

# Wilmington Morning Star

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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 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 Port 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

Souls can be lost; souls are lost; and when a soul is lost nothing can compensate for this loss. If a man gained the entire universe and in the transaction lost his soul, the deal would be carried on the red side of the ledger of heaven. There is nothing big enough to warrant a man seeking it in exchange for his soul.

—CHARLES HADDON NABERS.

### The Rush Is On

The registration for gasoline ration cards has brought to light the fact that many motor car owners have neglected to establish ownership of the autos they drive and have been guilty of a great variety of minor irregularities. The office of the Automobile Club of North Carolina, which acts for the state in the issuance of licenses and other matters connected with the legal operation of motor vehicles, has overflowed with delinquents since the registration started Tuesday.

The crowding has resembled the early phase of the final rush for licenses every year. Which suggests that much time and annoyance can be saved by completing all negotiations connected with the transfer of cars from one owner to another at one fell swoop, instead of waiting indefinitely, as so many have done.

### Defense Stamp Conspiracy

The conspiracy to defraud the American people and place a heavy burden upon the federal treasury through sale of bogus defense stamps is as shameful as any traitorous act could be. It is not only that, if carried out, it would have robbed the people of millions intended for legitimate investment in government securities. It would have had an unsettling effect upon the country's economic structure as well. The men who plotted to do this in a time when the nation is in a war which threatens its very existence and the freedom of every individual citizen deserve no more consideration than a proved agent of an enemy power. Too much praise cannot be given the secret service whose members not only discovered the plot but confiscated plates and stamps and arrested the alleged leaders. It required expert sleuthing to do this and we have good

reason to be grateful that we are served by so competent a group. The publicity given the coup should serve to safeguard the people against any subsequent effort of criminals to perpetrate a similar hoax. No stamps should be purchased from any persons not properly authorized to offer them for sale. The post offices, the banks and most retail stores are so authorized. Beware of any one else who offers them.

### Be Sure To Register

Indifference of the enfranchized citizenship to the obligation to vote has become one of America's greatest political sins. Rule by minorities has been the consequence. And minority rule is contrary to every principal of democratic government.

Because the registration of voters in this city and county for the forthcoming primary election has thus far been below par, as it has so often been in the recent past, some word must be spoken to warn the people that failure to cast ballots for the candidates who will stand for election in November will place the blame for any blunders in selection squarely upon them.

Registration books will be open again next Saturday in every polling place. It is the solemn duty of every person entitled to vote but unregistered to appear on that day and be enrolled. And if any persons are in doubt whether they are already on the register it is an obvious duty to find out their status so that their names may be added if missing.

Remember, there is a primary register and a general election register. They are separate and distinct. The voter whose name appears only on one is not entitled to vote in the other election. The name must be on both registers if the voter is to participate in both elections.

Wilmington's voting record in recent elections is nothing to be proud of. At no time since long before the election changing the form of city government has Wilmington polled a truly representative vote.

Now, with a war going on and the nation facing its gravest crisis, it is imperative that the candidates chosen for election in November shall be the choice of a true majority.

This can be accomplished only if a great majority of eligible voters register and cast their ballots.

Wilmington cannot afford to fall down again.

### Uniforms

A woman's corps to serve in non-combat jobs with the army, 150,000 strong, has been legislated into existence. As the bill authorizing it was backed by the administration there is no reason to doubt that the Chief Executive will sign it.

Strangely enough, feminine interest centers largely in what kind of uniforms will be designed for the members, proving that brass buttons have more than a masculine appeal. This is not so frivolous as it might seem. There is something about a uniform that inspires confidence. Even an arm band or a distinctive cap or insignia — if it be no more than a button on a lapel — commands respect. It sets the wearer off as one in authority, able to perform special service.

This is why we believe every person concerned with the public welfare in these trying times and doing work connected with home defense should display some visible token of his or her position.

