

THE STATE PORT PILOT
Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, November 18, 1942

It used to be considered polite enough for a fellow to take a lady by the arm as they walked along. Lately we have noticed some fellows holding their lady companions by the arm on the other side.

Times aren't what they used to be; and what's more, they never were.

A mighty poor way to spell the word 'patriotism' is to start it with a dollar-mark.

A man with a form to be filled usually takes it to a man who has less time to spare than he does.

Public Opinion

THE registration of serial numbers of tires, together with the beginning of mileage rationing, appears designed to put some teeth into the rationing program as it affects gasoline and rubber.

But there will never be a set of rules and regulations devised that will beat the power of public opinion in keeping down the number of hoarders and those who flagrantly violate the laws by which their fellows are bound.

This is no encouragement for wholesale tattle-taling, but it is a reminder that the person in your community who wantonly misused his gasoline and tires now not only is diminishing the ability of our government to keep necessary travel going, but also seriously threatens the best interests of our war effort.

Anonymous Letters

MR. Price Furples, chairman of the Selective Service Board, has asked that we have something to say in the paper about people who send in letters to members of that body, and fail to sign them.

As we understand it from Mr. Furples, none of these letters have been abusive, and anonymous letters sometimes are; but they have a sneaking, underhanded flavor that reminds one of people who strike in the dark.

There is one rule common to all businesses: They are thrown into the waste paper basket.

Many times the information contained in them, if signed by a responsible individual, would be of considerable value; but an unsigned effort is wasted.

Time To Be Thinking About That Income Tax

MARCH 15th, to most of us, seems a long, long time away. And since it's human nature to procrastinate, most of us are content to let that date just remain something in the distant future.

But March 15th is coming, just as surely as the sun rises and sets. And unless we begin now, not only thinking but actually preparing to take care of their income tax obligations, some of us are going to be caught short handed.

One thing is sure. Income tax is going to be high this year. This war is not costing millions, but billions of dollars. President Roosevelt predicted the other night that 100 billions would be the cost of the war next year.

These billions must be paid by somebody. Taxation is the only method the government has of raising the funds.

Tobacco has sold high in Columbus county this season—higher than since 1919. Therefore, a lot of farmers who have never before had to think in terms of income tax, this year are going to have it to pay. Added to the fact that they have more money, there is also the lowering of the personal exemptions allowed the taxpayer.

For instance, a single person who had an income \$600 or more will be subject to tax next March. Many farmers, along with the rest of us, have more money now than we will probably have when March rolls around.

Unless we all, farmers included, begin to make some provision to take care of these tax obligations, the chance is that

we'll be caught short-handed.

Therefore, we think it behooves us all to begin now to lay away something to take care of the income tax which we are all going to have to pay next March. Otherwise, embarrassment and considerable difficulty may result, because Uncle Sam is going to collect this tax, whether or why.

State Should Adopt Economy As Watchword

IT has become increasingly apparent that the pruning knife of economy must be applied to non-war expenditures in all branches of our government from federal right on down to the municipal.

What people have not yet conceived, we believe, is the tremendous burden this war is imposing upon their shoulders in this war of survival for the democracies of the world. It is going to be all most people can do to meet their tax obligations when the federal income tax becomes due in March, and in truth, we have our doubts about some folks meeting them unless they begin to make arrangements now for it.

We are terribly afraid that the State Government will think the increased federal taxation is a sort of green light for state spending, and will continue to pile higher the burden already on the heads of our people in North Carolina.

Every county in North Carolina should send their representatives to the 1943 session of the General Assembly with specific instructions as to this important matter—representatives should have instructions to cut to the very bone every bit of state spending. All unnecessary spending must be eliminated, and that at once.

What we need now is some relief from the burden heretofore imposed by state, county and municipal governments in order to help us to meet the federal war taxes.

Let us hope that the members of the 1943 General Assembly will have no qualms about what their constituents want in regard to appliance of the pruning knife, and for any who have any doubts, the taxpayers should at once see to it that they are properly informed.

