

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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Self esteem, like most medicine, must be taken in measured doses.

Too much flowery language always smells—But not sweet.

Then he who invents a yarn mustn't be surprised if he gets tangled up in it.

We can't all be dive bombers, but we can dive in and help the Cause of Freedom.

Before the war is over, the Japs will have found out the sun sets as well as rises.

Don't labor under the misapprehension that putting on your thinking cap every once in a while will make you baldheaded.

What Is It For?

While more than a hundred sailors and coast guardsmen stationed here sought what pleasure and entertainment it was possible for them to enjoy in this community, the fine new \$22,500.00 USO building, completed more than two weeks ago, stood idle and useless.

What prevented the proper use of this building during the holidays, and when, if ever, will it be opened to perform its proper function in the entertainment of men of the service?

It must not have been a matter of furniture, for the chairman of the Brunswick County Defense Council told us last week that the furniture is at the local depot. Nor do we blame local representatives of the USO, since they cannot function until they have their duties properly outlined for them.

Somebody bungled the job when he failed to see to it that a headquarters for entertainment was provided for the men during what probably was the first Christmas away from home for many of them.

Hospitality

With responsibility for the proper entertainment during the holidays of visiting soldiers, sailors and coast guardsmen left up to the citizens of the community we are proud of the fine response.

On Christmas night several homes of the community were thrown open for the entertainment of these visiting boys, and on at least two occasions during the holiday season impromptu dances were arranged for their entertainment.

Southport people have long been famous for their hospitality, and it has been many a long year since our citizens have had a greater opportunity for service through kindness and consideration.

For Solidarity

We know that it is hard for those with loved ones in the service to understand what we are driving at, but more good may come from the present war than just our avowed aim of ridding the world of Hitlerism.

The people of the United States were in the peculiar situation of having more of everything good than they either used or appreciated; and dangerous tendencies were cropping up to threaten the future of our nation.

Political troubles may be largely discounted, of course, because we have always had them and we always shall have them, so long as we retain our two-party system of Democracy. But there was the ever-increasing discrepancy between supply and demand that threatened our economic system; our people were showing disregard for Christianity, and for many of the other worthwhile things that form the very foundation of this nation; and organized labor, with the bit in its teeth, appeared set for a show down of strength against all other agencies of our nation.

Now we do not presume to present war as a panacea for all these ills, but we do

believe that until it is over partisan politics will be held in check in the interest of national unity; that the farms and factories of this nation will be geared to practical production; that our people will seek comfort from the same sources that served their forefathers; and that labor and capital will pull together for the common cause.

The unity and loyalty of a fine, free-thinking people is what built this nation; and it is these same qualities that will make it possible for it to weather this storm.

A New Year Awaits

The time when the people of the world must bid 1941 goodbye and welcome to 1942 is at hand.

So, with the New Year so close in the offing, we cannot help but wonder what fortune and fate awaits the people of the United States and the world in the year which lies ahead.

That, our mind, depends largely upon the people of this country themselves. It will be for them to work out their destiny under the divine leadership of the all-seeing Father of Mankind. No longer can we trust to blind fate to deliver us from the evil thing which has befallen so much of the world today. How far we are spared the ordeals to which other countries have been subjected will depend in a large measure upon the amount of effort which we put into warding off this evil before it is too late.

Let us stop now and take inventory of the America which we find at the threshold of 1942, compared with the one which greeted the New Year twelve months ago.

First, an awakened, unified, and determined America greets the New Year. That was not the case at the arrival of 1941.

Secondly, America finds at the beginning of this new year that it has the most stupendous task in its history ahead, but it has already tackled the job with a confidence and determination which has been inspiring to see.

Next, what may we expect in 1942? As set out above, that depends largely upon the people themselves—upon the vigor and determination with which they tackle the job in this fight for our existence. Certainly, we may expect and will be prepared to make unending sacrifice in this war to the end.

The efforts of those on the home front in this war must be coordinated with those at the battle front for our war effort to be most effective.

But whatever the task, the American people can rise to meet it. Our nation was given birth amid a struggle for the same principles which are paramount in this war, and our country has been nurtured amid struggle for the preservation of our way of life.

Truly, the New Year finds us better prepared to meet the challenge hurled at us by the tyrannical powers of Europe and Asia than we would have been twelve short months ago.

We Americans will keep our chin up, not out.

Suggested slogan for U. S.: Fortitude in forty-two.

