

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, August 5, 1942

We can forgive a poor loser, but an ungracious winner is an inexcusable character.

One result of this war has been the development of some mighty fine arm-chair military strategists.

Modern conception of freedom of worship is the right to stay away from which-ever church we wish on Sunday mornings.

Hauling To Market

WE are mighty sorry, but there is a new and bigger headache than ever for tobacco farmers this season, and that is the problem of transporting their crop to market.

The first trouble is gasoline; the second is tires.

We know for a fact that it is the policy of rationing authorities in this county to furnish every drop of gasoline necessary for pick-ups and trucks to market the tobacco crop this season.

Tires, though, are another matter. Here it is not a matter of worrying about whether those granted will be used for the purpose intended; rather it is a question of having less than one-fourth enough tires to make the needed replacements on farm truck and pick-ups.

There isn't much that the rationing authorities can do about this matter. We understand that every possible effort has been made to get an additional quota for this county, and we know for a fact that farmer and farm needs have been carefully considered on this, the eve of the tobacco market opening.

This leaves the matter squarely up to the farmers who are fortunate enough to still have tires and tubes that will carry a load. It is their responsibility to play the part of a good friend and a good neighbor this season, and to help see to it that others in their community have a chance to get their tobacco to market. This is no time for playing the role of 'dog in the manger' nor for protecting one's own interest against future emergencies.

Good Investments

THERE are two types of investments that we'd like to recommend to our farmer friends at this season of the year. One is War Bonds, and we take it that their value needs none of our explaining.

It is well to remember, though, that Uncle Sam needs our money now; and it also is a fact that if War Bonds are not a sound investment, then neither is anything else in the United States. We all are conscious of the bond buying campaigns that have been in progress for some time, and we know that the greatest success has been with the people who have a regular income.

Knowing that not all of the surplus cash will go for the purchase of War Bonds, the next best thing that we can think of to do with farm money this fall is to fortify against an uncertain future by strengthening our ability to live at home. This means buying new and better breeding stock for poultry and hog projects and for beef cattle herds in this county.

Second Front

BOTH here and in England, millions of people seem to consider themselves completely qualified experts on military tactics and strategy. They know precisely what is wrong with the United Nations' High Commands, and they are convinced that they could remedy matters in short order if they were put in charge.

In theory, the second front would be of immense benefit to the Allied cause. It would divert men and machines and supplies from Hitler's Russian and African offensives. It would give the conquered people of France their opportunity to rise up against their conqueror and help destroy him.

So much for theory. In actual fact, opening the second front now would be one of the most hazardous operations in all military history. According to all reports, the Germans have done wonders in fortifying their continental positions.

As military history proves again and again, an over-water invasion of enemy-held territory is the most difficult of all martial operations—even after their complete victory at Dunkirk, when British military power was all but destroyed, the Nazi generals didn't feel confident enough of success to make the attempt.

The losses in men which would follow when the stage of landing operations was reached, is also staggering. Without artillery support, the landing troops would have to advance against completely shielded defenders with a vast superiority in firepower. Writing in Collier's, Quentin Reynolds, one of the best informed of war correspondents, draws a vivid and probably accurate picture when he says: "Let those who shout loudest for the immediate establishment of a second front in France . . . visualize for a moment the cost, in equipment and life. Let them visualize the waters of the Channel running blood red under a white moon, and let them visualize the bodies of thousands of British and American soldiers floating in those waters. If the persuasive eloquence of the second-front brigade is followed, no other result is possible."

This does not mean that a second front is impossible. To the contrary, every really informed military man is convinced that one will be opened in time. But it cannot be opened until everything is ready. That means that, first, there must be many more bombings of Germany and the Continent on the Cologne scale. It means that Allied troops must be given more and better equipment than they now possess. And it means that ways must be found of causing distracting trouble for Germany at home.

Some experts believe that airpower alone may create a second front. They look forward to a time when three, four, five thousand major bombers will be used nightly in raids against the Axis. Major de Seversky is the most eloquent exponent of this doctrine and his recent best seller, "Victory Through Air Power," is a convincing work. The problems involved here are those of production, supply and coordination—and the last two are even more important than the first. We are producing planes on an ever-increasing scale. We have not yet solved the difficulties that lie in taking them, their fuel, their crews and their parts to the battle-fronts and keeping them flying.

In any event, many of those who demand a second front at once are terribly uninformed. The High Command has not opened a second front simply because it knows that the time is not yet ripe—and because it also knows that the United Nations must not be subjected to another defeat of the Dunkirk, Singapore, Philippines, and East Indies variety. A great amount of ground-work lies ahead before we can really start a sustained offensive drive of any kind against either Germany or Japan.

THE HOME FRONT

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In June, almost a million Americans—men, women, youths—joined the army of production in factories, shipyards, offices and on the farm. In June, the War Production Board said, our output of ships and tanks and planes and guns, of ammunition and campaign equipment was almost three times that of last November.

