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WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 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 O' THE MORNING

I like people to be saints; but I want them to be first and superlatively honest men.—MADAME SWEPCHINE.

Make It Country-Wide

The middle West accepted the Eastern rationing of gasoline with admirable poise. But now that rationing is contemplated on a national scale there is wailing and gnashing of teeth and a great wagging of tongues in protest.

Gasoline rationing, which was due, we are told, not only to a decreasing stockpile along the Atlantic seaboard, but as a means of rubber conservation as well, should never have been applied to any area. It should have been country-wide from the start.

Even though there is plenty of gasoline in many sections of the United States it is imperative that rubber be conserved. Reduction in the quantities of gasoline available for consumers has brought a sharp reduction of motoring in the states affected by the rationing order with consequent saving of tires. It would bring the same good results everywhere.

If In Doubt, Put It Out

Investigation of Wilmington's night lighting is expected to start today. If it is found that the reflection is liable to direct an enemy to the city or to ships at sea we may expect an order for a stricter dimout. Otherwise street, advertising and display window lighting may remain as at present.

In either case there is one good rule individuals should adopt. "If in doubt, put it out."

Gen. Thomas A. Terry, commander of the 2nd. Corps area, suggested the slogan in a radio broadcast in New York. During his address General Terry declared the sky-glow over New York was so bright that "like targets in a shooting gallery our ships are moving in front of a backdrop of hazy light."

Conditions here, of course, are not the same as in New York. But we certainly do not want our lights to cast a silhouette of passing ships for the convenience of enemy U-boats or draw enemy fire directly upon the city.

Whatever the results of the investigation soon to be conducted here, we individually can't go wrong if we adopt General Terry's slogan.

Laval "Consents"

No one will fail to understand the assertion that Pierre Laval has "consented" to the training of German seamen for handling and operating French warships is a gross understatement. It is exceedingly doubtful if Laval had anything to do with it. Hitler is dictating the policies of the Vichy government now and Laval is merely his puppet.

But the fact that this step has been taken is as clear an indication as could be given that when Germans are qualified to fight the French Navy, the guns of French ships will be discharged at United Nations targets. It is too bad, therefore, that the British did not finish the job they set out to do when it was reported they had blasted France's Navy off the surface of the waters. Now the task will have to be undertaken all over again under greater difficulties than existed in the first attack.

The balance of seapower in the Mediterranean is growing more and more vital. When the Germans begin to use France's warships either in direct attack or in convoy service the British Mediterranean fleet will have increasing difficulty in preventing Hitler from landing more troops, tanks, munitions and other war equipment and supplies on the African coast. If he succeeds in controlling that area, if he is strong enough in Africa to take Egypt and close the Suez canal to Allied shipping, he will have delivered a mighty blow to the United Nations and paved the way either for an offensive on India or the conquest of Iraq and Iran. The French Navy could contribute substantial, perhaps decisive, help in such a battle program.

Italy's play for Corsica and Nice is but a part of Hitler's plan to use France as he pleases. When he gives the word Laval will "consent" to this, too.

Unless Hitler is stopped soon there will be no more France.

Great Imitators

The Japanese are an imitative people. They create nothing but possess rare talent for applying what they learn from others to their own advantage. This faculty has been developed so thoroughly that up until now the Japanese have had the edge in the fighting.

Years ago, when the United States initiated the "mother ship" for airplanes and then neglected to carry on because the government and the people lulled themselves jointly into a dream of false security, the Japanese seized upon the airplane carrier as a major means of prosecuting war.

When they plotted the attack on Pearl Harbor, when they struck in the Philippines, when they started their southward offensive and cleaned up in Malaya and Singapore and Java, when they lunched their offensive in Burma, they had superiority in the air because they had provided themselves with a great fleet of plane carriers and could send their fliers aloft where and when they wished.

We set the example. Japan applied it. Now that we have relearned the lesson at terrific cost, we have come to place the proper emphasis on ships built or converted for transporting warplanes into areas marked for attack. We will not again be caught, nor will our Allies, as we were at the start of the War in the Pacific.

And when this war is over, when we assume the obligations and responsibilities of peace, it is to be hoped that we will not again delude ourselves with the belief that war can be prevented through disarmament.

Abandon This Tax

The Carolina Motor Club's campaign for removal of the city license on motor cars will be endorsed, and should be aided, by every auto owner in the city, not alone for the reason given by the club, that motorists are taxed out of all proportion to other taxpayers, but because it is an indefensible and unnecessary levy.

