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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 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.
- Perfecting 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

Be patient in small as well as large matters . . . Patience is a power as well as a virtue.

Greenville Killeser.

### Spare The Doctor

The most serious problem faced by the medical profession today lies in the vast numbers of doctors who are being called to service with the armed forces. It is the government's policy that American fighting men must be given the finest medical care possible, and doctors are joining up by the thousands.

In order to meet both military and civilian needs for doctors, medical groups are taking definite action. During the next three years, for instance, U. S. medical schools will graduate more than 21,000 students as a result of recently-adopted programs for accelerating the education process. This is 5,000 more than would have been graduated without the accelerated programs.

Retired doctors are coming back into harness, and other doctors are working harder. The most efficient utilization of all our medical resources is rapidly being attained.

So far as the patient is concerned, authorities are urging that everyone do what he can to "spare the doctor." That simply means that we shouldn't ask for unnecessary house calls, and we shouldn't waste the doctor's time when he comes. If you take more of his attention than you actually need, someone else may have to go without. If patients will remember this, it will help greatly to solve the problem.

### The Rubber Czar

William M. Jeffers, president of the Union Pacific railway, has assumed the responsibilities of the newly created post of rubber czar. The appointment has been made by Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, who assures the public that it has the approval of President Roosevelt, and adds that henceforth all matters pertaining to rubber will be handled by Mr. Jeffers, with full authority to make all decisions and, as a czar should, settle all disputes. Mr. Jeffers has devoted his life to railroading, having risen from office boy or messenger to the presidency, to which he was elected in 1937. When any boy climbs the ladder to success as he has it may be taken for granted that he possesses ability, clear vision and perseverance, all in rare proportions. And as railroading requires of its employees exceptional talent for guarding the tongue, it may also be considered that he

will not stir public resentment with bombast or foolish frothings, as so many special war-time bureau heads have been doing.

Without special training in the rubber market, but with a level head, it is fair to think that the attributes which have carried Mr. Jeffers to the top in his own chosen calling will prove valuable in his administration of the rubber program, provided, of course, he is given a clear field in Washington and has public support.

Without these, the greatest of geniuses would be doomed to failure.

### Battle Of Stalingrad

Sir Edward Shepherd Creasy, British historian, wrote the story of "Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World." They stretched from Marathon to Waterloo and included the British defeat at Saratoga in the American Revolution. Were Creasy alive and writing today he would have to write of the Battle of Stalingrad.

The fifteen battles he chose for his book had their effect on the future course of world events. The Battle of Stalingrad may have as great effect on the world as any of them. It may well prove the turning point in Hitler's conquests and mark the beginning of the end of his power. For, although he probably will take the city on the Volga, the price he will pay, in time, no less than in men and material, will be so great that he cannot hope to destroy Russia's great fighting machine before another winter comes to freeze him in, and, we may well believe, freeze him out of Russia's conquest. Hitler can entertain no hope of extending his exploits southward through the Middle East to join hands with the Japanese in India, but must turn homeward to meet Russia's allies in western Europe, so crippled and with such curtailed replacements from his war industries that the dream of world domination must fade forever from his mind.

This is not to assume that Hitler will be incapable of striking heavy blows next spring. But the time gained for the United Nations by the magnificent, soul-stirring defense of Stalingrad, coupled with losses imposed on the Nazis, seems to indicate a change in the balance of power which can bring Hitler to his knees.

Even though the full effect of the Battle of Stalingrad cannot be seen in advance, it ranks side by side with any of the fifteen Creasy declared "decisive."

### New Solomons Attack

The Japanese persist in attempts to regain territory in the Solomon Islands, seized by American Marines supported by naval and air strength, for two obvious reasons. First, the defeat met caused a loss of face, so precious to them. Secondly, the Solomon Islands constitute a bulwark of strength in the southwest Pacific. Having once established a firm position in them and fatuously assuming themselves secure, only to be driven off in a thundering attack, the must continue efforts to both save their face and repossess the positions which would give them such a great advantage in any further exploits their expansion program calls for in that war arena.

