

The Shelby Daily Star

(FOUNDED 1894)
Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday Entered as Second Class Matter at the U. S. Post Office, Shelby, N. C. By

STAR PUBLISHING COMPANY
217-219 East Warren Street, Shelby, N. C.
LEE B. WEATHERS, President and Publisher
HOLT McPHERSON, Mng. Editor - H. L. WEATHERS, Secy.-Treas.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (Payable On Order)	
BY CARRIER BY MAIL	
One Year	\$10.40 \$7.00
Six Months	6.20 3.75
Three Months	2.60 2.00
Four Weeks	.80 .75
One Week	.20 .20

ALL TELEPHONES - 1100

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OUR PROBLEM OF SUGAR

Because we here in America don't get the sugar we are accustomed to using, there is considerable complaint and black marketing. Some consumers are inclined to blame the situation on Washington's methods of planning and distribution but in all fairness it should be stated that Washington officials are seeking to provide an adequate supply and equitable distribution. No one deliberately seeks to deprive the American consumer of his reasonable food needs. Food in times of war has to be handled on a world basis rather than in the borders of a single nation.

Here in America we consume more sweets than any other nation in the world. Our "sweet tooth" is insatiable. We are accustomed to sugar not only for table use, but in candy, beverages and ice cream. Last year we ate more than half of our 1945 sugar supply in the first six months, so consumption for the rest of the year must run at an annual rate of about 68 pounds.

Our government is doing everything in its power to increase the supply. We have purchased this year's Cuban crop at \$3.15 per hundred against a 1944 price of \$2.65. Incentive payments are made to encourage sugar cane production in Florida and Louisiana as well as domestic sugar beet production in the midwest. Thousands of Mexican laborers have been brought in to work in sugar beet and cane fields of this country, while war prisoners are also used to increase production.

Every sugar consumer knows first hand about the shortage of domestic labor. That same situation applies, not only to cotton but to sugar production, so we should understand how the shortage of labor has contributed to the short sugar crops at home and in the Caribbean area where we obtain the major part of our supply.

And to this handicap, sugar from the Pacific islands has been cut off entirely and a severe drought reduced the Cuban and Puerto Rican crop last year.

Yes, some of the other nations are getting sugar under allotment. Why shouldn't they? What they do get is much less than their normal requirements. An allotment of 1,800,000 tons has been made for the Army, Navy and lend-lease while civilians in the United States are getting over five million tons this year.

It is disappointing that we cannot take care of an abundant fruit crop, that carbonated beverages are scarce, that pies, cakes and candies are hardly to be had, but we do have more and better food to eat than any other nation in all the world and it is unpatriotic to complain in the face of starvation elsewhere.

When the war stricken world gets back into production, America can gratify its taste for sweets and until then we should not complain but thank God for all that we do have of the necessities of life.

SAFE ALCOHOL

It is entirely too late for any amount of preaching or moralizing to do those 11 persons in High Point, who died from drinking a mixture of wood alcohol, water and flavoring any good. Their mistake is past correction now. Neither do we suppose much benefit is to be gained by advising folks against imbibing homemade illicit concoctions.

A man may lose confidence in his wife, his church and his friends but he will keep faith in his bootlegger.

But we would like to pass on a word or so to those who know they are drinking safe liquor. Some alcohol is more violently poisonous than others. Some brings death swiftly and if not that, blindness. It remains to be said however, that by far the greater amount of damage done in this world by alcohol is in its so-called safer forms. Drunkards are never developed on wood alcohol. They make the grade only on good beverage stuff. A man never beats up his family on wood alcohol. He doesn't have time. A man never squanders his wages on wood alcohol. At least he does not do so but once.

For all the tragedy at High Point, we will maintain that paradoxical as it may be, safe alcohol is the most dangerous.

GAD-ABOUT

Adolf Hitler in the days before his surrender stuck pretty close to his knitting. He was either in Berlin, Berchtesgaden or with his army most of the time. Some folks said that it was because he had a distaste for all languages save German, which was the only one he could speak fluently. Certainly he had a distaste for most other things which were not German. Hitler was a confirmed stay-at-home.