Shears And Paste

"OVERREACHED MYSELF"

(Charlotte Observer) LAURA INGALLS, the noted woman flyer, arrested as a German agent on the technical charge of operating in that capacity without formally registering as such, makes the suggestive, cryptic comment:

"I overreached myself." It is altogether possible that the supposedly master-mind of the Nazis for whom she has been serving in her own country as second only to Colonel Lindbergh in the America First Committee in the role of lecturer and harranguer against the nation's foreign policy, understands exactly what she means when she acknowledges that "I overreached myself."

Doubtless, he, too, is intermittently moaning in his fitful, frothing reflections, as he thinks back over the past five months of his herculean efforts to beat Russia to a pulp, that this is precisely the mistake he made.

Because he overreached himself, he has apparently brought rout, retreat, demoralization and utter panic to his armies that are in flight before the hotly pursuing hordes of the Soviets whose own armies he announced to his people weeks ago had been forever crushed.

LAURA INGALLS has unwittingly given the world a slogan that may become prophetic of the eventual disaster that is bound to come to Herr, and her, Hitler—"I overreached myself."



BY BILL KEZIAH

This week we had a letter, a really nice letter, from George H. Gray, a former Register of Deeds for Brunswick county, now residing in Ingomar, Pa. Mr. Gray told us what we have been feeling for a long time—we never will be able to greatly develop the wonderful sport fishing we have here until we get better hotel and boat facilities. We must also have docking facilities. If we had these things the work would be much easier. Mr. Gray's suggestions of the needs are along the line of hundreds of others we have received and they encourage us to hope that with so many outside people seeing what we need, our own folks will come to see the same things some of these days.

And while he was about the business of writing, Mr. Gray enclosed a clipping from an issue of last week's Pittsburgh Press. Someone at Sharon, Pa., had asked Johnnie Mock what kind of fishing we had at Southport. In reply in his outdoor column, the versatile Johnnie ran a picture of what purported to be me, thumping an alligator over the head with the butt of a shot gun (we would use the other end and stand further back.) We are not saying that the picture looked bad for us, only that it could not be worse than it was. Johnnie advised the inquirer to drop me a line and I could tell him about tarpon, barracuda, blue marlin, channel bass, mackerel, kingfish, sea trout, sea bass, bluefish, pompano, sheepshead, black drum and a host of other fish. And that I also knew about deer, bear, ducks, turkey, squirrel, coons, o'possums, wildcats, quail, doves, and alligators to boot.

Charlie Farrell of the Art Shop in Greensboro has just sent us a Christmas present in the shape of the book: "Fishing in the Carolinas," by Phillip A. Murray, Jr. We haven't caught up with the holiday daze long enough to read it yet, but we aim to get some choice information to replenish our present store, at an early date. Charlie also wrote and said that Santa Claus brought him a new fishing pole and that he was planning to try it out soon. Charlie's wife recently wrote us and told us that every time that Charlie came down here she had a pain for weeks from listening to him talk about fishing.

Among our Christmas cards was one from a bunch of girls down at Nassau, Bahamas. They are wives of engineers and were down here on solo fishing trips, so far as husbands were concerned, several times during the summer. They wrote us that they went to the Bahamas by plane, but they neglected to state what they were doing there, outside of mentioning that they were teaching the natives how to fish.

Bob Wilson, outdoor editor of the Washington Times-Herald, sent us a Christmas card in the shape of a picture of himself with an insert showing an amber jack he caught on one of his trips here the past year. At least the fish looked like one that Bob caught here. Bob knows we would resent getting a picture of a fish caught any other place, so this must have been a Southport fish.

We haven't seen them since the rains came last week, but it is our hunch that the freshwater ponds and lakes in Brunswick county are filled to overflowing again for the first time in about eight years. As good fishing spots, many of these lakes are now numbered among the things of the past. They had dried completely up. Quite a number of others still had deep holes in which there was enough water to maintain plenty of fish for breeding. In a couple of years or so these lakes that did not dry up will again have an abundant supply of large mouth bass. We don't see how the dried up lakes will again have a stock of fish unless someone stocks them.

Since the big rains the big mouth bass in Orton Pond and also the grayheads and crapie should be biting good. We have not had any reports of any one fishing at Orton during the last few days, but it is our hunch that if you tried it you would find them biting good. Many nice catches were made last January.

Come tomorrow we will be starting out on a new calendar.

WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Constant reminders that this country it at war may be found in the sudden changes in social and political behavior. The gayety which usually marked official and diplomatic society at the beginning of the New Year is either greatly subdued or entirely missing. Neither diplomats nor government officials are accepting invitations to social functions as their time is fully occupied with their professional duties. The legislators are apparently trying to make good their public promises to subordinate partisan matters to the national welfare. Life in the nation's capital is gradually taking on a sombre hue as casualty lists and military reverses in the Far East take some of the native cocksureness out of many citizens.

The stay of Prime Minister Winston Churchill has been an effective stimulant to public morale. It has disclosed that the unity which the leaders of the two great democracies are devising for the successful prosecution of the war is found on the recognition that many sacrifices are to be expected before peace can be considered. Churchill's speech to the American Congress had a sobering effect in many quarters. His grim prediction that at least two years must be devoted to a defensive war against the Axis took the wind out of the sails of many less experienced officials here who have been proceeding on the theory that victory is just around the corner. It is believed that the note of realism injected by the British leader will eventually contribute more to sustaining the American public's morale than a series of short and undecided military or naval victories for our arms.

The new session of Congress, which comes into existence automatically this Saturday, means that pending legislation must again go through the legislative mill. Efforts to pass the anti-strike bills before this session adjourned were stymied by the establishment of a War Labor Board. It is unlikely that the legislation will be enacted unless trade unions persist in impeding the armament program by strikes. The price control bill, which will be debated in the Senate shortly, will have drastic controls not included in the version voted by the House. The talk is growing that the lawmakers will insist upon real economies in government expenditures not connected with defense. In fact, they may exact this promise as a condition of passing a revised tax law which the Administration will present shortly to raise revenue for the conduct of the war.

The fact that the war effort is centralized at Washington makes it difficult for several state groups to find their true place in the national picture. The rush of affairs since bombing in Hawaii has been such that only passing interest has been given to the role of states. It is known that various Federal agencies are at work on plans which will utilize state and local agencies, both official and volunteer. There is a distinct trend decentralization in order to spread out our war energies. Planning, however, requires time. In the last World War the Council of National Defense had an effective working arrangement with state bodies. The Office of Civilian Defense, more than any other Federal agency, has given attention to cooperation with the forty-eight commonwealths. The uncertainty as to the role which will be assigned to various state organizations has provoked considerable confusion and dissatisfaction at the apparent unwillingness of the central government to accept proffers of service. Tire rationing will be a test of regional and local operation under Washington supervision.

Some state governments may not take kindly to the proposals by the Interdepartmental Committee on Interstate Trade Barriers to remove obstacles which now impair movement of goods across state lines. It is likely that this activity will take the form of asking state legislators to repeal laws aimed at business crossing state lines and other retaliatory measures. One of the most fertile sources of conflict between neighboring states is the prohibition against motor trucks using state highways without a special license from states whose roads are utilized. Another item which the state lawmakers must consider at the sessions, which begin early in 1942, is the budget situation. A slight decrease which reverses the upward trend has been reported in the state and local government debts on figures obtained as of June 30, 1941.

Federal defense spending and national defense requirements have affected State and local government debt behavior in several ways. Expansion of the national

NOT EXACTLY NEWS

We thought it was fine when the sailors came to the Christmas program at the Methodist church Thursday night. We thought it was a nice gesture when Rev. Mr. Harrison asked them to come over to his house to the party for members of the choir afterward. But those things were as nothing when compared to our reaction of seeing some of the boys out in the kitchen at the Harrison home helping wash dishes after refreshments. . . . On the back of a clipping from a newspaper published in Southport, England, that we had the other day was a short reference to the fact that during the past 24 hours the coroner had had four calls, all of them for minors. Presumably these were bombing victims, for the paper spoke of the added sorrow that was felt when youthful lives are snuffed out.

A. E. Huntley and Mrs. H. T. St. George won the turkeys offered for high scorers in the men's and women's divisions during the pre-Christmas season. Huntley had 276 for his top score, while Mrs. St. George had 191. . . . Huntley wants to lead a coast guard team in a four team bowling league. Captain Eriksen has accepted the chal-

lenge for the town and will organize a local representative. Now it is suggested that a team be formed to represent the Section "East" possibly a fourth team of unmarried men of Southport. Some good entertainment could come from a bowling league.

If you like westerns then the bill of fare Friday and Saturday at the Amuzu ought to be to liking. The feature is "The DeRange Kid," starring Charles Starrett. . . . We let the holiday season slip by without a dance, and both DeGrimes and Joel Palmer were offered for engagements.