Shears And Paste

NOT GUILTY

(New York Times)

When the Dies committee submits a list of more than 1,100 Federal employes for investigation by the F. B. I. as possible members or affiliates of subversive organizations and the F. B. I. finds only two of this number, plus thirty-six reported from other sources, sufficiently involved to merit dismissal from Government service, it is clear that there is a difference of opinion as to the nature of evidence. The fact that the episode has led to a quarrel between Representative Dies and Attorney General Biddle should not be allowed to obscure the basic issue.

It was agreed that forty-seven organizations were subversive, though this charge would be denied by many members of those organizations. The question was to what extent the 1,100 named by the Dies committee and about 2,300 named by other agencies or persons were connected with the forty-seven organizations or with their "fronts." Neither the F. B. I. nor the Interdepartmental Committee on Investigations nor Mr. Biddle could find such a connection, except in a minute percentage of cases. Most of the complaints, Mr. Biddle contends, "never should have been submitted for investigation in the first instance." The Interdepartmental Committee, under the chairmanship of Edwin D. Dickinson, special assistant to the Attorney General, went farther in denouncing what it described as "the futility and harmful character of a broad personnel inquiry."

It is not very difficult to determine what happened in most of these instances. The Communists, probably to a greater extent than the Bundists or Fascists, did set up "front" organizations which had no Communist origin and the majority of whose members never were Communists. Being disciplined and unscrupulous, they often managed to control such organizations for long or short periods of time. They were then in a position to exploit those non-Communists who were deceived by a liberal "front." The lesson for a great many liberals, especially those who are inclined toward sentimentality, is never to sign anything or join anything until they know who is behind it, and why.

To Mr. Dies the signers and joiners remain under suspicion. If Mr. Biddle or the Interdepartmental Committee were alone involved on the other side, Mr. Dies might be on firmer ground. But no one charges the F. B. I., which sustains the Biddle argument, with being inept or tender-minded. The Federal service, in short, is not demonstrably "infiltrated" with disloyalty. Perhaps this conclusion is worth the \$100,000 the investigation cost.

THE HOME FRONT

EDITOR'S NOTE: We think that the front page article on Mileage Rationing is one of the most important that we have seen on this subject. Since it is so long, and since we are also printing a long article on Coffee Rationing, we are not running our regular weekly column of The Home Front, but are using the space for these other timely stories.

MILEAGE TO BE RATIONED UNDER LATEST PROGRAM

(Continued From Page 1)

of the community the chief consideration in rationing tires. No new passenger type tires made from synthetic rubber may be reasonably anticipated for at least two years.

"Also in the new plan 'car pooling' and 'ride sharing' arrangements are going to be insisted upon wherever they can be made. Furthermore, an applicant for passenger car tires must show that his remaining five passenger type tires per vehicle have been properly registered with his local board and that they have been inspected periodically. In general this inspection means, once during every four calendar months for 'A' ration holders and once during every two calendar months for 'B' and 'C' ration holders, as the new regulations require. Moreover, he must show that his need for tire service is not due to his abuse and neglect of the tires he has.

"The 'idle purchase plan,' which applies to passenger type tires only, require the surrender of all such tires, regardless of condition, over five per vehicle prior to the granting after November 22 of any gasoline or tire ration to such vehicle owner. The tires shall be donated or sold through the Railway Express Agency, (not the American Railway Express) to the Defense Supplies Corporation, a government agency, or if such tires are not usable, they may be donated or sold as scrap through a junk dealer.

"The plan is voluntary until November 22. Used tire transfers were frozen on October 1, which means that shifting around of tires between two owners, even though in the same family, or a donation of a tire to a friend since that date, are all illegal transactions. Used tires may now be transferred only to the Defense Supplies Corporation or if unusable, to a scrap dealer."