Losing the Solomons would be a major defeat to our yellow enemy. Bu the same token, their complete occupation would be a major gain for the United Nations. For they have as great strategic value for us, Japan's enemies as for the Japanese. It is obvious, therefore, that the MacArthur headquarters will give no foot of conquered territory in them though the Japanese keep up their thrusts until they are driven out, lock, stock and barrel, from areas they now hold.

The enemy has succeeded in effecting landings at night in the Guadalcanal zone and have sought by sudden plunges to catch the American Marines napping. All such attempts have failed, just as their naval bombardments and air bombings have been ineffective. It is clear that MacArthur has no intention of loosening his grip there. If at the same time he finds means to tighten it and extend it to other islands in the group, the situation in the southwest Pacific will be greatly improved.

### Stop The Babble

These debates and controversies over who shall be called to the service by draft boards, and in what order, are disturbing public morale beyond all reason.

Parents with sons in the 18-19-year group are distressed not so much at the thought of having to give up their boys as not knowing when they may be called; whether, for example, to pay out substantial sums of money for college tuition and the thousand and one expenses created by college attendance, or keep their boys at home until their number comes up in the draft. With living costs mounting so fast and additional taxes to be paid, this is a serious matter for all parents, not only those in moderate circumstances.

There is equal consternation among young married men with children of tender age. Are they to be drafted next, or deferred? They would give much to know, not because they are reluctant to serve, but because they cannot now make plans to fit either contingency. They are up in the air, or out on a limb, or any of the other positions which betoken a sorry mess.

It is understandable that heads of government, faced with unaccustomed tasks, are confused and find difficulty in determining what should be done for the best results. But there is no excuse for them to spread their own confusion and bafflement into the homes of the country.

Let the controversies be held in secret. Let the decisions be made behind closed

doors. Let the public be told what the decision is. But in heaven's name let the babble stop!

## Washington Daybook

BY JOHN GROVER

(For Jack Stinnett, on Vacation)  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Breakdown of national crime statistics by the FBI shows that American gals are stepping right in to pinch-hit for their brothers in the law-breaking business.

The records show that during the first six months of 1942, 10.2 per cent of all offenders arrested were women, an increase over 1941, when 9.1 of those arrested were females. (The FBI says, however, that the apparent increase may be due to better statistical reporting of female crime by co-operating agencies.)

The war is reflected in the marked increase in sex crimes. With thousands of men away from home, and conditions generally upset, the index of rape cases increased by 9.9 per cent in the first six months of 1942 as compared with the similar period in 1941.

More "party money" is in circulation, and the 9.4 per cent increase in negligent manslaughter mirrors increased drunken operation of motor vehicles.

Auto thefts, presumably because fewer cars are on the street, and because operation of a car without proper gasoline credentials is difficult, showed a 1.6 per cent reduction for the half year.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation noted that there are 175 auxiliary police for every 100 regular police officers in cities over 25,000.

Over the whole country, the score of arrests showed criminals were arrested for 27.7 per cent of the crimes reported.

Larceny and automobile theft were the "safest" crimes, from the standpoint of the criminal. Arrests were made in 24.4 per cent of the auto theft cases and 22.7 per cent of the larcenies. Murder was the toughest rap to beat, with 89.1 per cent of the murderers arrested. The same high percentage held in manslaughter, where 88.6 per cent of the killers were caught, and in rape, where 76.2 per cent of the offenders were jailed.

Murder was a favorite pastime in the southern part of the United States. The east south central states reported 8.65 murders per 100,000 population for the highest homicide rate in the country. New Englanders were the least lethal, the murder rate being only 0.59 per 100,000.

The same east south central states had the worst robbery index, with 44.4 per 100,000, and the New England group again was the purest, with 6.1 robberies in 100,000 population.

Broadly speaking, the survey also showed that crime was most prevalent in those sectors having the lowest numbers of police officers. The east south central states, having 1.26 peace officers per 1,000, second lowest crime rates generally. New England, on the other hand, had the best crime record, and reported two officers for each 1,000 people, second highest in the nation.