There has been much opposition to the uniforming of defense forces and even Red Cross volunteer workers, because of the wool shortage. Naturally it is desirable to make what wool we have or can get by import go as far as possible. But it is doubtful if the elimination of uniforms or other insignia of service would be as valuable as the effect on morale of having persons in civilian defense occupations plainly identified. If it were done, the sight of thousands displaying the emblem of their office, however humble, would be good for the morale of the masses.

Nobody sees a Gray Lady, a Deaconess, a Sister of Charity, a policeman, state trooper or soldier without a sense of security, stemming from their special raiment. It is not improbable that much the same effect would be created if, say, air raid wardens always wore their arm bands and other workers in the defense set-up displayed their insignia.

### What About Bailey?

What about Senator Bailey? Are we going to return him to the senate or force his retirement from that vital post? The decision rests with the voters of North Carolina.

There has never been a period in our national history when it was so necessary to have trained, experienced stewards in positions of trust and responsibility. Clear thinking and efficient service in office is at a premium. And the thinking and service must stem from close acquaintanceship with all matters in hand, whether it be an appropriation for war materials, the further development of the nation's waterways, or any of a hundred measures directly associated with our war program or of strictly domestic policy.

Only the men who through long contact with the many phases of national legislation are capable of doing a good job in this crucial period.

Senator Bailey is one of these men. His long years in the senate have qualified him for the exacting tasks that legislative body must perform with precision now.

So what are we going to do about him? Put him on a shelf, where his country will lose his services? Let him retire to private life at

a time when his experience is most needed? Send another man to the senate in his stead who can acquire the equivalent of his knowledge of public affairs and requirements only after years of apprenticeship?

Or are we going to return him to Washington, that he may continue the good work he has been doing, not only while the war continues but after hostilities cease and this nation takes up the task of establishing sound governmental and economic peace throughout the world? Can we afford to do anything else? Hardly.

### Blood Donors Needed

Wilmington's defense program, which has been making definite and commendable progress in recent weeks, lacks cooperation in one important factor of safety. The people of the city and county are not responding to the call for blood contributions as it is felt they should, and as they must if an adequate blood bank is to stand between life and death for many persons.

It may be that some residents are reluctant to give blood because they fear it might have an ill effect upon their health. They may misapprehend their minds on that score. Any one in normal health and not older than 45 can spare the quantity of blood withdrawn by the surgeon without danger. If this were not so the country would be overflowing with invalids, for tens of thousands of Americans have given their blood for this purpose.

It would be to Wilmington's credit, and in an emergency it would preserve many lives, if the blood bank now being assembled at the James Walker Memorial hospital were greatly increased.

### Washington Daybook

(First Of A Series) By JACK STINNETT

WASHINGTON, May 13.—To the thousand-and-one questions about the sweeping price control order which places retail ceilings on hundreds and hundreds of articles this month, the answer is simply "nobody knows."

Just exactly what will happen as a result of it? Who will be hurt? How can the seller of goods or service adversely affected beat the game and stay in business? Will it (with other measures already in effect and to follow) solve our inflation problem? Will it forestall or necessitate rationing? Will it necessitate subsidies? How is it going to be enforced? Will "black markets" become prevalent?

The answer still is "nobody knows."

If there are two people in Washington who should know about the price control order, they are Leon Henderson, chubby chief of the Office of Price Administration, and President Roosevelt himself.

Yet the OPA calls the sweeping price ceiling order merely the cornerstone in the wall against inflation and President Roosevelt warned the nation in his fireside chat that he would use his executive powers to the fullest to carry out the policy laid down. Both these pronouncements indicate that the price ceiling is not the end of it, but rather the beginning. Both hint that measures will be taken as necessity arises—but just what these potential necessities may be is not defined. The reason is that for the most part they can only be guessed at and it is those guesses, unofficial and official, with which I wish to deal, for in them possibly may be the key to this riddle which is going to affect more American lives than any other law or government order ever issued.