The \$5,000 it produces annually could well be absorbed by all taxpayers instead of car owners alone, and it should be so distributed. Furthermore, it gives suburban residents who own motor cars and use the streets of Wilmington as much as dwellers within the city limits an advantage which represents unwarranted favoritism.

It is not so obvious that the second item in the motor club's campaign, the removal of iron stop signs at intersections, is as greatly in the public interest. They are more visible than the same injunction would be if painted on curbs. While there would be some advantage in painting the word "stop" in large letters on the surface of the street itself the high cost of paint is an argument against it.

The city is put to heavy expense to paint parking lines and other essential stripes in the streets. With the iron signs already installed it would appear that their abandonment and substitution of painted pavement signs would involve unneeded expense.

Junior Police Picnic

Tomorrow will be picnic day for Wilmington's junior police force—the grand traffic squads who stand guard over street intersections near public schools and see that their fellow pupils have a safe crossing in going to and leaving school.

Guests of the police department, these youngsters will go to Carolina Beach for their annual outing to swim and hold athletic contests and feast on the things growing boys like best. Wilmington merchants, many of them with youngsters in school who enjoy the protection of their own traffic officers,

will see to that. And beach authorities and operators of resort concessions will do their part in seeing to it that nothing is lacking, within their power to provide, to make the day a memorable one.

It's a great event for these boys and even a greater day for the regular traffic squad of the police department which acts as a composite guardian and director of the festivities. May both have the time of their lives.

Another Siren

Because the wind was from the west when the air raid sirens were blown, the noise they made was clearly heard throughout most of the city and in the suburbs to the east.

But along the waterfront many persons failed to hear even a peep. This was particularly true in buildings with west windows only open. The wind was carrying the blasts away.

As the present siren set-up is experimental, and the purpose is to create a system of air raid warnings that will be effective in every nook and cranny, it is not inappropriate to suggest that an additional siren be set up on the waterfront for the benefit of Wilmingtonians whose work keeps them there for the major part of the day.

Washington Daybook

By JACK STINNETT
WASHINGTON, May 26. — The Capital in Wartime:

The whole country is wondering what it's going to do about vacations, but part of the answer is getting pretty close for the hundreds of thousands of government employees who work in Washington. They probably will get two weeks. This is about two weeks less than usual, but the theory is that if some rest and relaxation isn't accorded the war workers, they'll fold up under the strain. The catch is what the vacationists will do with their time. With no gasoline, pleasure travel on airplanes already out and a similar curtailment threatened in bus and train travel it looks as if Rock Creek Park, Hains Point and the Great Falls of the Potomac will be swamped this summer. By one of those queer twists which only wartime can bring, this may be Washington's biggest vacation year—with its own inhabitants.

The capital is undergoing another perversion. In spite of all the commuting into town, the commuting out is threatening to outdo it. Sections of OPA, the Census bureau and other agencies now are located at Suitland. The new Army building in Arlington, across the Potomac, employs thousands and will employ thousands more. The Navy Medical center is up the road quite a piece at Bethesda, Md. The list can go on and on. Some workers who live in the District of Columbia are even commuting to government offices in Baltimore. It's a situation that the housing experts hadn't figured on when they advocated decentralization of government to suburban districts and nearby cities.

War hardships are springing up all over the land, but this sad tale came from a treasury employee the other day. In a burst of patriotism, plus sales pressure from bosses in his own department, he agreed to subscription to war bonds to the extent of 19 per cent of his salary. He claims his cost of living is up eight per cent of his gross salary. Yet in the last two years, on civil service, he had no increase in wages. His war bonds, of course, are NOT only NOT less, but savings at interest. Still, if Secretary Morgenthau wants to discover why Washington war bond and stamp sales are not greater than they are, he could ask a few questions of the middle-income bracket employees in his own department.

Some of the bigwig government employees around here apparently already have because the agitation for a "wartime bonus" for government workers in Washington is moving on foot at present is to pay the "bonus" in war bonds, to which there hasn't been the slightest objection.

The FBI has come forward with the enlightening information that automobile accessory thefts jumped 26 per cent in the first three months of 1942 and the thefts of bicycles 29 per cent. That is pretty staggering in view of the fact that such thefts haven't varied more than a few per cent for many years.

Editorial Comment

OUTLOOK FOR SPORTS

Charlotte Observer
Only a confirmed grouse could indulge any chuckles over the outlook for sports throughout the nation as the heavy exactions of war are progressively laid upon the public and the nation's norm of living.