Things have been different however, since V-E day. Day before yesterday Adolf and his bride were reported to be in Argentina. Yesterday we heard they were in the arctic. If you want to know where we think he is it would involve a still more extreme climate. Suffices it to say he has become pretty much of a gad-about. Marriage does change some folks you know.

THEY EXPECT YOU TO, UNCLE!



Merry-Go-Round Russia Reigns Supreme In Balkan Sphere

By DREW PEARSON
(Lt. Col. Robert S. Allen Now On Active Service with the Army)

(Note: Drew Pearson today presents another in his series on the problems facing President Truman at the Big Three conference.)

WASHINGTON—Despite Wendell Willkie's book "One World," there have seldom been two worlds so diametrically opposite as those represented by Stalin and Churchill as they sit at either side of President Truman at Potsdam. Probably not since the Mohammedans pushed the Christians across the Balkans to the gates of Vienna have two great governing segments of the world been so far apart.

Nowhere is this better illustrated than in the Balkans, a subject high on the agenda of the Big Three.

A few weeks before Berlin, Stalin sent telegrams to both Truman and Churchill proposing that the Allies recognize the new Soviet-dominated government of Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland, despite the fact that they were Hitler satellites which declared war on the U. S. A. and Britain. Truman replied that, while the United States might be ready to recognize Finland, he thought the whole question should be left to the coming conference. Churchill replied likewise regarding all the ex-Hitler satellites (now Soviet satellites).

This problem now before the Big Three might not appear difficult on the surface. However, it was only a few short weeks ago that Gen. Cortland Van Rensselaer Schuyler, head of the U. S. Military Mission in Rumania, called at the White House with such a discouraging picture of Russian abuses in Rumania that President Truman remarked:

"It would be better for us to pull out rather than be kicked around."
U. S.-RUSSIAN TENSION

General Schuyler had reported to Truman that the Russians, disregarding the "high principles of Yalta," have ruthlessly imposed a minority government in Rumania, ignoring the protests of U. S. representatives.

Simultaneously, Prime Minister Churchill received a report from his Balkan representatives that "present position is highly unsatisfactory. Russians have refused to admit that Yalta Declaration on liberated areas applies to Rumania and Bulgaria, where they genuinely think we have no right to interfere."

Actually, the situation in Bulgaria was not merely "unsatisfactory." It approached a crisis. Soviet and Bulgarian troops actually surrounded the house of the American minister, Maynard Barnes, and at one time threatened to batter down the doors, when a British official finally persuaded them to desist.

What happened was that local Bulgarian Communists, long suffering under the Nazi heel, suddenly went berserk, and, under Soviet protection, took over control of the nation, proceeding to execute a reported 30,000 quislings. Among these was the wife of the Court Chamberlain, who had fled, hid and helped rescue American fliers forced down in a Ploeste air raid.

American efforts to save her were fruitless. The Bulgarian Communists hailed suspects before the firing squad wholesale. Even the Queen Mother asked the American Legation for asylum, but was refused on the ground that she was not in actual danger.

Finally, however, at four o'clock on the morning of May 4, Dr. George E. Dimitrov, former head of the Agrarian or Peasant party, sought and obtained refuge in the American Legation.

SOVIET GENERAL SHOT
This caused the second most severe strain on American-Russian relations since the start of the war. (Most severe strain occurred when American fliers mistakenly shot and killed a Russian lieutenant general as both the American and Russian armies were converging on Berlin. This was just before Stalin sent his savage note to the late President Roosevelt, after which U. S. troops were withdrawn to the River Elbe.)

Dimitrov was no Nazi. He is a middle-of-the-road Bulgarian political leader representing the nearest approach to Bulgarian democracy. The British, reporting on him to the State department, said:

"We ourselves had to arrange Dimitrov's escape from Bulgaria in 1941 in order to save his life from the Germans. Subsequently he worked in the Middle East in direct interests of the war. We are thus certain of his consistent, active opposition to the Germans as of his anti-Fascist views."

Illustrative of anti-British suspicion in Bulgaria, however, was the fact that the Bulgarian Communists charged Dimitrov with being a British agent (the British naturally had helped pay his living expenses while he was exiled in Egypt), and the British representative in Sofia had to protest the whole matter to the Bulgarian Prime Minister.