## Editorial Comment

### VICTORY TAKES THE WATER

New York Times  
Nazi submarine campaign on Labor Day by launching 174 ships, mostly naval vessels, but including a number of cargo carriers, and laying down the keels for forty-nine more. We are producing the means with which to sink or drive away the undersea commerce raiders. We are also producing the cargo carriers. In August, though the rate dropped a little as compared with July, we were doing two merchant ships a day, and this month the Maritime Commission hopes for three a day. This year's goal of 8,000,000 tons of merchant shipping may be exceeded by as much as 1,000,000 tons, and officials believe that if sufficient steel can be found a big but not unsurmountable "if", next year's 16,000,000-ton program may be pushed up to 20,000,000 tons. The grand total for the two years would be the equivalent of nearly 2,800 of the new 10,500-ton Liberty ships.

The cargo carriers and the naval vessels share a common mission. There will probably continue to be controversy as to what kinds of naval vessels we ought to build—whether, for instance, great fighting ships of the Iowa class are worth the time and steel they take. The advocates of the cargo plane as against the cargo ship will not be silenced. We have to think of these things, even while we throw up our hats over what has been done and whistle cheerfully at the thought of what is to be done. A certain amount of cheer we can certainly allow ourselves. The water of the cargo ships, carried on so heroically and with so few heroic gestures in the wild wastes of the Atlantic, is as important as any battle we shall have to fight.

Just now we are gaining on the enemy. As the months pass we shall undoubtedly improve still further our methods and means of sea warfare. The ships we have built so soundly and in such a hurry are proof not only of American productive power but of American resourcefulness.

## Quotations

Whatever the risks or dangers, whatever the efforts demanded from the workers when the word "Go" is given, we will support the government to the uttermost. — George Gibson of the General Council of the British Trades Union Congress.

Large reinforcements have reached India, and the number of white soldiers now in India is larger than at any time in the British connection.—Winston Churchill, British prime minister.

The stepping up of the intensity of the vital conflict in which we are engaged and the growing need for enlarged forces make it clear that all young men fortunate enough to have the physical and mental qualities to enable them to serve their country in the armed forces are destined for that service.—Henry L. Stimson, secretary of war.

For every ship so lost (by U-boat), American production and assembly-line methods will retaliate twofold — yes, tenfold. — Rear Admiral Emory S. Land.

Human nature, poverty and children with problems are the same wherever you go, and they have to be dealt with in the same manner.—Miss Nadir oueva Kfour, Brazilian social worker visiting U. S.

We are making so many trips across the Channel that I am getting to know the place like Times Square.—Lieut. Robert Lupton, U. S. Air Forces.

## SOLD DOWN THE BIG RIVER



## Civilian Defense Timetable

BASIC TRAINING COURSES  
High School Room 109, at 8 P. M.  
Fire Defense A: Every Monday.  
General course: Every Tuesday.  
Gas defense B: Every Wednesday.

FIRST AIR 10 HOURS  
First lesson: Every Monday.  
Second lesson: Every Tuesday.  
Third lesson: Every Wednesday.

SPECIAL COURSES  
Fire Defense B: Every Thursday, Fire Dept., 4th and Dock Sts.  
Police course: Every Thursday, High School room 109, at 8 p. m.  
Nurses Aides: Monday, Sept. 23, at 10 a. m., in James Walker Memorial hospital Nurses Home.

If you hear or observe anything suspicious in character report it promptly to:  
Wilmington Police, 5244.  
Wrightsville Beach Police, 7504.  
Carolina Beach Police, 2901.  
Captain of the Port, 2-2278.  
County Defense Council, 3128.  
Sheriff, 4252.

## As Others Say It

Valiant Stalingrad.  
The tenacity of the Russian defenders, the terrible beating they are taking around Stalingrad and their heroic defense will go down in history with the names of other heroic last ditch stands, the Crimea, Thermopylae, Verdun, Wake Island.—Gastonia Gazette.

A Poster.  
If and when—Hitler conquers America, who will be the first to meet the firing squad? Two guesses permitted. Paragraphers or cartoonists?—Raleigh Times.

Echo, Answers, Where?  
By the way, where are the eminent military experts who were too smart to believe the airplane could prevail against battleships? (Memphis Commercial Appeal).

## The Literary Guidepost

BY JOHN SELBY  
"Quicksilver," by Fitzroy Davis (Harcourt, Brace; \$3).