That outlook is gloomy and dismal. The consuming popular outdoor recreations are almost bound to fold up before very long.

Baseball faces the inevitable in the minor leagues. It will do well to survive in the majors.

If there were no other reasons than automobile restrictions, this would be sufficient in itself to seal the doom of this game. People flock to the ball parks in their own cars or they simply do not flock there at all.

And now that pleasure riding is virtually taboo, attendance, already far below normal, will keep on shrinking to the point of vanishment.

College football, an even more intensely absorbing sport, will fall under the same weight of restrictions.

It is largely supported by people from distances, far and near, who ride in their own cars and have a day of fun and relaxation.

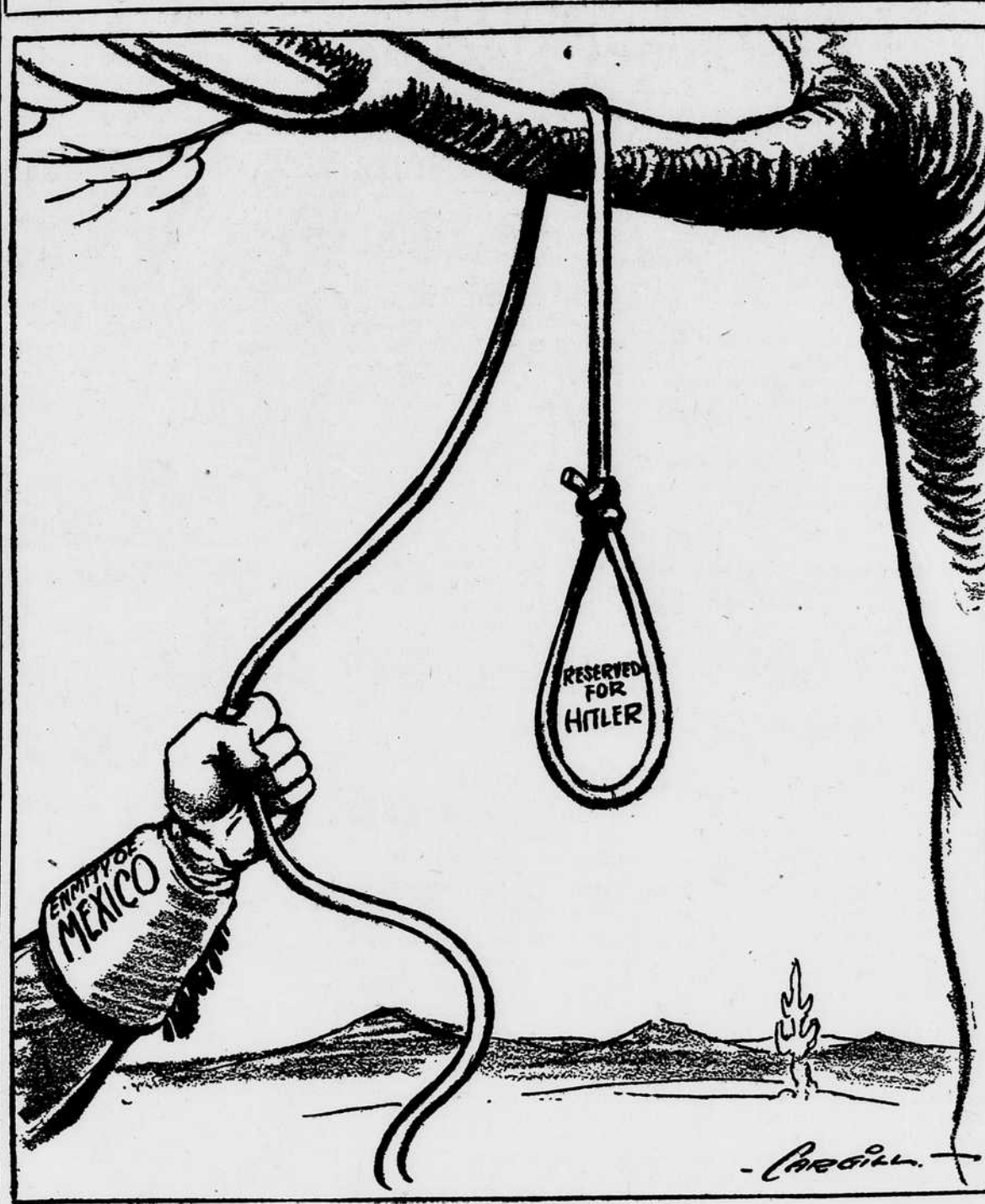
Under the conditions which are now to prevail, attendance at these games will be mainly confined to student bodies and townspeople who are near enough to walk or ride on the public buses.