This protest fell on deaf ears. Bulgarian militiamen, on May 24 surrounded the home of U. S. Minister Barnes, demanding that Dimitrov be turned over to them. Barnes refused. Bulgarian troops later were replaced by Soviet troops.

The American Charge d'Affaires in Moscow demanded that these guards be withdrawn. Barnes



TREASURY AGENTS GOING OVER INCOME TAX RETURNS OF certain local individuals have made the summer heat almost unbearable, especially for those whose dependence had been on cash transactions to leave no trail—they often do.

Too, it develops there has been some letter writing, anonymous and otherwise, to Uncle Sam by individuals who had a feeling, whether justified or not remains to be seen, that others were not anteing up with their old uncle's fair portion of booty.

There's only one way to operate in tax matters, and that's to deal fairly with the tax collector—not to do so is to steal from your neighbor, because he'll have to pay collectively what anyone escapes nefariously. T-men have a lot of sympathy for the fellow who totes fair, little for the chiseller and crook. That's as it should be.

There's lots of talk, naturally, when the T-men are as busily engaged as they are now, but so far as known no one here has been walloped, although several are quite patiently squirming and others have paid off without being hurt too badly. One thing seems evident, however; those who have been caught are giving more thought to sound bookkeeping than ever before—indeed, a good bookkeeper is proving excellent investment these very tax-conscious days.

"MILK INDUSTRY FOR VICTORY"—HEADLINE. AND here industry was thinking it was being pretty thoroughly "milked."

AN INTOLERABLE BORE, IN COMPANY, WAS GIVING HIS views on the characteristics of many members of the animal kingdom. He told why, in his opinion, certain animals were better than others, and he spoke at great length on the qualities of each.

"Nevertheless," said one of his hearers, "I believe that the oyster is the noblest animal in the world."

"Why the oyster," bored the bore.
"Because he knows enough to shut up at the proper time."

OUT OF THE WELTER OF NEW INDUSTRIES POPPING up hereabouts one would think that a brick and tile manufactory would be developing—with brick commanding \$20 a thousand and with so much building coming up, few lines with better prospects could be undertaken. The cost of getting into such a business isn't excessive, the opportunity makes it most inviting.

THOSE JAPANESE RADIO COMMENTATORS WHO ARE SHEDDING crocodile tears all over the place claiming that Admiral Halsey and Admiral Nimitz are "losing face" through what they term an "insane" raid on Tokyo probably are thinking the boys will rush right out and commit hari-kiri. It all adds up to the fact the Nips are taking such a beating that they rue the day they ever thought of Pearl Harbor.

HENRY HODGE, WHO LIVES IN THE TRINITY CHURCH community, was sub foreman on the building of the "crooked bridge" over Broad River. He was in the other day and I asked him how it happened the bridge has that peculiar turn. He said it was designed to go straight, but one of the commissioners got the idea that by going around the hill, instead of cutting through it, money could be saved. It may have been cheaper at the time, but the accidents and trouble caused by that turn in the bridge has proved to be one of the dearest economies the county ever bought.

RABBITS ARE SO PLENTIFUL THAT THEIR RAIDS ON GARDENS are becoming a major nuisance, and the fields are so full of them that it's evident hunting will be a busy affair this fall. The trees are right full of squirrels too, and it's hard to keep from jumping the gun to jump a rabbit or a squirrel, especially when their depredations against gardens are so annoying. Automobiles, too, are running down and killing scores of rabbits that get caught in the roads.

People whose red points are running close are figuring to beat the race for meat by a hare.

communicated with Washington. anti-Communist government successfully.

Since then, American officials have not been molested. However, deep scars are left in Anglo-American-Russian relations in the Balkans, and erasing these scars will be one of President Truman's Berlin problems.

Things have improved in the few short weeks since Truman proposed to General Schuyler that we "pull out" of the Balkans altogether, but the Balkans still remain a tightly controlled Russian sphere of influence, just as tightly controlled as some of the British spheres in Greece and the Near East which will be discussed in this column shortly.

