

Wilmington Morning Star

North Carolina's Oldest Daily Newspaper
Published Daily Except Sunday
By The Wilmington Star-News
R. B. Page, Publisher

Telephone All Departments 2-3311
Entered as Second Class Matter at Wilmington, N. C., Postoffice Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879

SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY CARRIER
IN NEW HANOVER COUNTY
Payable Weekly or In Advance

Time	Star	News	Combination
1 Week	\$.30	\$.25	\$.50
1 Month	1.30	1.10	2.15
3 Months	3.90	3.25	6.50
6 Months	7.80	6.50	13.00
1 Year	15.60	13.00	26.00

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3 Months \$2.50 \$2.00 \$3.85
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WILMINGTON STAR
(Daily Without Sunday)
3 Months \$1.85 6 Months \$3.70 1 Yr. \$7.40

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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1946

TOP O' THE MORNING
Mark Twain was right in affirming that what a man thinks of his fellows is what in his heart he really thinks of himself. To lose faith in folks is to lose faith both in God and ourselves.
—"Christian Herald."

Wants A Throne

We no more than recover from the shock of learning that Hirohito admits he is a mere human that word comes, via a Baltimore Sun correspondent, that he is not even entitled to the Mikado.

An ex-Buddhist priest claims the throne on the ground that 554 years ago Hirohito's ancestors drove out the priest's progenitors and have ruled illegally ever since. He asks General MacArthur to give him back the crown.

Well, it's a poor country that can't afford a pretender.

Justifiable Delay

President Truman is being severely criticized by certain members of Congress for postponing his message on the state of the nation from yesterday until next Monday. Their argument is that, the President, having castigated Congress for delaying essential legislation in a recent broadcast to the people, is now, himself, guilty of doing just that, inasmuch as the established custom long has been for Congress to take no action until the President has delivered his message.

The present exception to this custom, however, appears to be justified. Obviously, Mr. Truman hopes to be able to announce settlement of the steel controversy and possibly the end of the General Motors, the packing house workers' and the electricians' strikes when he goes before Congress on Monday. Until existing labor disputes and strikes are disposed of, any message on the state of the nation could at best be but a gloomy recital of failures.

The President may not achieve all that he hopes to do by next Monday, but restoration of peace in the steel industry would be the stepping stone to general labor peace, and the tone of his message could be much more hopeful.

The President's course since the "honeymoon" ended has not been especially commendable, but in this one decision he certainly does not deserve to be reproved, especially by members of a Congress which devoted so much of its time before the recess to dilly-dallying.

In Their Front Door Too

We were just wondering what the wives of packinghouse strikers will think when the visible supply of meats disappears from butcher shops and markets and they are reduced to vegetables for the family table.

This packinghouse strike will walk right in the front doors of the strikers, who will have to go without their favorite food as well as the mere civilian.

We seem to hear the little woman telling her striker husband that "he cut off his nose to spite his face," or something equally scathing.

So far as the public is concerned, the meat shortage during the war ac-

customed everybody to going without, nine-tenths of the time. If the strikers have any idea that they can win public favor for their demands they are off the beam.

The packers would be well within the rights of American citizens if they refused to negotiate further with the strikers but employed other men and operated on an open shop basis.

Victory Clothing Drive

Wilmington is making a belated start in the Victory Clothing campaign, which is already more than a week old, but is fortunate to have Wilbur R. Doshier, postmaster, as director, or chairman, of the drive. Mr. Doshier made an outstanding success of last winter's campaign. With similar co-operation from church organizations and the schools, there is no reason why this city should not contribute more liberally than then.

The need is for warm clothing, bedding and shoes. Wilmingtonians who have shivered in the current cold spell can easily picture the suffering of millions in Europe who are still pitifully thinly clad, after German depredations during the war, many of whom must perish if American aid is not forthcoming quickly.

They have no money to buy raiment. Even if they had, there are no markets for them to patronize, except perhaps black markets holding their goods at prohibitive prices even for the well-to-do.

This is one appeal which does not include money. All that is wanted is worn apparel and bedding. Surely Wilmington attics contain many articles no longer needed which could be given without cost to the donor.

When Mr. Doshier has perfected his organization and designated his depositories, there should be a steady flow of gifts which will bring comfort to war victims and possibly save many from death from exposure and disease.