The only artist more difficult to write about in fiction than an actor is a musician. Once in a blue moon something about the stage "comes off," however, and this is the moon.

The novel is Fitzroy Davis' "Quicksilver." Perhaps it is not at all a novel — probably it is not. But neither is it a straight study of an actor and his surroundings. The book is fiction, it considers a considerable period in the life of Henry Carmichael, and it develops its chief character in a peculiar way, but sufficiently. "Quicksilver" can, therefore, be read as a novel.

I read it as the nearest exploration of the life and psychology of the stage that I have seen in the last ten years. Mr. Davis has apparently taken to heart the dictum that if a competent writer really explores every possible angle of his subject, telling the truth about it as he sees the truth, the result will be a good book. "Quicksilver" is a good book.

The Evelyn Navarre company just has been assembled for rehearsal when it opens, Miss Na-

## Raymond Clapper Says: News Reporters In War Time Run Into Trouble

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—News-Week is coming along soon but I see something about an American war correspondent being captured by the Axis during a British raid on Tobruk, so this is a good time to talk about a reporter's work.

The captured war correspondent is unidentified as I write but circumstances indicate he may be Larry Allen of the Associated Press. In any case, evidently an American war correspondent was going about his daily work, which in this case took him out on a British attack at Tobruk.

Larry Allen has been shot up and shot down during this war, as have a number of other correspondents. A score of them went across in the Dieppe attack and had men shot down all around them.

Never before has individual freedom hung so precariously as it does now. Correspondents are trying to report this desperate struggle blow by blow because every blow counts.

In addition to the war correspondents who are risking their lives by going into the thick of battles are some who have paid the price in another kind of work. I am thinking of J. B. Powell, who served as an American journalist in China for so many years. The Japs had him marked for years and they finally caught him at Shanghai. They tortured him and left him broken and maimed for life. The National Press club of Washington is raising a fund for him. Newspaper men all over the country are joining in because they recognize J. B. Powell as a man who has courageously and at fearful cost to himself stood his ground for freedom.

Those are the lives that make newspapers something more than a 6 per cent investment, as William Allen White once put it.

Those are the lives that give their inspiration to a whole army of newspaper men and women who would rather devote themselves to trying to find and report the truth than do anything else in the world.

You can make your criticisms of newspapers. Any working newspaper man can make more of them than anyone outside the business can make. A newspaper man scarcely ever reads over his piece in print without feeling that he could have improved it with a little more work. Most newspapermen feel that the speed at which they must work is sometimes a handicap and prevents them from digging as deeply as they would like to do. We are often puzzled, the more we look into something, to know what the truth is. Try it sometime around Washington. The more people you talk to, the more confused you will become. You get tangled up in a cross-pull of wires as one official pulls against another.

Particularly in wartime your working newspaper man struggles always against indecision and conflicting decisions. Some officials think it is healthy to have public discussion. Others think it is better to suppress differences and put up to the public a smooth plaster front that looks solid but which underneath may be as phony as a world's-fair pavilion.

For instance, some officials here see no harm in public discussion of India. We are sending troops and Lend-Lease aid there. If it is that important, then aren't we within bounds when we take exception to London's bull-necked cover which is the same one that brought such disaster in Burma and Malaya? But some British correspondents here, attempting to inform their papers in London of American sentiment, find their dispatches heavily censored on this side before being sent across. This while London censors permit British criticisms of the Churchill policy to be sent to American newspapers.

Everywhere in the world, newspaper men trying to tell the truth must filter through censorship. No newspaper man questions the necessity for tight military censorship, though he may argue over incidental details. But political censorship is spreading also among the free nations under the guise of not giving the Axis anything that it might make use of.

The press of the democratic world is the only free forum left I believe that on the whole the free press has exercised a sense of responsibility and restraint called for by the times. Therefore it is not comforting to see some nameless employe sitting at the cable head deciding with a whack of his pencil the kind of political news about the United States that British correspondents can send back to their papers in London.

It is against Russia, too, that Japan is offered the shortest and best protected route for expanding her campaign of conquest. It is only 600 air-flight miles from Tokyo to Vladivostok, and reinforced Japanese armies in Manchuria are already in face-to-face contact with the Russians on the Siberian border. By contrast, mounting an invasion campaign against either Australia or India would involve stupendous long distance transportation difficulties.

