

## LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By HUGO S. SIMS, Washington Correspondent

### Manpower Shortage Slows War Production

Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., says that the nation's rubber shortage is licked but that the tire crisis remains.

The tire company official reports that the army needs more heavy duty tires than hitherto expected and that more machinery and more manpower are needed to make these tires.

The tremendous destruction of material is one of the great costs of modern warfare. Not only must the army have enough tires for its vehicles and mechanized equipment, but it must, at all times, maintain a reserve supply adequate to meet unexpected demands.

Mr. Firestone stresses the fact that the rubber shortage has been solved but that the increased demand for heavy duty tires requires the employment of increased manpower. The same factor in other industries seems to indicate that there can be no early resumption of civilian production, regardless of the amount of raw materials on hand.

### Debunking Two Current Political Arguments

We take no stock in the argument that "a vote against Roosevelt" is in effect "a vote for Hitler." However, it might as well be recognized that Hitler and his cronies would be delighted at the defeat of the President.

This is not an argument against Governor Dewey because no one imagines that a Republican administration will care to encourage an inconclusive settlement of the war issues.

Just as we take no stock in the "vote for Hitler" nonsense, neither do we pay any attention to the argument that the election of the President for a fourth term is "undemocratic." It violates a custom, set up as an unwritten law in the early history of the Republic, but this is the extent of its effect.

In reverse this argument implies that democratic freedoms exist in the United States only because we have limited the terms of presidents to eight years. This is obviously an absurdity.

Democracy and freedom continue to exist in other countries where there is no limitation upon the tenure of prime ministers, who hold office as long as they can secure majority support. The same limitation applies to the presidents of the United States.

Without the support of the American people no president can be elected. So long as the selection of a president reflects the wishes and desires of the voters his continuation in office is an effective expression of democracy.

It is inevitable that some opponents of Governor Dewey will advance the "vote for Hitler" argument and that opponents of President Roosevelt will attempt to convince voters that a fourth term is undemocratic and the death of political freedom in this country.

Neither argument should have any appeal to an intelligent voter.

### U. S. Lives Buying Guam, Our Unfortified Island

The news from the far waters of the Pacific tells us that "Guam's prized harbor" is within the grasp of our fighting men.

You have probably heard about the island of Guam before. It was American territory. It was unfortified because some of our Congressmen did not wish to "offend" Japan and others were foolish enough to believe that Japan "would not dare" attack the United States.

Three years ago Guam was American-occupied. It was our island. This week, in the Pacific, many Americans will face enemy fire, some never to rise again, to reclaim an island that was lost by the stupidity of a policy of appeasement in the Far East.

We would not say that those who advocated, adopted and implemented the policy of appeasement to Japan, which began with disarmament in 1921, are responsible for the death of our men. This would be unjust. The advocates of the national course were convinced that they advised the nation correctly.

The point to remember is that these men and women were wrong. Their mistake, not their disloyalty, proves costly and the price is paid in the blood of other men, most of whom had no opportunity to frame national policies.

Let us be sure that we do not make the same error when the present warfare is concluded. Let us be extremely wary of listening to the siren voice of those who pronounce the end of war, the era of brotherly love and the potency of treaties

### signed by semi-barbaric statesmen. Poland Must Cooperate With Victorious Soviet

The difficult problem of the Polish frontier comes up again with the remarkable advances of the Red Army which is rapidly pushing the Germans out of Polish territory.

The Polish government in exile says that the Soviet Union will incorporate part of old Poland into Russia. It reiterates a determination not to recognize any war-time changes "unless they take place with the friendly consent and good will of the parties concerned."

The Russian position, roughly stated, is that Poland's eastern frontier should be revised in order that territory, which belonged to Russia before the rebirth of Poland after the first World War, will again become part of the Soviet Union.

There is little possibility that the United Nations will be able to persuade the Polish government in exile to accept the Russian view or to acquiesce in the incorporation of any Polish territory into the Soviet Union. Obviously, there is no pressure that can be exerted upon the victorious Russians.

If one views the situation on a realistic basis, the facts demonstrate that the Poles will be indebted to the Russians for anything they get after the Germans have been defeated. Without the success of the Red Army's campaign all Poland would remain subject to Nazi tyranny.

In addition, the Poles are utterly incapable of asserting their contention by force against either Russia or Germany. The only prospect of an independent Poland lies in successful collaboration with either Russia or Germany in the post-war world.

It may be that the Soviet will present suggestions designed to reconcile the Poles to the loss of some of their eastern territory. The incorporation of portions of East Prussia into Poland might offset the loss of other territory and, in addition, give Poland a permanent outlet to the Baltic Sea.

While deeply sympathetic with the aspiration of the Poles, we cannot endorse their stubborn insistence upon the frontiers established after the first World War.

In the interest of future peace it is necessary for the Poles to follow the example of Czechoslovakia and make up their minds to "get along" with the Russians. Any other force, in view of the physical facts, would be provocative and reflect little appreciation of the benefits that accrue to Poland through the victory of the Red Army.

### Must Nation Choose Reconversion Or Munitions?

It is very difficult for the average American to understand the controversy over the reconversion of industry to the production of civilian goods.

Already the WPB has taken preliminary steps to facilitate the gradual transfer of production from war needs to civilian goods. Although the present orders are of limited scope, manufacturers expect to be able to resume civilian production next month where plants, material and labor are available.