It may well be that this nation, operating through its democratic processes, is throwing itself into a depression in the hope that it may emerge from the war effort going uphill instead of down. That at least is the way one government economist has described it. If it isn't a self-imposed depression, then it is a self-imposed brake on what might have been the biggest boom in the nation's history.

The way Leon Henderson tells it, there's nothing very complicated about the present inflation threat. After taxes and savings are deducted, it is estimated that the American people will, this year, have \$86,000,000,000 to spend. BUT the total value of goods available for purchase is only \$65,000,000,000. It doesn't take any text book economist to see what happens in a situation like that.

The spenders bid the prices up. The sellers boost them just as fast as competition will permit. The have-littles demand higher wages. Earnings in dollars and cents, soar. And the cost of living — oblivious to the fact that all that goes up must come down harder than a land mine and with much more devastation — tries to hit that limit in the sky.

So what the government is trying to prevent and price control is a part of that effort—the part that up to now is going to hit more people in more places than anything that yet has happened in this war.

(Tomorrow: Headaches For The Retailer.)

### Quotations

The air raid on the Japanese Empire was only the first installment on our debt to Tokyo, and America always pays in full.—Rep. Clarence Cannon, Missouri Democrat.

I hope it's enough to buy a bomb to drop on him.—Charles Thompson, 11-year-old St. Louis boy, buying war bond on Hitler's birthday.

There is actual, continuous and substantial interference with interstate movement of war materials in many states because of certain state laws.—Joseph B. Eastman, director of Office of Defense Transportation.

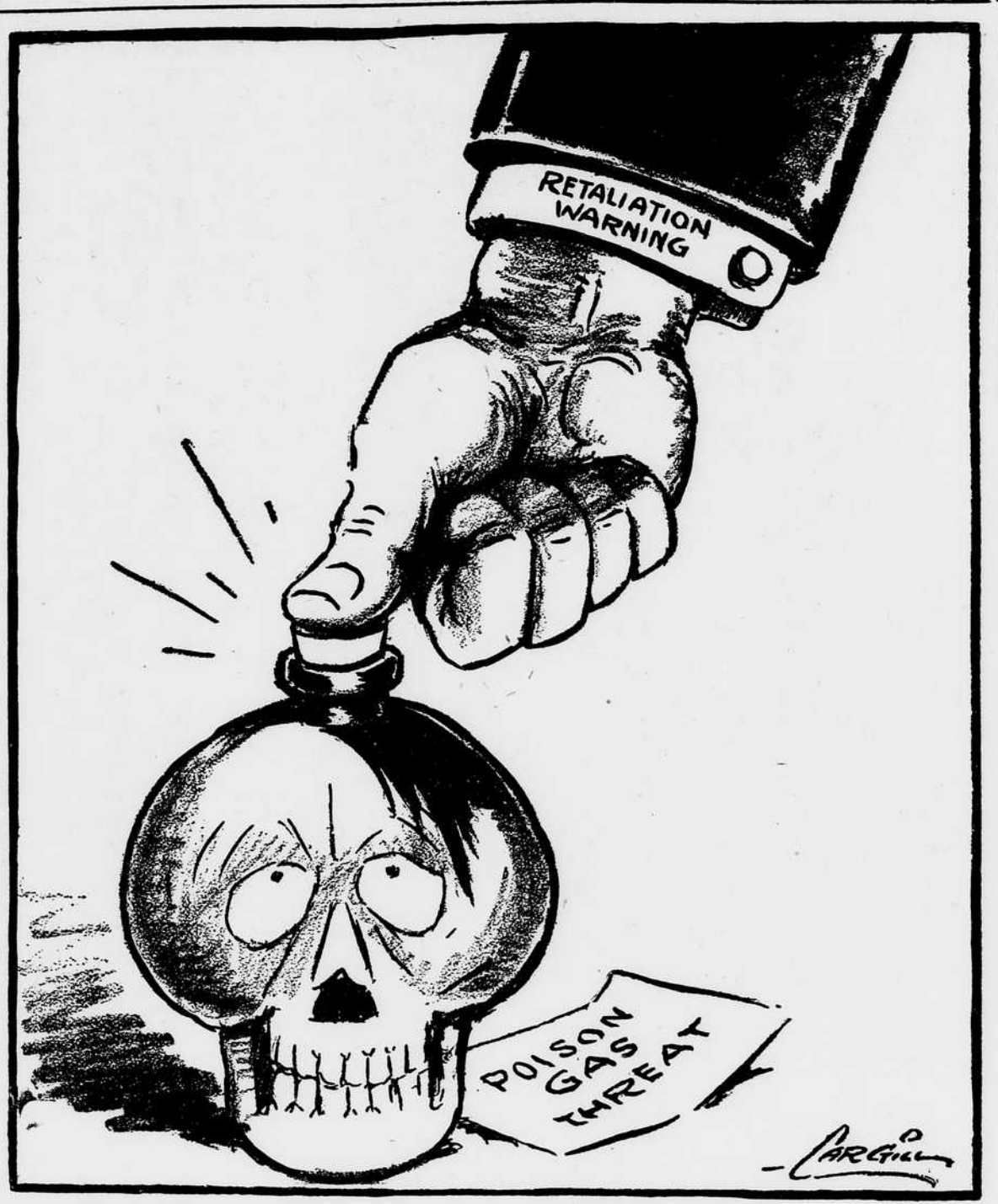
We must tear out of history books the things that prejudice one people against another.—British Labor Minister Ernest Bevin.