On and after November 22 no passenger car owner may be granted a new or renewal gasoline ration or any tire ration unless he has registered his car's five remaining tires, and should not have surrendered his idle tires and registered his remaining tires by December 12 his local board shall recall his ration and suspend it until he has completed this registration in accordance with the regulations. It is to be remembered that the Railway Express Agency on receiving a call will come for and deliver idle tires to one of the selected warehouses and give the owner a receipt, which will entitle the seller, should he sell rather than donate his tires, to the ceiling price, recently raised, for his tire. Size and condition of the tire will determine the price. Tubes may be sold or donated, but they do not have to be surrendered.

Under these regulations the following are not required to turn in tires: (1) Persons owning commercial vehicles only (but a person owning a passenger vehicle and a commercial vehicle must surrender all over five passenger type tires per vehicle); (2) Persons owning off-the-road equipment only; (3) Federal, state, local or foreign governments; (4) Dealers reporting passenger type tires on OPA Form R-17; and (5) Manufacturers reporting passenger type tires to the War Production Board. Mr. Hoffer said it is to be noted also that if a car's rear wheels use a tire size which will not fit the front wheels, the owner may retain one spare of each size.

In the new mileage rationing the local boards are given additional power in applying penalties. For example, a person found guilty of driving at a greater speed than 35 miles an hour may be denied both gasoline and tire rations. If the board receives a record for a court conviction of speeding, whether in the or some other state, it need not give the offender a hearing but may recall his ration book, a case of a complaint of speeding the board may give the alleged offender a hearing, and if it should find he was in fact guilty of the charge it may revoke and cancel his ration. After November 9, these penalty provisions will be applied by the boards and in the meantime the State Office of Price Administration will act upon such complaints, Mr. Hoffer stressed.

"Both gasoline and tire rations," he said, "may also be revoked by local boards after hearing whenever a person uses a ration for any purpose other than that for which it was granted. In

addition suspension orders may be enforced against violators, and criminal prosecution may be invoked in flagrant cases of violation. Person discovered having in their possession loose rationing coupons will be dealt with summarily.

"For a false statement in any application the penalty may be as such as a fine of \$10,000 and a prison term of ten years or both. For a violation of a regulation the fine may be the same but the prison term may not exceed one year.

"In other words, there are sufficient teeth in the new regulations to insure public compliance with them. The OPA must zealously guard the home economic front in order that the battle front may be adequately sustained, and if it cannot do so through persuasion and cooperation it may have to resort to its criminal sanctions.

"Passenger car owners who hold basic rations, or 'A' gasoline ration books, may register their five remaining tires per vehicle at any time prior to making any application between November 22 and December 12 for a supplemental gasoline ration or for a tire ration. Holders of fleet rations must also make a similar registration, even though they hold no 'A' ration book. In other words, all holders of 'A', 'B' or 'C' rations must register their tires with their local boards. Forms for such registration may be obtained from filling stations, garages, automobile dealers, or from local boards. The forms when completed may be mailed or presented to the proper local board, and the registrant will receive a part of the form as his receipt. This receipt, which will be the owner's tire inspection record, must be exhibited when applying in the future for gasoline or tire rations.

"Owners of commercial vehicles who have received an ODT Certificate of War Necessity must apply for future rations on or before November 22, or as soon thereafter as such Certificate has been received. Of course, no commercial vehicle may obtain any gasoline in exchange for coupons after the expiration date of its current ration.

"Automobile owners in the Eastern area which is already subject to gasoline rationing should pay no attention to the provisions for the new regulations requiring registration at schoolhouse sites for basic rations on November 12, 13, and 14, for this registration is designed for gasoline users in the previously unrationed area only.

"Eligibility for supplemental 'B' and 'C' rations is much the same in the mileage regulations as that set out in the current gasoline regulations, with the notable exception that no 'C' ration will be granted for any travel for selling services for commodities. All sales promotional work must be done with a 'B' ration of 470 miles of occupational driving per month.

"Motorcycle owners are not required to surrender spare tires, and provision has been made to permit them to receive obsolete type tires. In most respects the regulations affecting motorcycles have been changed very little.