Donors are urged by the national organization to tie shoes together and "tack" coats and vests and skirts and waists or jackets, that they may not become separated in packing and so lose at least half their value.

The problem of keeping related items together is important as all clothing collected is shipped to Treasury Department warehouses for processing and packing, and in such mass handling it is almost impossible for workers to trace stray shoes and other items.

The national goal is one hundred million garments. Let Wilmington's contribution be noteworthy, in the name of humanity.

3-Cent Air Mail

Not long ago it was forecast that air travel would ultimately be reduced to 3 cents a mile. Now we hear that 3 cents an ounce is considered for air mail.

It came about at a conference of Postmaster Robert E. Hannegan and his aides with officials of the air transport industry. "The postal officials," says a recent article in the New York Times, "and the industry representatives agreed that the present air postal rate of 8 cents could be reduced to 5 cents and still show a profit for the Postoffice Department of \$10,000,000 yearly." Whereupon Rep. Robert E. Ramsport, vice president of the Air Transport Association, suggested the rate be cut to 3 cents.

Only in recent years has there been any thought that the Postoffice Department should produce revenues above operating expenses. The hope for many years was to get to the point where it could operate without a deficit. Not until James A. Farley became postmaster general and made a great to-do over issuing special stamps for any and every occasion, and postal rates were increased in consequence, along with heavy sales of new issues to collectors, did the department pass the deficit stage.

It would seem wise for the postal officials to make a new schedule of rates which would cover costs of operation and eliminate profits, so that the people might benefit by the change.

A 3-cent air mail rate would be a boon.

The coming of the atomic bomb has opened everyone's eyes to the appalling consequences of failure to achieve international cooperation.—W. L. McKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada.

Fair Enough

By WESTBROOK PEGLER

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 17—The question has been raised, and much too late, of "freedom of the press" for Army publications in which the buck private has been encouraged to believe that he has a right to talk back to his superiors. By what theory it ever was decided that such papers had any legitimate place in disciplined military forces we never have been told, the reason for this reticence being that such impudence cannot be reconciled with our military system and our laws governing the conduct of both officers and enlisted or drafted men.

The old, original Stars and Stripes was an experiment that turned out well, thanks to the happy coincidence of some young and mischievous men who displayed an opportune knack for lampooning themselves, their bosses and war in a genial and patriotic way. When this war came along, however, the columnists and the pinks first promoted a great expansion of such journalism and then contrived to plant themselves in the publications, as data in Army intelligence has positively noted. Failing that, they got jobs in press relations and various headquarters and the communists were diligent to be good soldiers in the sense of not courting charges. Their purpose was to sit out the war without being killed or hurt and to acquire all the information and influence they could for use in the future. The present time is of that future.

All this doubtless will be developed in some phase of impending investigations and scandals. It was a nasty conspiracy and cynical almost beyond belief.

However, the dangers presented by Army journalism, under privilege, are worse than most of us, and that term includes high staff officers, have realized.

Under "freedom of the press," this journalism has a right to employ the most vicious of the guttersnipe gossips as "correspondent" and "columnists," with a right to express their opinions and publish the filthiest and most disruptive rumors about all superiors, from corporals to the Secretary of War. Under such franchise, these vermin are not only protected in their violations of the commonest military laws but protected, as well, in their non-combat editorial assignments. For, the more offensively they violate the regulations and the articles of war by holding their superiors and the whole command up to ridicule and contempt, the more angrily their supporters may protest that any rebuke, such as a demotion or a transfer to dangerous duties, was arranged by the offended "brass-hats" as a means of silencing criticism.

It is a new application of the old, familiar system that plant managers in civilian industry encountered long ago, the martyr method which invoked the Wagner Act to prevent an employer from firing a saboteur and disrupter on the ground that he was being persecuted for "union activity." Any slacker, turned GI journalist, might cry that the captain or the general was sending him to his death because he was telling the truth.

Unless this so-called "GI journalism" is abolished, the principle will have been established, to the irreparable damage of the Army and the nation, that any man, even a colonel with a grudge against a general or a second lieutenant, has a privilege under "freedom of the press" to inspire vicious comments against that person in print and that the "writer" of the item, under journalistic privilege, may refuse to reveal his source. Bribery and corruption are thus invited. Any private, saluting punctiliously, may nevertheless have the right to deliver the most insulting public affronts to any officer under his own name as a "contributor," and get away with it.