We have one watchword: to move forward today, not tomorrow.—Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

I don't want any stamps or bonds, I just want to give the war effort this \$50.—Joseph Loncaric, St. Louis WPA worker, to internal revenue collector.

Despite the immensity of continuing plant expansion, our aircraft firms are keeping up with or ahead of government schedules.—John H. Jouett, president of the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce.

## ANOTHER CORKING SPEECH BY CHURCHILL



### Yesteryears

10 YEARS AGO TODAY  
Judge George Rountree, speaking at the weekly public forum at the county courthouse, asked for the consolidation of city and county governments.

25 YEARS AGO TODAY  
The unrestrained wrath of the senate was poured down today on food gamblers and speculators. They were termed "pirates and robbers" by the irate solons in one of the stormiest outbursts in the history of that body.

50 YEARS AGO TODAY  
The state commissioner of agriculture has received reports from correspondents in Robeson and Bladen counties, that caterpillars are stripping whole forests of leaves. The insects are moving west.

### Is That So!

The growing shortage of golfing equipment will have the country club set bragging about how few clubs it took them to go around.

And the irate duffer who can't resist smashing his clubs as he announces he is through with the game will have to stick to his word.

In tobacco-short Holland, smokers make grumps of dried cherry leaves. Grandpappy Jenkins fears they're "not berry good."

The fellow who is content to just coast along may not get very far, but he certainly should save a powerful lot of gas.

War reports refer to the second phase of the war. Just like our second phase of spring weather.

### The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY  
"IN SEARCH OF SANITY," by Andrew Shirra Gibb (Farrar & Rinehart; \$5).

It is a dangerous business to try to say in a few hundred words what a 546-page, closely printed scientific book is about. This statement, therefore, must be skimpy and suspect as well. But it is something merely to be able to call Andrew Shirra Gibb's "In Search of Sanity" a scientific book, because not many books about psychology conform to that definition.

Mr. Gibb was an engineer before he took up psychology, and throughout "In Search of Sanity" he applies as carefully as possible the scientific system of reasoning. Therefore he does not begin with a set of preconceptions, and devote his book to "proving" these. This in spite of the fact that he worked with Jung and feels that the Zurich professor has probably the best basic approach to the "science" of the mind. And this because Jung does not begin his work beset by a cluster of prior metaphysical assumptions.