These reports are good news and we have need of good news just now when Nazi tanks pitch and lumber through the ripe wheat field of the Ukraine in a drive which threatens the great city of Stalingrad on the Volga, a city which means to the Russians about what Kansas City means to us.

The Nazis advance in Russia. The Nazis and their Italian accomplices are held in Egypt but stand only sixty miles from the Great British naval base at Alexandria. In the Far East, Japanese patrols draw steadily closer to the United Nations' air base on New Guinea which is an outpost for the defense of Australia. In the Atlantic, Axis submarines continue to sink our merchant ships.

None of us, at such a time, would be foolish enough to underestimate the strength and the ferocity and determination of our enemies. And none would deny that the times call for whatever measure of sacrifice may be necessary to defeat these enemies. And yet today the outlook in the long view is more encouraging than ever before. Our enemies may gain victory after victory and yet we are building the instruments of their destruction. We shall overwhelm them by sheer weight of weapons and of manpower in the end.

That statement about our output of war material in June was drawn from a report on war production made to the American people last week by the War Production Board. It was a cautious report. WPB chairman, Donald M. Nelson said "boasting" about our progress would be "premature" and that there was no excuse for "undue optimism."

It is true that the biggest part of our job is still ahead of us and yet it is heartening to realize that we made more war planes in the first six months of this year than during all of 1941 and three and a half times as many anti-aircraft guns. That we built more tanks in that period than in the whole of last year and that our output of machine tools and other types of machinery which makes the machines of war 98 percent above the figure for the first six months of last year.

Even more encouraging, in view of our loss, in the battle of the Atlantic, is the fact that our production of merchant ships—the ships which must carry our weapons to the fighting front—was 135 percent greater than for the whole of 1941.

Still we have to do better than that. We have not only to maintain production on this scale, we must increase it to yet greater heights. This means that we must continue to funnel every available bit of manpower and womanpower into essential war production work that is not needed for the armed services. The number of jobs filled by public employment offices in June was double that of two years ago and yet it must go higher if we are to have the production army we need.

Most definitely, we must double our efforts to get scrap metals back into the furnaces. The Office of Price Administration says that the flow of scrap is not increasing enough and shipments lately have been of poorer quality and both OPA and WPB attacked rumors that there was to be a rise in the Maximum Price for iron and steel scrap. WPB further said that these rumors caused grounds for concern lest they bring about a slackening in the nation-wide salvage drive. This we cannot afford, this we cannot tolerate. Already, in some factories, production has slackened because of a shortage of materials. Anyone who contributes to this shortage of scrap, anyone who knows of the existence of a scrap pile and does not act to see that it gets back to the furnaces, is helping our enemies.

One by one the metals and materials were drafted for war. One by one their use has been prohibited except in the most necessary civilian production. Until, as scarcities grew, only gold and silver—ironically—remained as metals worthless for the job which is today our only job. Last week gold stood alone in the strong box reserved for use-less metal. Silver took its place in the war effort with the issuance by WPB of an order restricting civilian use of foreign silver and directing supplies of that metal into essential production. Domestic silver, purchased by the treasury as monetary metal, wasn't affected by the order except that silver produced before July 1, 1939, and secondary metal produced since and sold by the processor were included in the category of foreign silver. But the order did not forbid the purchase of silver by private users.

THE HOME FRONT

Anglo-American Pact For PRODUCTION The unity of purpose of the United Nations is matched by unity in action. Last week Great Britain's deputy to the newly combined Production and Resources Board, Sir Robert Sinclair, arrived in Washington with full authority to cooperate toward welding a single industrial war machine out of the joint resources of the U. S. A. and Britain. Canada's war production already has been linked to ours and Canadian boats on the Great Lakes will carry ore between U. S. ports this season so that we both may have more steel.

Nazis Fear Food Shortage None of the United Nations which have been overrun by the Axis has really been conquered. Last week brought new testimony to the unconquerable spirit of our Allies in the form of a communique from the Yugoslav army under the command of General Draja Mihailovitch. In this communique, confirmed by the Axis admissions, the Yugoslavs said they'd retake a lost territory in "occupied" Yugoslavia and had captured 1,200 prisoners. Battered and harassed by the continued resistance of the people of occupied Europe, the Nazis now are afraid of a food shortage, according to an enemy broadcast from Germany. Apparently the Nazis are having difficulty in taking all the bread from the mouths of the enslaved countries and Heinrich Himmler, chief of the Gestapo has moved in on the German food front—presumably to silence complaints in the manner the Gestapos know so well.

Fairmont Mart Awaits Opening Stafford Says That Expectations Are That This Will Be The Banner Season In The History Of The Market By C. B. STAFFORD, Sales Supervisor for Fairmont Tobacco Market

The Fairmont tobacco market, which annually handles the largest volume of any market in the South Carolina and North Carolina border belt, is all set for the opening of the 1942 season Thursday, with expectations of making this the banner season in the history of the market. Eight vast and modern warehouses are ready to accommodate a record amount of the weed while farmers, warehousemen and the public in general radiate optimism when prospective prices are mentioned. Buyers are perfecting their plans and the four sets of buyers' system will be in effect when the season gets underway.