In an Army, respect for rank is required and it cannot be compromised by an appeal to "journalism" which leaves the subordinate free to ridicule and lie about his superiors with no fear of punishment or responsibility for slander. Such papers, of course, are immune to civil suits for damages in libel. Our civil, conventional, daily journalism has been grievously infected by this poison and the evil flowed straight into the blood stream of the service publications as soon as these low things were forced into uniform.

There is no room for freedom of the press or journalistic privilege in the American armed services and all such papers should be suppressed permanently.

If "brass-hats" have abused their power to persecute the ranks, then the great and honored corps of correspondents for the civilian press would seem to have been almost criminally remiss in their reporting of the truth. Why haven't they told us about these impositions and why haven't they mentioned the names of the bad colonels and generals and given us times and places?

QUOTATIONS

In order to expedite complete reconversion and full employment, small business must be given a federal financial transfusion which will make it permanently strong and self-sufficient.—Sen. James M. Mead of New York.

Since 1940, five years of intensive research and development have revolutionized every phase of radio. In 1946, the scientific revolution will become continually more apparent to the public.—Brig.-Gen. David Sarnoff, president, Radio Corp. of America.

The United Nations must become truly a world government, or it will be nothing.—Philip J. Noel-Baker of Great Britain.

This department is convinced the people of Hawaii want statehood now and that they have demonstrated their eligibility and right to be admitted into the Union.—Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior.

To win victory, much that was of great price has been given up, much has been ravaged or destroyed by the hand of war. But the things that have been saved are beyond the price.—King George VI of England.

The highway perils are too great this year for anyone to take chances on driving a vehicle with senses dulled by alcohol.—Carroll E. Mealey, Eastern Region director, National Safety Council.

The more the principal of free speech and self-expression succeeds in the world, the better and more democratic the world will be.—Prof. C. K. Webster of Great Britain.

In Europe today, apart from the Soviet Union, there are but a scant 1,500,000 Jews alive. They are the survivors from the nearly 7,000,000 Jews who once lived and knew the joys of normal, decent life.—Paul Baerwald, honorary chairman, United Jewish Appeal.



Men's Caps Aren't Just Coming Back, They've Been With Us All The Time

By JOHN SIKES

There's been so much talk lately about the scarcity of men's shirts and shorts I went down to have a clarifying chat with my old friend A. T. Dowdy.

Mr. Dowdy is privy to such oddments of personal data about me as the measurement of my girth, the neck size, how much padding will be needed in the shoulders of a suit to bolster me out to man-size and how much I'd be able to stand for a hounds-tooth number.

There being little in the way of clarification anybody in the clothing industry can do this day and time, I ended up talking with Lewis Stein about, of all things, men's styles.

One of the things that drew my attention was the display of caps in the Stein window. Now, I was under the impression that caps went out with the dusters the dandies used to wear when they went out for an afternoon's automobile drive.

I remembered — from old chrome I had seen, of course — that caps were quite an item back in the day's when Teddy Roosevelt was coming along fast. Such outstanding characters on the American scene as John L. Sullivan wore them with a certain amount of rakishness.

Bringing them up to date: the cap situation took on added interest when his President Truman wore one on his sea trip to the Potsdam conference.

But, all in all, until I saw the Stein display, I thought caps went out at about the same time peg-legged pants went out. It is nothing unusual to report I was wrong.

Caps, it turns out, are always a good item with the men's stores. True, you no longer see the young — or old — man-about-town wearing one to his office. Or in the business district.

Men nowadays usually wear

caps when they motor or play golf. Unless somebody just happens to be such an individualist he wants to stand out in a crowd in which everybody else is wearing a hat. Mostly, though, caps now are bought for sport.

Of course, those male Apache dancers you sometime see in the movies or winding up a stage show usually wear caps. And Hollywood has apparently tried to make them a trade-mark of a tough guy because almost every gangster you see sports one.

That's about all there was and is about caps right now.