So far as I can see, Mr. Gibb is reasserting the ancient principle of individual responsibility. This entails the recognition, by each of us, that we have within us balanc-

## Raymond Clapper Says: Americans Fighting Under Difficulties

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Mrs. Roosevelt reports in her column that her son, Elliott, a major in the air corps, has returned from Africa with a germ that means a spell in the hospital.

That is not surprising. Malaria and dysentery lurk everywhere and sometimes defy the most careful precautions. I saw Elliott in Khartoum where we spent an evening together. He was as impressed as I was with what the Americans are doing, especially under difficulties strange to the United States.

You do not dare drink a drop of water that has not been boiled. Often it is difficult to know whether the water has been boiled. When in doubt, you drink beer. Toward dusk everyone puts on mosquito boots, to keep out the malarial mosquito which hovers near the ground. Everyone takes quinine. It is not a preventive but helps fight the fever if one is bitten.

That is the kind of thing, on top of all other difficulties, that American forces in Africa, the Middle East and most of Asia must cope with. There are sandstorms, tropical heat that slays unless you wear an insulated helmet reaching down over the back of your neck, torrential rains that make operations difficult, and always the native labor that insists on doing work in slow, ancient ways that drive Americans to exasperation.

Yet, in face of these difficulties the Army and the Pan-American Airways, working together, have within a few months put into operation this most remarkable air route across Africa. Work began last summer. We were not in the war and Pan-American was given a contract to start the job for the

United States Government. A 700-mile overseas air route had to be developed from the United States to Africa before the land operations could begin. Next came the task of constructing land bases and enlarging the pioneer British airway across Africa. This was the largest single air transport assignment ever undertaken by a private organization. It is a Pan-American operating for the American Government.

Veterans of Pan-American's regular overseas operating staff were put on the job. The first shipload of men and materials was on the high seas at the time of Pearl Harbor and reached Africa a few days later.

Pan-American drew on its long experience in flying both oceans and the South American jungles, and was thereby able to start operations without losing time in costly experiments. It had to organize, transport and set up a complete transcontinental airway across Africa, providing not only airports but servicing facilities, living quarters, food, medical aid and equipment.

That meant building an airway over 5000 miles of jungle, desert and mountains, with temperatures far above one hundred degrees, without telephones, telegraph or trains. It meant using camels and donkeys. Gasoline had to be carried over trackless deserts by pack animals.

All of this has been done since last December in what is known as the "white man's graveyard." One American out of three was in the hospital with malaria at one time. Pan-American brought in a medical corps, built hospitals, drilled wells, installed purifiers, sewers, drainage ditches. Now less than one per cent of the men have malaria.

Transportations were operating within 60 days of the President's order. Now the African route is one of the most heavily traveled air routes in the world and is capable of unlimited expansion. It was built out of the spirit and technical competence of Pan-American airways.

There is talk that the Army may take over the Pan-American operation in Africa. The pioneering has been done. While there may be good reason for militarizing the line, it would be a loss if the Pan-American organization, professionally trained for exactly this kind of job, were swallowed up into Army routine. The British have returned their air transport to civilian hands after trying out RAF operation.

The African line is working with speed and efficiency under private operation. Space is under Army control. It is an instance of close teamwork under pioneering conditions and could easily be gummed up by the wrong kind of a move now, as we all remember from the air-mail episode.

### Factographs

Aden, a peninsula on the Arabian coast, at the southern end of the Red sea, is a British Asiatic possession. It is a crown colony, and the population (including Perim, an island) in 1931 was 48,338, mostly Mohammedans.

## Interpreting The War

### Import Of Nazi Blow On Kerch Peninsula Remains To Be Seen

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON  
Wide World War Analyst

The Russians' announcement that they have retired, to new positions on the Kerch peninsula gives a somber cast to the war news, although there is yet no confirmation of Hitler's claims of a decisive victory in that area.