This is a lamentable situation but one that is unavoidable.

The public will never see the benefits which derive from these more gripping sporting events more than under the conditions into which they are headed.

The days ahead will be overflowing with dread and anxiety and harassing worries—the factors that depress and degenerate. People are going to have to do a lot of living with themselves and some of them make sorry company.

"JUST AN OLD COW HAND—!"



As Others Say It

STUPEFYING THE STUPEFIED.
Hitler's speech is said to have caused "stupor" in Rome. Then Hitler is a miracle worker. Who else could stupefy the stupefied?—Lynchburg (Va.) News.

RUNNERS FOR VICTORY.
An increasing number of stockings with runners in them are in evidence these days. Because such stockings are being worn to conserve material, we suppose runners should be called victory.—Ohio State Journal.

GREECE FIGHTS ON!
Reports of Greek guerrilla forces campaigning against the Axis should not have surprised us—in view of the magnificent fight waged against the aggressors in the earlier stages of the war. With Hitler pretty well occupied in other sectors, the Greek patriots may deal some effective blows to retrieve their land.—Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.

"JOE"
Since long before the war, the Filipino scouts who fought with MacArthur have been calling United States soldiers Joe or Joe American. The nickname is now beginning to stick, and the soldiers in this country who call each other Joe are really paying tribute to the scrappy little scouts of Bataan.—From "Our Fighting Men" in Collier's.

POLAND'S DANGEROUS SURPLUS
The Nazi press in Poland wages a continuous campaign against the Polish intelligentsia. The Nazis use every means at their disposal to discredit this group in the eyes of the Polish working people. One of the Nazi papers editorially states: "The intellectuals in Poland were people who belonged to a privileged group and assumed the moral right to be idle. There was a surplus of intellectuals in Poland, intellectuals of the worst kind."—From News Flashes from Czechoslovakia.

That has been construed in some quarters as a pledge that after the war the United States would exert its influence toward the restoration of all colonies and possessions to France. These include not only Martinique but large areas in Africa, Madagascar, New

Raymond Clapper Says:

U. S. Attitude Toward France Plainly Stated

By RAYMOND CLAPPER

WASHINGTON, May 26—Some misunderstanding seems to have grown out of a statement by this government regarding the future status of the French Empire, including its overseas possessions. This matter is kicking around now in unofficial conversations among diplomatic people and others regarding the future world settlement. It has come into the discussion especially in the light of Vice President Wallace's recent speech advocating an end to political and military imperialism after this war.

On April 13, Sumner Welles, acting as secretary of state in the absence of Mr. Hull, addressed a note to the Vichy Ambassador here. This note was in answer to a protest from Vichy over the establishment of an American consulate general at Brazzaville in Free French Africa.

Secretary Welles in his reply was taking the opportunity to express the American Government's support of the French people. In that connection Mr. Welles said, "The Government of the United States fervently hopes that it may see the reestablishment of the independence of France and of the integrity of French territory." He also said the United States recognizes the sovereign jurisdiction of the people of France over the territory of France and over French possessions overseas.

That has been construed in some quarters as a pledge that after the war the United States would exert its influence toward the restoration of all colonies and possessions to France. These include not only Martinique but large areas in Africa, Madagascar, New

Caledonia in the southwest Pacific, and French Indo-China.

Some have said that if the United States is giving a pledge to restore the colonial empire of France it should also pledge itself to assist in restoring the colonial empires of other powers, notably Great Britain and the Netherlands. So when Vice President Wallace and other officials talk about an end of imperialism especially in the light of Vice President Wallace's recent speech advocating an end to political and military imperialism after this war.

So far as I can learn, it is not considered accurate to interpret the letter by Mr. Welles as a pledge to insist upon the return of all French territory. Secretary Hull said a few days ago at a press conference that the United States has had in mind at all times the preservation of the sovereignty of France and her people.

There is another angle on the sending to England staff, Russian and Nazi forces have been locked in a tremendous struggle on a 200 mile front in the Ukraine for more than two weeks. Churchill's prediction of Nazi armies "bleeding and burning up their strength" is today an accomplished fact.