One of the interesting items I gleaned from my conversation with Mr. Stein was that there have been no really new styles for men in the past four years. This is because most of the young men, who usually set style, have had their styles set for them in the form of a uniform during the war period. By inference, you can figure on seeing some new rinctums in men's clothes pretty soon since the boys are coming home. Right now they're buying anything in the way of civilian clothes they can get their hands on.

Normally, there are four sources of styles in men's wear in the United States. Among the college men new ideas usually stem from Princeton and Yale. I was surprised to learn that Harvard carries little weight in collegiate clothing circles. Seems that Harvard is too conservative and the rest of the colleges and universities pay little attention to what is being worn in Cambridge.

Among the class known as the idle rich, styles stem from Palm Beach. Some pretty colorful stuff in the way of men's apparel comes out of the Florida resort. What happens in this case is that wealthy men at Palm Beach originate their own styles. After these

have been worn for a spell, the manufacturers pick up the ideas and make similar items at a price within reach of you and me.

Among the ultra-conservatives, Wall street sets the styles. Usually these styles take the form of sombre but faultlessly tailored suitings.

The flashier set get their notions for flamboyant creations from the people who hang out around Broadway at Times Square. This is the theatrical crowd.

All these bits of information I picked up in my talk with Mr. Stein. When I wondered out loud to him about where Hollywood comes into the men's style picture, I was told that Hollywood is just a sort of youngster in the style-setting business. Hollywood is trying to get its ideas across, but in this flashy end of the men's wear world most everybody still clings to Times Square. Anyway, it seems Hollywood got most of its ideas from Times Square in the first place.

Mr. Stein couldn't give me any good reason why there aren't any outstanding names in men's wear like the Schiaparellis, Carnegies, Adrians, and so on of women's wear. He did mention Grazianni and Wetzel in New York. But they are so little known that both Mr. Stein and I, working together, could not figure out how to spell the first name.

Just in case you'd like to know something about style trends, though, Mr. Stein told me the two-button sack for men is coming back strong.

That, I have to report, is about all there is in men's clothing circles hereabouts. All I could find, that is.

P. S. The Boss says I left out Zoot suits. I'm very happy to do this — altogether.

Religion Day By Day

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS

A BROTHER'S VISIT

Last week I met the British Prime Minister, and Lord Halifax and several other dignitaries. I also had a good talk with my old friend, Cordell Hull. But none of these gave me the deep satisfaction I had in a visit from my elder brother.

We talked of family affairs and of personal interests and of old times and of public matters. His ripe and penetrating judgment upon politics and the world situation made me, a professional in these fields, very humble.

I like to think of Frank as of the best type of American citizen. He is a workman, having come up the hard way of the machinist's bench to his present position as superintendent of a large factory. His employers gave a splendid party, with lavish gifts, on his fiftieth anniversary with the firm. The entire force was present and paid enthusiastic tribute to the boss.

Quiet, modest, home-keeping, church-going, my brother has won a high place in the esteem of his community. It seemed to me, during this happy visit, as if he were

YOUR G. I. RIGHTS

By DOUGLAS LARSEN

WASHINGTON — Here are some questions on the return of service men from overseas:

Q. My husband is in Austria with the 505th MP Battalion. I would appreciate any information you can give me on his return.

A. War Department says that outfit is at Tongres, Belgium. Unless your husband has 60 or more points, he is slated for continued occupation duty.

Q. My son has just been transferred from the 136th Port Company to the 135th Port Company. He has told us not to write because he says his outfit is waiting to be shipped home. When will that unit sail?

A. His outfit is at Okinawa and no date has been set for its return. He may be on his way home, however, if he is a high point man.

Q. Can you tell me the location of the 310th Ordnance Depot more entitled to the label of a "Successful American" than many a man written up in the magazines. At least, he is a representative American in the best definition of that term.

We thank Thee, O Father, for all the ties that bind us up in the bundle of life; and for all men and women who exemplify patriotism and loyalty to Thee. Amen.

pot Company and if it is on its way home?

A. It is at Ahrweiler, Germany. There is no information here about its return.

Q. My brother is in Korea. He was in Europe until July in another outfit — Company "B" 1308th Engineers Regiment. He has 68 points. When will he be home?