In fact the Russians deny the Nazi leader's boast that the battle has been concluded; they say the Red troops are retiring in good order and inflicting heavy losses.

Thus, the real import of the blow the Nazis have struck in this vastly important sector remains for events to determine.

The phrasing of the Nazi announcement, however, goes far to remove any lingering doubts as to whether the Kerch operations signal the opening of the long heralded "annihilation" offensive in the east. It uses that word to characterize the claimed results including capture of 40,000 prisoners and vast war booty. It says that the Nazi forces are pursuing the Reds from the broke, 12-mile defense line at the western neck of the isthmus toward Kerch itself.

That and word pictures of the battle painted by Nazi press reports indicate that a massive force of men, planes, tanks and guns was mustered in the Crimea for the Kerch drive. It tends to verify the conclusion of observers at Berlin that half a dozen German divisions and an overpowering air strength were thrown into the five-day struggle.

If that is true, as it seems to be, it eliminates the possibility that the Kerch fight is merely a tactical operation to improve the Nazi position on the south flank of the long battle line or remove a dangerous Russian threat. There are various reports of synchronized Nazi attacks all along the sector extending from the Kharkov region in the Donets basin to the German "island" advance base at Taganrog on the shores of the Sea of Azov.

None of these reports has been yet mentioned in either German or Russian official accounts. They lend color to the belief, however, that a vast Nazi turning movement in effect hinged on Kerch isthmus but calculated to sweep the Don river front door to the Caucasus clear to the Volga is being, if not already in motion.

In contradiction of the news Churchill intimated that no evidence of a massing of German forces for a major offensive in Russia had been detected. But in the Donets basin, reported a Nazi army of 2,000,000 strong, assembled for a big push in the south. The lines claim of a smashing victory on Kerch isthmus tends to substantiate that. It suggests that 100,000 or more German troops were concentrated on that 12-mile front alone.

That any such concentration could have been brought together in the eastern Crimea undetected by the Russians seems impossible. Air observation and reports from Russian civilians must have revealed military movements on that scale. There are only two routes by which they could have entered the Crimea with all their necessary war gear. The Perekop isthmus and the Melitopol-Simferopol railroad.

It would follow, naturally, that Red army preparations for meeting tremendous Nazi attacks to regain the Kerch gateway to the Caucasus have been in progress on both sides of Kerch Strait. A Russian failure to hold that narrow water barrier, even if Kerch isthmus is lost again, would undermine the Don defense line before the foe even reaches it.

Kerch Strait itself, coupled with Russian naval forces and air power could afford the Red army the means of fighting a prolonged delaying action if the Germans should reach its western shore. Its defensive possibilities have never been tested.

Lord Beaverbrook remarked in a recent broadcast in this country that Russia had developed the best of her generals of this war. And the best of them, beyond doubt, is Marshal Timoshenko, commanding the southern front.

He is a disciple of the Nazi attack technique. And if the Nazi attack front begins to swing like a gate on the Kerch hinge, he must have an opportunity for a crippling flanking thrust southward behind it from the Kharkov region.

### As Others Say It

THE IDEAL LAW  
The ideal law would be one which cuts down all incomes to \$10,000 a year and brings all other incomes up to the same level.—New York Times.

STREET CARS  
The gathering problem for Kansas City is not finding the best of most comfortable methods of transportation. It will be a problem of getting the public to the destinations.—Kansas City Star.

PILDUZER PARK  
Aunt Hattie Dewiddle says she only wishes she could give to Corregidor in time with the guns and ammunition to help the poor boys out. The Bentons and Bard, in the Baltimore Sun.

IN KNITTING CIRCLES  
In some knitting circles we are told that everybody is too busy even to talk. Sometimes it is so quiet that you can hear a stitch drop.—Raleigh Times.