat, they were not merely making a gesture to their leader, Joseph Stalin. It was that, of course, but it was also a pledge to do the thing they were capable of doing.

The more the European situation is studied, the more obvious it becomes that the war in Europe is at the turning point. Hitler is known to be throwing all that he has into his forthcoming attempt to conquer Russia and break through to new oil supplies. He is reputed to have assembled five million men for this action, at the sacrifice of industrial production. It's all or nothing now.

If Russia is given adequate aid in essential fighting tools and supplies, and because Hitler is desperate, the conflict can be ended with his defeat even before new blizzards freeze his forces in for another winter.

Inasmuch as Russia knows through actual experience the limitations of Hitler's power there is no good reason that the position taken by Russia's leaders and armies should not be accepted by Russia's allies.

Sugar Rationing

Registration for sugar rationing is now under way. There has been such wide publicity given the undertaking that no excuse remains for any person not to know what is going forward.

But it is appropriate to say that any household who neglects to register within the specified time will be unable to buy sugar at any store, when the period of registration has passed.

Registration is being conducted at all schools, with teachers in attendance from 1:30 until 10 p.m. This will continue through Thursday of this week. Householders should understand that while there is no compulsion to register, it will be "just too bad" if they fail to do so.

Their pantries will be sugarless thenceforth.

Another Battle Zone

Because Australia is becoming more and more important in the United Nations war effort in the Orient, it is important, from the enemy's viewpoint, that the increasing volume of supplies, equipment and men reaching there be handicapped or stopped as speedily as possible. With this object in mind the Japanese are understood to be massing great naval strength in the Marshall Islands, lying athwart the sea lanes between Hawaii and Australia.

The value of these routes is too well understood to have any threat to them ignored. We may take it for granted, then, that whatever move is necessary to keep them open will be made. With the Japanese increasing their conquests in Asia, not the least of which is Burma, the ultimate ability of the allies to

launch a counter-offensive of sufficient strength to put a stop to them will depend in largest measure on mobilizations in Australia. Any interference with this program cannot fail to delay the day of retribution. For this reason, it is essential that the present Japanese concentrations in the Marshalls be broken up and any other attempt to block our shipping to Australia be prevented.

In the one brush with the enemy in this area the Allied air and naval forces came out on top. Although the present movement is on a much larger scale, it must be disposed of as effectually, if the threat to Australia is not to develop into a definite barrier to the counter-thrust.

Washington Daybook

By JACK STINNETT

WASHINGTON — Just how serious the shortage of transportation for individuals is becoming is indicated by the fact that President Roosevelt himself paused in his many other duties to call for an immediate "share-your-car" movement.

He didn't restrict his plea to Washington either, or even to war work communities. Through the American Municipal Association and the U. S. Conference of Mayors, he has put it squarely up to every city in the country a broken-down jalopy or the last special built streamline job to roll through the dealer's doors.

This is one contribution to the war effort that is going to have to be voluntary. Laws can draft men into the Army and rationing can curtail the use of everything that's turning up short. But it would be impossible to police the whole nation to see if every car owner is doing his duty in sharing his car with his neighbors and fellow workers. The appeal will have to be made on a basis of patriotism and the success of the movement will depend on that.

Transportation officials have estimated that the share-your-car drive could easily reach proportions where 5,000,000 cars could be taken off the streets and highways without impairing the war effort. Think what that alone would mean in savings in gasoline, rubber, and wear and tear on cars that cannot be replaced for the duration.

There's nothing complicated about this "share-your-car" business. To some extent, it already has been put into effect in Washington and many war industry centers. Automobile association officials here have worked out several suggestions that will get the job done.

(1) Workers who are in the same factories or buildings and live in the same neighborhoods can organize groups of from three to six, each driving his car one day or one week and picking up the others.

(2) Business trips in cars may be synchronized by a little inquiry or verbal advertising. Salesmen who travel the same route might double up.

(3) Housewives who do their marketing by auto can form "share-the-car" groups with neighboring housewives. Shopping expeditions can be organized the same way.

(4) If children are taken to school by car, the same neighborhood groups can be worked out.

There is hardly a purpose for which the car is used, whether it's recreational, or business or social in which the "share-your-car" formula can not be applied.

If the government officials have their way the "share-the-car" movement will rapidly develop to that point where the man or woman who habitually and needlessly rides alone will be as unpopular in the community as the slacker of World War I.

Quotations

You know that I regard my task very seriously. So in my opinion generals like MacArthur have not encouraging but most discouraging capabilities. — Adolf Hitler.

Greece has been known as the mother of civilization. Now she may be known as the savior of civilization by upstaging the Nazi time-table of aggression. — Evangelos Sekeris, Greek minister of education and religion in exile.

When people are hungry, they are going to fight. It is my observation that the gastric juices of people in dictator states work the same as those in democracy. — Dr. Walter Van Kirk, secretary of the Federal Council of Churches.