TORTURED BY BULGARS
An official note was delivered to the U. S. and British governments warning that the family of Dimitrov would be tortured and killed if he were not released. The British and American governments replied in a note expressing their loathing and disgust.

A few days later, May 30, the body of Dimitrov's former secretary was found dead outside Bulgarian militia headquarters. The official explanation was that she had committed suicide. The doctors' report, however, revealed that she had been cruelly tortured.

Meanwhile, as of May 26, all Americans visiting the home of U. S. Minister Barnes were required to show Soviet passes in order to pass the Soviet guards. Even Barnes himself was required to show a pass. This, Barnes refused to do, and remained in his own home.

Meanwhile, Bulgarian militiamen carrying machine guns halted American officers belonging to the U. S. Military Mission in various parts of Sofia, refusing to let them go to their headquarters at the American college, five miles from the city.

U. S. TROOPS ARMED
American officers, as a result, were given arms. The tension increased.

Finally, Maj. Gen. John A. Crane, head of the U. S. Military Mission, protested to Colonel General Biryusov, head of the Allied Control commission, who had just returned from Moscow. He expressed deep regret and immediately removed the guards from Barnes' home. This was on May 28. On May 30, the Bulgarian government informed Barnes that no attempt would be made to violate the asylum he had given Dimitrov.

Since then, Communist arrests of Agrarian leaders have increased, apparently with the desire of removing the one strong political party which could rival the Communist party. The Bulgarian Prime Minister admitted to the British Charge d'Affaires that Dimitrov had committed no crime and they had no charge to make against him. However, as Agrarian leader, he was the one man who could have formed a new

Only two naval officers have ever held seats in the U. S. senate: Commodore Robert F. Stockton of New Jersey and Adm. Thomas C. Hart of Connecticut.

A Daily Prayer In War Time

FOR THOSE ABOUT TO DIE

Myriads of men are daily dying in this great struggle; and we commend their souls to Thee, O God and Saviour. In high fidelity to patriotism's call, they have freely offered themselves upon the altar of duty. May they know themselves to be sharers in the sacrifice of Thy Son; and, in the hour of dying, trustfully look to Him as their Redeemer. May the mercy of God be the reliance of all who give their lives in battle. Quicken the conscience and the faith of every soldier, sailor and airman, and of all the civilian hosts who perish. As Christ died that we might live, so may these, our dear ones, be of aid to our souls, and of all the sacred objectives for which they have offered the last full measure of devotion. Have pity upon the dying, O Jesus; and make us willing to follow in their train. Amen.

LETTERS

DR. HOLLAND DISCUSSES HIGH AND LOW BRAINS
Editor of The Star:

I have had quite a lot of experience with people for many years and have come to the conclusion that there are two kinds of brains. We might say high and low. Some people possess both, but very few. Very few have the high and low. When a man possesses the high mind he has the ability to reason. You can discuss politics and many other things with people of the higher mind and you will soon see that they can talk to you with reason while you discuss the question with many who only have the lower mind and they will have absolutely no reason about the question.

Brutes possess the lower mind very much in common with the man of the lower intelligence.

I have often been talking with people when we would hear a car coming. They could tell me whose car it was before they could see it and at the same time they would be men of the lower brain. I find when they have only one lower mind they are keener in that mind than some who possess the higher. In other words the high mind overlooks the little things of life and looks dull to the lower.

You have heard it said that young folks think that old folks are fools and old folk know that young folks are fools. It is just the same way with the lower brain.

I saw a lady some time back who holds several diplomas and when I went to work on her teeth she was almost an idiot. She did not have but one brain and that was the low. So I will say that the man that has both high and low often is not quite as strong in the low as the man that only has the low. It is strange when you think about it. Just sit on the sidewalk of some good sized town and see the big crowd pass and if you should talk with so many of them what would you find. That lower mind in abundance. Hitler had the lower mind only. He did not know anything of high intelligence. You can educate a dog but yet he only has one mind. You can teach him to reason. You can educate a boy or girl that does not have that higher mind and they will never know how to reason. A lady was in my

office a few days ago who I would think had gone to about the seventh or eighth grade in school and I was surprised to find her so bright along the line of my work. She was full of reason. You can educate a man all you wish, but you can not give him that higher brain. I believe our president has good reasoning powers and if so we have just the man we need.