As this is written, news from the Solomon Islands battle still is too meagre to indicate its scope, whether the second Japanese attempt to drive out American forces easted them from important sectors in the southeastern section of the great group is a local action, a screening operation or the beginning of a pitched battle test of American ability to retain control of the Southwestern Pacific is yet to be revealed. It would be any of these in strategic concept.

Intensified Japanese reaction to the first American offensive move of the Pacific war was to be expected. Military prestige and the reputation of the Japanese commanders, army and navy, in that area, urged it if nothing else. It was ordered by Tokyo, however, and has been or is to be backed by mass movement of air power. Fighting ships and troops southward to support it, a crisis in the Pacific is impending. The greatest strategic conflict of the whole war could be shaping up.

What seems more likely is that Tokyo has authorized its commanders in the Solomons area to use their available reserves in an attempt to restore the close ties to American-Australian communication lines; but views that primarily as a covering operation. Certainly, if, as the Hata statements indicate, Japan is about to attack Russia, it would be logical to engage American attention at some point in the Pacific too remote to permit quick aid for the Russians.

The same thing would apply to the event India is to be attacked by the Japs, but to a lesser extent. British sea and air power in the Indian ocean, now apparently further entrenched on Madagascar, is the prime factor. Japan cannot consider if an invasion of India is her purpose.

The Hata remark is so timely to recall what happened in 1941 and Asia last winter. Hitler, at the peak of his power, was offensive that year of Roosevelt's December 22. He surrounded the island of Wake and the German fleet treated to winter lines was on the way to Pearl Harbor.

That was clear to everybody. December 7, and that "Pearl Harbor" Japan struck at Pearl Harbor and Singapore and Malaya. Hong Kong and the global world Hitler making was an announcement of fact, involving all major powers except for the strange truce between Japan and Russia, a truce which seems doomed to early collapse by Japanese and Axis initiative every sign.

Some of the lakes wholly within the Canadian borders are larger than some of the Great Lakes on the United States side. Great Bear lake in the Canadian Northwest Territory is larger than Lake Erie by 1,000 square miles.

Ceylon, an island which lies off the southern tip of India, and is a British possession, is as large as the state of West Virginia.

## Interpreting The War

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON  
Wide World War Analyst  
The first cold breath of another coming Arctic winter is sweeping the Russian steppes to encourage Hitler that time again is shivering dangerously for him in the East.

From the Baltic to the Caspian, Moscow reports the coldest day of the season in the wake of autumnal rains. The drop in temperature apparently came earlier this year than last in Russia, even though it is only an advance showing for a six-month long winter moving on behind it. By every portent, it will remain some weeks, but only weeks before ice and snow again seal the Russian front and drive the invaders into winter quarters that have not yet attained any of the Don or the Volga or on the flank of the towering Caucasus range and guarding the Baku oil field.

In the circumstances a phrase from a broadcast by Japan's highest ranking army general in China, picked up by a British station, must catch attention first for its possible bearing on the crisis in Russia.

Short of a Japanese aggression against Russia to help Hitler achieve his immediate aims before winter sets in to halt his conquest march, it is difficult to see what form of operative Axis military action in Asia and Europe could take to justify the Hata cryptogram. Japanese attempt to invade India would not have the same significance. Evolution into a major operation of the new Japanese effort to regain lost ground in the Solomon Islands torn from the enemy's grasp by American forces would not.

Only Japanese aggression against Russia would seem to fill the bill unless Hata was talking about some new political gesture, not also military action. And it is northward, toward Russia, not southward against Australia or eastward against India, that Chinese reports have consistently contended that Japanese forces being withdrawn from Southeastern China were moving.

It is against Russia, too, that Japan is offered the shortest and best protected route for expanding her campaign of conquest. It is only 600 air-flight miles from Tokyo to Vladivostok, and reinforced Japanese armies in Manchuria are already in face-to-face contact with the Russians on the Siberian border. By contrast, mounting an invasion campaign against either Australia or India would involve stupendous long distance transportation difficulties.

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