The words of "La Marseillaise" must ring again in the hearts of all Frenchmen who have not reconciled themselves with slavery. — A. H. Silver, Cleveland rabbi.

We cannot have all we want if our soldiers and sailors are to have all they need. — President Roosevelt.



The Editor's Letter Box

The editor does not necessarily endorse any article appearing in this department. They represent the views of the individual readers. Correspondents and writers must contain all communications must contain the correct name and address for our records, though the latter may be signed as the writer sees fit. The Star-News reserves the right to alter any text that for any reason is objectionable. Letters on controversial subjects will not be published.

CITY FINANCES

To the Editor:

One of the biggest problems that confronted the new Council Manager government when it took office the first of June, 1942, was the unpredictable future. We were reaching the saturation point in housing shipyard workers. We were living at a rising tempo due to the war. We were being urged to go all out to help Great Britain, yet we were constrained to go slow because maybe the war would end suddenly and leave us holding the bag. If we should be drawn into the war no one could foretell what that would involve locally. The budget for 1940-1941 had been \$845,396.38. But this was designed for a peace time population of 32,000, and even so, it showed an operating appropriation deficit, included paying interest on an outstanding loan, and provided insufficiently for a sinking fund to pay off bonded indebtedness falling due in 1948. (See Budget Appropriation 65 on file in the City Hall.) The population was increasing and plainly, the various services police, fire, etc., would be utterly inadequate. There would have to be expansion in every department.

To meet this situation the budget was increased about \$200,000, which advanced the tax rate slightly. Six months later Japan touched off the fuse and we were at war. It is well for us that the government was prepared. Their foresight had made it possible for us to operate under war conditions a greatly enlarged program with less strain than in peace times.

It is noted from the report filed in the City Hall that we are living within our budget both actual and estimated. Our receipts are greater than we anticipated. We have been able to invest in \$50,000 worth of war bonds as against \$48,000 last year. Beginning September 1941, the city installed a monthly budget system for all City Departments with the result that for the first nine months of the year the city has spent \$833,256.00 as against their budget appropriations for the first nine months of the year of \$861,754, or approximately \$30,000, saved.

The same has been applied to the question of revenues received by the city, with the result that \$900,955 was received during the first nine months of the year, as against \$845,400, estimated, or approximately \$55,000, surplus, thereby making the city about \$84,000 to the good.

Yet the various departments of the city have had to serve twice the former number of people. The war has piled up additional unforeseen expenditures. We have our share in paying for Civilian Defense, the Control Room, Air Raid Warning Service, salaries of those on eight hour shift duty and incidental purchases made necessary by war demands.

There is much else that we might describe to show our satisfaction in the city government, but we have mentioned enough to give our reasons for our hearty endorsement of this administration

Raymond Clapper Says: Roosevelt Goes Slow On Anti-Inflation Program

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Again it is worth while asking whether we as American citizens are going to think our problems through realistically.

That is not suggesting a mere academic pastime. President Roosevelt watered down his anti-inflation program because he was not sure that the American public was ready to go as far as some of his advisers felt he ought to go.

He refrained from advocating compulsory savings although important New Dealers around him urged it strongly and are convinced we shall have to come to it. He refrained from advocating a sales tax, although here again some of his most trusted advisers are convinced there must be one. No doubt it will be called a "war consumption tax" when it comes as it certainly will.

It is a good bet that Mr. Roosevelt knows these measures will have to be taken but prefers to allow time for public sentiment to develop. If the President thought public sentiment were ready now to support him he probably would go ahead with the more drastic recommendations. But in this delicate business of steering a whole people through the rough seas of war, you can't blame the President for not wanting to strain his leadership beyond the point where the country is ready to back him up.

If we are going to give intelligent support to enable the government to do what must be done, we shall have to do some intelligent thinking. That requires facing conditions as they are today, not as they were ten years ago. When your economy is dead and you are trying to reduce civilian consumption to make room for war production, then totally different and opposite measures are called for.

This is why some important New Dealers who fought the sales tax years ago because it would depress consumption are for it now because we need to depress consumption. Right now some \$28,000,000,000 additional is going into

wages and salaries—90 per cent of it going to low-income groups. At the same time the production of goods for family use is going down and down. The excess money if allowed to float around would only result in people bidding up prices against each other. Not even the barriers of price control could hold the appetite in check any more than federal prohibition agents were able to stop people from drinking.

The New Dealers who have been right most of the time over the last ten years are now rapidly reversing their positions because conditions are reversed. They are trying to adapt their policies to the needs of this day, which is certainly more intelligent than coasting along on some old speeches they made when half of the population's factories and working population were idle.

The fact that the National Association of Manufacturers and other business groups favored a sales tax at a time when I would only have further depressed consumption is no reason for New Dealers opposing it now when they want to depress consumption.

The classic popular argument against the sales tax is that it bears more heavily on the poor than on the rich. That is its effect without the slightest doubt. The sales tax won't soak the rich. As a substitute for income taxes, which it was during the depression, it is a fraud.