Thomas Edison had both. Not every inventor and great business man possesses both. Talent and high brain are not the same thing. People can do big things some time and at the same time are not so smart. A man with a high brain will some time fail in business. Above all things give me a man of reason. This war was brought about because leading men did not possess reason. Never discard a man of fine brain regardless of his education.
DR. A. B. HOLLAND,
Caroleen, N. C.

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. ROGERS
Speak Of The Devil, edited by Sterling North and C. B. Boutell ("Doubleday, Doran," \$3).

A couple of newspaper boys have raised the devil from his numerous literary lairs. North and Boutell, book editors of the New York Post, have collected 34 items of fiction, poetry and drama having to do with Satan, whom they find, after considerable diabolical research, "in league with creative mankind—even anthropologists."

John Collier alone makes three contributions, one of them that creepy masterpiece "Thus I Refute Beelzebub." Bandelone, Goethe, Marlowe, Milton and Dante, as you might expect, are represented, but some of the other names are surprises. The editors are impartial, showing Satan both winning and worsted. They have preceded each section — Foreign Devils, Faust, Satan in America, what they smartly call "the 'Djinn Bottle'" and so on—with helpful and entertaining comments. And as you might have guessed, the jacket design is by Salvador Dali.

It's all a good job of giving the devil his due.
It Shouldn't Happen—by Don Freeman (Harcourt, Brace; \$2).
And it wouldn't have, without Freeman's smart pencil. Pvt. Albert C. Bedlington, Jr., goes to Army camp and starts through the ropes. It's a dog's life, he discovers, and logically enough he turns into a dog.

But behind a dog in a man's world has its problems, too, as he finds out in various adventures on furlough. Freeman, who evidently reads the newspapers, lets Al occupy a berth and that brings a Senate investigation. In the end, it all makes a man of Al and he's off to the wars.

Freeman tells his story in few words and many pictures; he's good at writing, grand at drawing. The doghouse for you if you don't think it.

Think It Over, Mate, by Lou Givvin, USMCR (Mill; \$1.25).
Advice to the sailor on how to keep out of the brig and off a diet of peas and punk, and what the penalties are if he ignores the advice. At least our Navy is more humane than some navies used to be. It doesn't make the punishment fit the crime so closely that, if you kill a man aboard ship, you

The Everyday COUNSELOR

By DR. HERBERT SPAUGH

Do you become upset over obstacles which comes across your path? Can you take criticism without becoming angry or having your feelings hurt? Do you complain and "gripe" about your hard luck, and say, "why does this have to happen to me?" Periodically letters come to this desk, in which the correspondent seems to feel that he is being selected for special temptation and suffering.



REV. SPAUGH

There is one fundamental fact in life which each one of us must learn, sooner or later, if we are to grow mentally and spiritually. Life has its sorrows with its joys; its ups and its downs. You can't expect to gaze from mountain tops without walking in the valleys. Lewis in his famous "Screwtop Letters" calls this the Law of Undulation.

I was trying to explain this to a father and mother the other day, whose only daughter had just gone through a most unpleasant experience of "catty" criticism from her companions in schools and church. This young woman had completed her high school work in an outstanding manner, with the highest grades in her class. Now she was receiving some training in character. She could take good grades in her classes; could she learn to "take" the criticism of her associates and stand her ground, when she knew she was right?

We grow in character, in mental, and spiritual stature by the exercise of our moral and emotional "muscles." It is by constant trial and testing that we learn to keep calm when others are losing their heads. Anyone can lose his temper; that takes no intelligence. There is an old saying to the effect that those whom the gods would destroy they first make angry. When you lose your temper, your judgment goes with it; don't forget that. The "bigger" a man, the more criticism he can expect and take; the more trouble he can carry—his own and that of others.

The Bible promises special help to the Christian in meeting his temptations, bearing his troubles, solving his problems:

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. . . . We have not a high priest which can not be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. . . . the eternal God, his refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms. . . . because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. . . . My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. . . . humble yourselves, therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."

are tied to the body and thrown into the sea, as you would have been once.