Donald M. Nelson, who has been a strong advocate of this preliminary reconversion, originally planned to put it into effect in July, but objection from Army and Navy chiefs and War Manpower Commission officials caused a delay.

The National Association of Manufacturers predicts that there will be a renewed effort on the part of military leaders to delay the resumption of civilian production. This organization reports that its members expect the military authorities to battle for complete control of war time production.

The objection of the military authorities, as we understand it, is based largely upon shortages of labor in essential war production. Even if surplus war materials are available, the military view is that there is need for increasing the labor force employed in the production of some critical items.

The army service force reports lags in production for the first half of 1944, with heavy trucks 22 per cent behind schedule, 150 mm. field guns 33 per cent, power generators 24 per cent, air and transportable ground radios 35 per cent, and cranes and shovels 9 per cent.

In addition, it is well known that equipment and material losses in connection with the invasion of Normandy have been higher than expected, that the expenditure of artillery ammunition has been unusually high, and that the Army has called for heavy increases in the pro-



**DEMOBLIZING GERMAN MINES**—So fast were Nazi soldiers chased from some sectors in Normandy that they did not have time to remove the warning signs in their mine fields. Here an American Engineer officer calmly locates the hidden explosives, renders them useless and piles up the salvage. Failure of the enemy to conceal the death's hand insignia probably saved many American lives.

duction of tanks, guns and heavy artillery shells.

As suggested at the beginning of this article, the average citizen is utterly unable to secure the facts necessary for a decision in this controversy. Nevertheless, if there exists a serious difference of opinion between Army and Navy leaders and industrialists as to the use of available manpower we would certainly be inclined to resolve all doubts in favor of the military leaders.

### 90 Enrolled In Up County Bible School

A commencement program for the community vacation Bible School held at Ballard's Bridge Baptist Church for the benefit of Upper Chowan, was held Sunday night at the Ballard's Bridge Church. The Evans Methodist Church cooperated in the school with the enrollment being in the neighborhood of 90.

### Mrs. Mildred Majkut Dies In Norfolk

Illness of nine months duration culminated in the death Monday, July 31, at 2:05 p. m., of Mildred Elizabeth Majkut, wife of Lieutenant Peter Majkut, District Coast Guard Supply Officer, Norfolk, Va., at the Marine Hospital. Mrs. Majkut, a native of Norfolk, was admitted to the Marine Hospital last June 24th, and for some time her condition was described as hopeless.

Surviving are her husband, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Sutton, of Edenton; a sister, Mrs. Pencie Clark, of Norfolk, Va.; two brothers, Pvt. Sherman Sutton, USA, and Lieut. (jg) Murray J. Chappell, U. S. Navy.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Sykes Funeral Home, Norfolk, Va., and interment took place Wednesday, August 2nd, at 4 p. m., at the family plot in Edenton.

## Edenton Marines Getting Ready For Games In Series

### Local Outfit Ends Season In Tie For Second Place

Though the Edenton Marines led the Service League over half of the season, they finished in a tie for second place and will, therefore, take part in the series for championship, which will begin next Sunday. The schedule, however, has not yet been arranged but Coach Lieut. Cochran is of the opinion that a few of the games will be played in Edenton.

The local team had been crippled during the latter part of the season due to some of the players being on furlough and others being unable to get off from work.

Coach Cochran is holding practice sessions in preparation for the series and it is hoped that his team will show early season form and be able to win the championship.

Members of the team are: Stevenson, Milakowski, Blow and Knickerbocker, pitchers; Lonergan, catcher; infielders, Fasick, first base; Latta, second base; Baer, shortstop; Baker and Cahill, third base; outfielders, Fasick, Pollock, Blum, Saner, Luciano, Kasin, Alsteel and Wis.

## 70 Edenton Dogs Treated By Deese

### Veterinarian Will Continue Work at Home In North Edenton

As the result of the dog vaccination schedule carried out by Dr. L. A. Deese, veterinarian, approximately 70 dogs have been treated. Those who have dogs are required to have them vaccinated and if they have not had the opportunity to have this work done, Dr. Deese has arranged to continue it at his home on North Broad Street.

A committee from Town Council is now considering an ordinance to be presented to the Board, the object of which is to eliminate many dogs which roam the streets which have neither a license or have not been vaccinated. All dog owners are, therefore, urged to have their dogs treated as soon as possible.

### Many Attend Funeral Mrs. Margaret Jones

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon for Mrs. Margaret Fletcher Jones, who died Wednesday morning at her home on East Queen Street. The service was held in the Edenton Baptist Church, the pastor, the Rev. E. L. Wells, officiating.

Many friends were present to pay their last respect to Mrs. Jones, who had a host of friends, which was reflected in the large number of beautiful floral tributes.

Appropriate numbers were sung by the choir of the Baptist Church, and a solo, "Sunset and Evening Star," was rendered by George Goodwin, of Washington, D. C. Interment was made in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

### Too Late To Classify

FOR SALE — 1936 OLDSMOBILE Sedan. In good condition. See W. C. Moore, 519 Cabarrus Street, North Edenton. aug.3,10pd.

FOR SALE — COMPLETE WOOD saw, stationary engine mounted on wheels. In good condition. See W. C. Moore, 519 Cabarrus Street, North Edenton. aug.3,10pd.

WANTED TO BUY — STROLLER for baby. Must be in good condition. Apply 215 E. King St. aug.3pd.

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