But now we get the rich through the income tax. They pay far more heavily than the poor, proportionately—a third to a half of their incomes while millions are exempt from income tax. That is half of the job and the rates are going up some more, as they should.

The other half of the job is to get at the expanding buying power now going into the lower income groups. Congress shows no signs of drastic lowering of income-tax exemptions. The only practical way left to get at this money is through sales taxes and compulsory savings. Five years ago that was a reactionary program. Now it is a New Deal necessity.

The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY

"Today We Are Brothers," by Leo Lania (Houghton Mifflin: \$3.50).

"If I set out to write an autobiography," Leo Lania says, "it is not because I attach world-shaking importance to the state of my soul or to my experiences. My aim will be to illuminate an entire epoch through the story of one man's life."

This is a pleasantly modest aim, and it is equally pleasant to report that Mr. Lania has succeeded. He calls his book "Today We Are Brothers," and it definitely ranks among the better biographical splices of the spring. It sometimes reads a little like a Walt Whitman catalogue of fact and to extend our best good wishes to them for their continued success.

A GROUP OF TAXPAYERS
Wilmington, N. C.
May 4, 1942.

Interpreting The War

Japs May Concentrate On Annihilation Move To Mop Up Burma Forces

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Wide World War Analyst

Until Japan discloses her plans for capitalizing on the Allied disaster in Burma, the full significance of that United Nations defeat is beyond conjecture.

There can be little question, however, that Burma will figure heavily in the scheduled parliamentary debate in London this week. It's loss rears Prime Minister Churchill's critics. It makes his silence in the recent war-accounting symposium that included Hitler, Stalin and President Roosevelt all the more noteworthy.

What salvage values can be found in Burma for Allied leadership necessarily depend on what happens in Russia. That road to India and postern gate to China was obviously left exposed to what has now happened in order that Britain's growing air power might be concentrated to aid Russia by diversion attacks from the west.

There is another element in the situation, however. Monsoon weather on the Burma approach to India and China is still to be reckoned with. The rains are too close at hand to warrant the conclusion that Tokyo even hopes to exploit the Burma victory by marching in either direction.

What seems developing is a Japanese effort to trap and destroy the British-Chinese forces west of the Lashio breakthrough. The Japanese have already driven northward along the Burma road perilously close to Wangting Junction on the Yunnan-Burmese border.

Its fall would break the last road contact between Burma and China. A Japanese sweep westward to Bhamo in the Irrawaddy Valley from Wangting could place the enemy in the rear of General Stilwell's Chinese troops and also on the main British supply lines from India up the Irrawaddy.

Apprehension as to the fate of the war-worn and ill-equipped British and Chinese troops west of Lashio seems better founded than the assumption that a Japanese invasion of India or China from Burma is about to evolve. The terrain of the Burma road, including the gorge of the Salween river, is a formidable barrier in any season. The Irrawaddy road to India is little better for wet-weather fighting purposes.

It may be that Allied commanders are still relying upon those factors, expecting the foe to concentrate on an attempted entrapment and annihilation campaign in Burma for the few days that remain before the monsoon deluges begin. That might explain Stilwell's otherwise unexplainable move in holding on so long, even counter-attacking eastward, at Taunggyi nearly 100 miles southeast of Mandalay and midway between Japanese columns that have bypassed him on both sides to take Mandalay and Lashio. His forces of commentators figure their only hope of escape would be to scatter and fade away before Japanese lines close about them.

Chinese troops also are reported holding the front north of Mandalay, while the British are said to have shifted westward to the extreme right flank. Perhaps the Allies fear a Japanese sea-borne attack on the Burma coast designed to sever coastal route connections with India behind the British.

There have been intimations from Washington recently, however, that the considerable Japanese naval force in the Bay of Bengal has been withdrawn for a Pacific concentration, possibly a gain in American-Australian communication lines. There have also been Italian reports of both British and American capital warships passing into the Indian ocean, otherwise unconfirmed.

Yesteryears

10 YEARS AGO TODAY

The Wilmington Pirates advanced to second place in the Piedmont league today by defeating the Greensboro Patriots in a topsy-turvy game marked by a multitude of errors for both teams.

25 YEARS AGO TODAY

The railroads operating from the city and the Tide Water Power company decided today to spend \$1,000 or more in advertising to cover the state to dispel rumors that Wrightsville Beach would be opened this season. It was also decided to emphasize rumors that the beach area would be blacked out were baseless.

50 YEARS AGO TODAY

The Wilmington Light Infantry formally takes possession tonight of its elegant new armory, a members of the veteran corps (those who actually participated in the war) are to assist in the celebration.

As Others Say It

WHY MUSSO HAS FITS

If it pans out to be true that the king of Italy has ousted Mussolini and his prime minister son-in-law, Ciano, and formed a new government with a view to peace negotiations with the United States, it can understand now why it has been throwing those "fitting" fits of hysteria for the past few weeks.—Charlotte Observer.

(Continued on Page Ten)