A. With that number of points he should be home within a few months. His outfit is now in Okinawa.

Q. My sweetheart is in the 317th Paratroop Infantry Regiment. When I last heard from him he was in Paris. That was more than a month ago. Where is he now and when will he come home?

A. That outfit is now reported in Hochenswangan, Germany. It has been alerted to come home. (Questions will be answered only in this space — not by mail.)

The immediate emergency is to get places for people to live. It doesn't necessarily mean that we will have the best kind of permanent housing, but there will have to be places for people to live.—Wilson W. Wyatt, new Federal Housing Expediter.

The Koreans now are on the stairs and they're going to march up to independence.—Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge, commander, U. S. forces in Korea.

The Doctor Says— MENTAL DISEASES NEED TREATMENT

By WILLIAM A. O'BRIEN, M. D.

The average person does not think clearly on the subject of mental health or mental disease. He realizes the importance of physical health and he knows when he is not well. He may not know all the ways and means of promoting physical health, but he usually makes a fairly intelligent choice when confronted with a serious disease problem.

If he thinks at all about mental disease he considers it something quite foreign to him. He believes that most of his friends are in good mental health, and when they become mentally ill, it is quite a shock to him. Actually, mental ill health takes a long time to develop.

Over half the hospital beds in the United States are devoted to the care of patients with nervous and mental diseases. This is true not only of the Veterans Administration hospitals, but also of civilian hospitals.

Patients with mental disease may be divided into four groups. In the first group the symptoms are so severe that everyone recognizes that the patient is sick. The second group of the mentally ill includes the neurotic, these individuals who find it difficult to make an adjustment to living conditions as they find them. In the third group we find those persons who, while making a good social adjustment, are greatly handicapped by their own emotions.

The fourth group includes "problem" children. It is now generally recognized that children who fail to show satisfactory development, who indulge in temper tantrums, bed wetting after the period of infancy, and delinquencies are mentally ill. Feeble-mindedness is not included in this group.

To assume that mental ill health is hereditary because it runs in a family is not true. We may inherit an undesirable make-up from our people, and if we are forced to live with abnormal people during our early development the association will have a bad effect upon us.

Certain types of mental illness have a definite physical basis. Inflammation of the brain, brain tumors, hardening of the arteries, injury, and disturbance of glands of internal secretion may produce signs of mental illness.

First step in examination of the mentally ill is to find out if there is a physical cause of the condition. Next step is to determine the possible relationship of faulty mental hygiene to the disease. Third step is to institute proper treatment based on the cause.

The Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS
WRITTEN ON THE WIND, by Robert Wilder (Putnam's, \$2.75).

Money lasts but blood runs out. . . that is the idea behind this story of the Whitfields: old Andrew who built the tremendous bacco fortune, his sons Joseph and Cassius, the latter's daughter Anne Charlotte, son Cary, son's wife Lillian, son's friend Reese Benton.

There's some reflection, slightly lurid, of recent life in America; impossible rich heiress, high times, vast amount of drinking, illicit loving. Though you would have missed the rounded, credible characterizations and this stimulating author, you could have read some of this in newspaper headlines. Wilder doesn't point a moral, he tells a tale, yet there is always the intriguing suspicion that fact spices this fiction.

The Whitfield home is in a place called Winston, N. C. With the founder of the fortune laid away in a mausoleum right outside the front door, Cassius is having trouble bringing up his boy and girl, who somewhere along the line have got spoiled; with Cary it's liquor with his sister, sex. Cassius persuades a penniless neighbor to turn over to him his son Reese in hope that Reese, already Cary's chum, can exercise the influence of which Cassius is incapable.

The Whitfields are the old sticks; Reese's function is to fit them together into some workable, abiding relationship. He is more than Cary's friend, for he is responsible for him, but by that very fact, less than a friend. He is under obligations more extensive and weighty than those imposed by friendship. The stirring struggle between his debt to others and his debt to himself gives this book life.

There are very exciting moments, on top of a general level of excellent craftsmanship. Wilder is practised at filling his novel out, providing it with body, supplying the background for present action with past action. He writes conversation well, too. You'll enjoy watching the money flow and the blood thin out.

But while your interest never flags, you are not deeply moved. It is not, on the other hand, inspired. "Written on the Wind" is better than most, not quite a match for the best.