Two widely known citizens of the county who suffered indignities during the holidays were Bennett and Rudolph Mintz. Sam went searching hunting Christmas day and was lost in the snow until 9:30 that night. Rudolph parked his car on his driveway upon his return from Camp Davis one night last week, and when he came out he discovered that it had rolled across the street down the embankment and into the edge of the river in front of his home.

Farms Require More Workstock

Demand For Steel By War Industries Cuts Metal Supply To Manufacturers Of Tractors

Metal is scarce. This means a possible shortage of new farm machinery. F. M. Haig, professor of animal husbandry at N. C. State College, says workstock will take an added importance as sources of farm power during the war emergency. He urges that horses and mules be well fed and cared for, and that every mare be bred in 1942.

"We hear that the agriculture in the United States has become mechanized", Prof. Haig declared, "but the 1940 census showed that less than 25 percent of the farms in the Nation own a tractor. The census found 1,567,405 tractors on 1,409,685 farms.

"On the other hand, there were more than 10 million horses on three million farms in 1940. Nearly two million farmers reported ownership of 3,844,560 mules. This indicates that workstock are still the principal source of power on

economy has resulted in substantially heavier tax collections and in reduced relief loads. Priority requirements have necessitated curtailment of nonessential public construction. Effects of these factors on nonfederal public borrowing during the past year were reflected in a decrease of 4 percent in State debt, as contrasted with an increase amounting to 22 percent for the eight-year period 1932-1940. Among local governments generally, similar downward movement in debt was reported. Shutting of Federal contributions in relief and other projects will give states some trouble for a time.

Tobacco Quota Boosts Asked

Producers Have Issued A Request For A Ten Per Cent Increase In The Flue Cured Leaf Allotments

RALEIGH—A group of 150 tobacco producers and businessmen adopted resolutions today calling for a 10 per cent increase in flue-cured tobacco allotments, and asking that the loan value of the leaf be raised from its present 85 per cent to 100 per cent of parity.

James Thigpen, chief of the tobacco marketing section of the AAA east central region, called the meeting because, he explained, upward adjustment of quotas would be made possible by increasing more than 75 percent of our farms."

Prof. Haig said the alarming part of the census report is that workstock breeding has been neglected because of the general impression that "the horse and mule are on their way out." He asserted that "the horse is not doomed, and there is still a market for workstock. The war will stimulate this market, and farmers with good brood mares will serve National Defense by having their mares bred to registered stallions or jacks in 1942."

The animal husbandman said the census indicated that there was a shortage of 541,939 colts in the United States to barely maintain the present horse population. An additional 327,493 mule colts are needed to maintain the population of this type of workstock. "See your county farm agent and enlist his advice and assistance in giving your horses and mules better care, including the right kind of feed," Prof. Haig suggested.

Kudzu Imports Cut By Jap War

Importation Of Kudzu Seed From Japan Cut Off By War; Millions Of Plants Grown By State Last Year

One of the first effects of the war with Japan on farmers was the cutting off of the source of kudzu seed, from which the three million kudzu plants distributed to North Carolina farmers the year by the Soil Conservation Service were grown in the SCS nursery at Chapel Hill.

E. B. Garrett, State coordinator of the Soil Conservation Service with headquarters at N. C. State College, says other sources of kudzu crowns are already being developed. He announced that a series of field demonstrations were held throughout the State last week to show SCS technicians how to dig kudzu crowns from old established kudzu plantings.

Brazil's census shows that its state capitals populations ranging from 16,264 to 1,751,567.

Although a mammal, the hippopotamus is able to walk on the bottom of rivers and lakes and graze on the aquatic vegetation, says Collier's.

Increased domestic consumption and export demand.

John B. Hutson, president of the Commodity Credit corporation pointed out that tobacco producers could follow one of three courses—eliminate quotas altogether; ration tobacco to manufacturers; or increase quotas a specified amount. Representatives were here from the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida and Virginia.

Urgent Appeal TO ALL CITIZENS AND TAXPAYERS OF CITY OF SOUTHPORT! Southport needs additional fire-fighting equipment. Southport needs added police protection. Southport must meet the demands made of it in defense efforts. YOU can do your part to relieve this emergency if you will call by the City Hall and pay your taxes at once. E. R. WEEKS CITY TAX COLLECTOR.