"Eligibility classification for truck tires remains substantially unchanged. The possession of an ODT certificate of war necessity does not necessarily mean that the applicant is eligible for tires. Eligibility must be established under the Office of Price Administration regulations.

OPEN FORUM

A column dedicated to opinions of the public for the views and observations of our friends and readers, for which we accept no responsibility. Contributions to this column must not exceed three hundred words.

OPEN FORUM
U. S. C. G. Training Station
Croton, Conn.
Oct. 28, 1942

Dear Editor:

Just a few lines from an old Southport boy. When one gets away from home he kind of misses the old home town and the many friends there. The folks elsewhere treat us fine, but I think each fellow who leaves home to go in the service leaves with the idea in mind that he is going to do his level best to help win this war, so that he can return home and resume a life he would like to have led before those European and Asiatic tyrants thrust war upon us.

Our home folk too should bear in mind the words "Semper Paratus" motto of an organization I am proud to be a member of, The United States Coast Guard. If all of us are "Always Ready" for any eventually I feel the war is partly won. We of the Coast Guard will do our share and more toward winning this conflict, along with the others the Army, Marine Corps, and the Navy (which we are a vital part of) with the "home folk" backing us

NOT EXACTLY NEWS

Doc Hiatt tells us that Jack, the town's panning pointer, made away with fifteen ice cream cones one night recently when a bunch of sailors determined to find out if he really had a limit to his capacity. The sailors finally quit; Jack didn't. . . . Mrs. G. D. Robinson is the latest addition to the list of local wrestling fans. On Friday night of this week Stanley Pinto is going to try to unmask the latest mystery man, the Purple Scare.

There was general approval of the Camp Davis orchestra that played for the Armistice Day dance, and already there is a movement on foot to have the same bunch of boys back. Many would like to see it made a monthly feature. . . . Everybody had such a good time at the Don Grimes' dance here last Thanksgiving that we wonder if it wouldn't be a good idea to have another one this year on that date.

The white citizens in Southport were about as happy as were members of his own congregation when they learned that Rev. J. B. Howell had been returned as pastor of St. James A. M. E. Zion Church for another year. . . . We hear a lot of

we cannot fall in the great task before us. So accept rationing with a smile, and conserve scarce materials and you will be doing your part toward winning this war.

Victory and peace—we look forward toward both.
Yours Sincerely,
W. T. FULLWOOD, JR.
Apprentice Seaman U. S. C. G.

Huntin' 'N Fishin'

By JOEL MOORE, JR.
We would like to correct a mistake that occurred in this column about a month ago. We said there was quite an abundance of squirrels this year. That was entirely a mistake. In fact it

complaint about the forms to be filled and rules to observe—and there does seem to be plenty of them—but we'd rather fill a form than dole out a bullet; and we'd rather observe rationing regulations than Nazi rule.

We keep hearing that there are plenty of wild turkeys and we hope our information is reliable. What more, we hope they are near at hand. . . . The more Chesapeake Bay retrievers were added to the growing list of that breed here last week when Mr. Rob Thompson and Preston Bryant each received pups from a breeder in Iowa. Rob Thompson started something when he ordered "Sandy."

If rumors that turkeys are selling for 40-cent per pound are true, then hunters may discover wild turkey hunting a profitable pastime this fall and winter. . . . One of the nicest gestures in connection with the showing of "Variety Vacationland" here last week was by Mr. Price Furples who allowed the use of the Amuzu theatre for a special showing for the students of Southport high school. Tom Morgan operated the machine.

Preserve your shells. They get here before long.

The rock fish have been breaking in Walden Creek. We haven't heard any report of any one landing any yet. Fishing at the trussing also seems to have stopped. The only good fish that we have seen lately were caught outside.

Some hunters like the sport of shooting doves. The season will open the first of December. We have noticed quite a few of them in the nearby corn fields. If you have enough shells left, then you will be able to get some good sport shots.

It is still a little warm for ducks to be showing up good.

It Always Pays To Look Neat!

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SOUTHPORT, N. C.



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