As early as March 12 of this year it was predicted that the Fairmont tobacco market would reach a goal this season of 35 millions of pounds of tobacco, which would sell for 35 cents per pound or better. Now that we are on the eve of opening the 1942 season, it is even safer to prophesy this tremendous turn-over due to the fine crops that are reported by the farmers. Furthermore Fairmont market has never failed to attain a goal which was set. We do not put faith in 'estimates', or 'abouts' or 'beat around the bush, either in regard to pounds sold, money paid out or averages.

Farmers of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina all know that any information released or published by the Fairmont Tobacco Warehousemen's association is always official U. S. Government figures, carefully checked and double checked before being released to the public. For 43 consecutive tobacco seasons Fairmont has sold tobacco higher than any other tobacco market in North Carolina or South Carolina. Official U. S. Department of Agriculture statistics prove this statement to be true. Furthermore, Fairmont warehouses remain open longer than those on any market in the North Carolina Border Belt. Eight huge warehouses on the Fairmont market provide 12 acres of floor space. There are also three re-drying plants with a daily capacity of one and one-half

NOT EXACTLY NEWS

Claude Moore came in the other day and wanted to know if we wanted to buy a 60-pound 'August ham'. When he got thru laughing at what we called him for claiming to have a 60-pound ham this time of year, he explained that an 'August ham' is a watermelon. First time we'd ever heard the term . . . "Captain Fury," the story of Australia's Robin Hood, is the feature Monday and Tuesday at the Amuzu theatre.

WHILE RIDING ALONG:—One result of the rationing program is slow driving, and a result of slow driving is more time for noting interesting details as you ride along at thirty or forty miles per hour . . . A kid starts across the road a hundred yards or so away, but there's no need for screeching of brakes or careening of car. We're conserving tires and rubber. And anyway, the mother comes rushing up to grab the youngster back to a place of safety. The brat pays off by leaning over and biting her hand . . . A black snake whiggles onto the hardsurface, then frantically twists and squirms his

thousands of Columbus people spent the night tossing and tumbling because of the intense heat. Records show that last month was the hottest July Whiteville and Columbus county has experienced since 1875. Mean temperature for July was 84 degrees, making it the third hottest July on record here. Not for an average above this past month's record.

It isn't necessary to tell any body that it was hot, but another item for the record that it has been 22 days since the temperature was normal here. On July 9th it was two degrees below nor-

mal, and since that time the mercury has been above normal up to 11 degrees over the week-end of July 19th.

Clyde: "My shaving brush is very stiff. I wonder what's wrong with it."

Bride: "I don't know. It was nice and soft when I painted the bird cage yesterday."

Don't throw lighted matches, cigarettes or cigars from your car — Chaperone your cigarette — Don't let it go out alone North Carolina values her forests—Help her preserve them.

July Hottest In 67 Years

Taking One Last Fling For The Month, Old Sol Sent Thermometer Soaring Friday To 100 Degree Mark The mercury stood at an even 100 degrees in the shade at 4 p. m. Friday afternoon, when Old Sol, already having outdone himself in his efforts to shatter, practically all previous heat records for the month of July, decided to take one last, final, and fire-bitten fling at a sweltering and helpless populace.

Doubtless you'd already guessed that Friday was getting on towards shattering some kind of record, and perhaps you surveyed your wringing wet shirt and surmised that the mercury was 120 instead of 100 in the shade.

But the truth was that Friday, topping off the hottest July which Columbus county has experienced since 1875, was a killer-diller as far as heat goes. The minimum temperature for the day was 82 degrees, and Friday night.

It Isn't Too Hot TO EAT . . . When Somebody Else Is Doing The Cooking!

W. RUSS STATION SHALLOTTE, N. C.

if a by-product of the rationing program would be a return to the old-fashioned hospitality of getting out to stretch a little and get a cool drink of water . . . A 10-wheel lumber truck grumbles past with its load, but all we do is wonder how the owner will ever get enough new tires for it when the ones he's using are gone . . . There's a hawk hovering over the road ahead, and we hear the birds in the trees near us screaming their alarm. Maybe it's far fetched, but it reminds us of an enemy plane cruising lazily over an unprotected village, just toying with time before it makes its attack . . . A lot of folks are getting tobacco ready for market, and most of them are out in the yard, or on their front porch, trying to get where there's a slight breeze. There's nothing easy about tobacco—from beginning to end . . . And so we reach where we are going. The trip takes longer than it is used to, but then you see more; and we can't seem to remember what we did with the time we used to save.

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SAVE EMBARRASSMENT
This week is your last chance to pay your 1941 taxes due the City of Southport in time to avoid having your property advertised for sale for taxes in the newspaper.
PAY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE, AND SAVE NOT ONLY YOUR NEEDLESS EMBARRASSMENT, BUT ADVERTISING COSTS AS WELL . . .
E. R. WEEKS City Tax Collector