The implication is that Anglo-American moves in the west have been speeded up to take advantage of that fact. It reflects Washington-London judgment that Hitler is now too deeply engaged in Russia to halt or turn back; and that he can spare neither men nor planes to bolster his western front nor to suppress growing revolts against him in the conquered countries where the bridgeheads for invasion of the continent lie waiting.

This government is still engaged in the study of what it would like to see emerge as the peace arrangements. Until these studies are completed, perhaps within the course of a few more weeks, this government is scarcely in a position to talk seriously with other governments regarding post war arrangements.

However, the time is approaching when it is likely that this government will begin to move in an attempt to work out at least some tentative and preliminary understandings as to the shape that the peace should take through the United Nations.

It is not that anybody here is anticipating an early end to the war, but rather a feeling that it is desirable long in advance to begin preparing for the end. Some also consider it desirable to do this in order to clarify the position of the United Nations in Asia where some elements are representing the Allied effort as merely an attempt to restore the status quo.

Factographs

If you miss the metal clip used to hold lead pencil erasers, think that the metal saved would make about 13,000,000 cartridge cases for our soldiers.

Australia has been settled for 150 years. It was proclaimed a commonwealth with dominion status in 1901, and is governed on the federal plan with a parliament consisting of a senate and house of representatives.

Interpreting The War

Allied Offensive Against Germany Drawing Nearer

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Wide World Analyst

Long maturing Anglo-American plans to bomb Hitler's home front in grim earnest are nearing the action stage to vindicate Prime Minister Churchill's recent assertion that "now is the time . . . to strike hard and continually."

"The British and presently the American bombing offensive will be one of the principal features of this year's World War," Churchill added in that May 11 broadcast. "Now is the time to use our increasingly superior air strength. . . now, while the German armies will be bleeding and burning up their strength against a 2,000-mile Russian line."

Two weeks later the commanders of American land and sea based air forces are in London, flanked by an army operating staff of significantly high rank and assignment. In Admiral Towers and General Arnold and their aides, the American command personnel for joint operations by air, and perhaps otherwise, is on the ground.

That their arrival in England must intensify both the public clamor on both sides of the Atlantic for second-front operations and the growing invasion jitters in Germany cannot be doubted. Nor will the presence of the American naval-military group fail to stir eager hope in Nazi-conquered countries—France, the Low countries, Norway—that the hour of their deliverance is nearing.

Towers, Arnold and Company arrived in London just as there were intimations from various sources of rising dissatisfaction in Berlin with the progress of Pierre Laval's "collaboration" program. Their coming synchronized also with fresh rumors of German efforts to obtain the remnants of the French war fleet.

Admiral Cunningham, Britain's veteran former sea commander in the Mediterranean, now en route to Washington, admits that these French battlecraft in German hands would create a "nasty" situation for the Allies in that sea. His remarks contained a strong hint, however, that American naval forces are disposed to aid the British in meeting that issue if it comes. Nor can the inclusion of Admiral Towers, Navy air chief, in the group flown to London be overlooked in that relation.

Whatever the detailed mission of the Towers-Arnold group in England, or the time that may elapse before it bears fruit in joint Anglo-American offensive action against German targets, the fact that such action is in the works for early commencement is unquestionable. Moreover, prompt publication of their arrival is an offensive phase of the war-of-nerves, obviously deemed more important than the possible surprise value of American participation in British bombing operations.

The arrival could have been concealed from the foe. Instead, it was proclaimed to the world at large. That the underlying purpose of that is to stimulate growing public antagonism to the Nazi sway in France, the Low countries and Norway seems obvious. It tends to throw a new monkey wrench into Laval's wobbling collaboration machinery at Vichy.

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The story of the Tortoise and the Hare, with a modern twist: Headline—"Slow-Moving Blimp Bags Super-Sub."

Paraphrasing a noted radio comedian, Grandpappy Jenkins says that, "Doollite do'd it!"

Another way in which this World War is different than the other one is that no one has started a fad of wearing two-toned shoes.

Some alert restaurant owners have installed tablecloths with maps of the eastern front printed on them. The amateur general may now open his campaign by engulfing the soup, then advancing briskly through the entrée—finally achieving the desert—and victory.

On the other hand, dandelions are considered among the toughest of weeds. And yet they're yellow!

At that, Herr Goebbels' "good humor" campaign for Germans might have succeeded—if the Russians hadn't counter-attacked.

The octopus, according to a famous naturalist, is really a frailty-cat. That's amazing, considering how well armed he is.