

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

JAMES M. HARPER, JR., Editor

Entered as second-class matter April 29, 1928, at the Post Office at Southport, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Rates: ONE YEAR \$1.50, SIX MONTHS 1.00, THREE MONTHS .75

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION 1941 Active Member

Wednesday, December 23, 1942

Selective Service Board

We have had a lot to say in these columns about the trials and tribulations of the Ration Board members, and it has been because of our intimate knowledge of these problems. ... We realize that being a member of the Selective Service Board is no spot for popularity. It is inevitable that it will develop some bitterness and animosity toward these men, even when they are performing their conscientious duty. ...

Fire Can Be Final

MILLIONS of people will soon have to walk to their offices and their grocery stores because the United States is desperately short of rubber. And yet in a single fire we allowed one-tenth of our total crude rubber supply to go up in smoke! We allowed carelessness to do the work of an enemy bomber. We allow the same carelessness to destroy hundreds of millions of dollars in property and thousands of lives every year. ...

The National Board of Fire Underwriters has published a book entitled "Fire Prevention Education." It is written expressly for the use of teachers, community leaders, fire chiefs, public officials, Scouts and civilian defense aides. It applies to home and factory alike. For example, it points out that 40 fires a day in the United States are due to careless use of the electric iron; the bill for this particular piece of neglect is \$1,625,000 annually. ...

And so it goes. The bulk of our annual fire loss could easily be averted. All that is necessary is a little individual effort, something that too many of us fail to exert until it is too late. And then we never get a second chance because fire is very often like death. It can be final.

Talking Through Our Hats

WE are beginning to get a taste of the real meaning of authoritarian government. The business man, the farmer, the laborer, the housewife, even our children will soon feel the cold clutch of Washington edict. We accept it as part of the price of winning the war. None of us like it. We are assured that it will be temporary, that all controls will automatically terminate when the emergency is over. ...

fully and truthfully. The Republicans had their pet reasons for winning. They jibed substantially with those of the Democrats. The fiscal problem received scant attention. And yet in that problem lies the question of whether we will be able to revoke wartime dictatorship once victory has been won.

If we survive this war in a state of regulated bankruptcy, dictatorship will be permanent. At present we are headed in that direction. We are paying for the war largely on borrowed money, in spite of the fact that national income is at a record high. England, and even Germany, are paying for their fighting on a fifty-fifty basis. They receive a dollar in taxes for every dollar they borrow from their people. Of course this means suffering. So far, we have avoided suffering. We are fighting what Life magazine has termed a "Happy War."

We talk about post-war rehabilitation, of security. We pay lip service to the American system of free enterprise. But the only thing we are really doing is talking through our collective hats. There can be no effective plan for the future unless a sane non-political program of war taxation is adopted and adopted soon, a program that hits every citizen, hits him until he is on the verge of destitution. Only then can we begin to feel assured that freedom will return to this country after the war.

No Short Cut

WILLIAM M. Jeffers, rubber czar, recently struck hard at "foose and careless" talk about the rubber problem. The rubber problem is not licked; there is a definite rubber shortage; there will be tires for all only if the most stringent measures are applied and received with 100 per cent cooperation on the part of the public. That is the grim truth.

There is no easy short cut to rubber conservation, or to the production of more rubber. "The facts are," Mr. Jeffers said, "that the Japanese cut off 90 per cent of our supplies and that as a result the United States is compressing into two years the building of a tremendous synthetic rubber industry which ordinarily would take a dozen years to build.

"The greatest reserve supply of rubber we have in this country is in the million tons of rubber in the tires of our passenger cars and trucks. We must stretch that million tons as far as it will possibly go—and maybe a little farther."

Farm Manpower Shortage

GUY A. Cardwell, general agricultural agent for the A. C. L. in Wilmington, has for a number of years been pointing the way toward progress and agricultural advancement in this community.

He has recently turned his attention to a matter of paramount importance to the American farmer—namely the manpower shortage. Mr. Cardwell calls attention to the statement of the Secretary of Agriculture recently proclaiming the toughest wartime problem as: "Where can we get help?"

"The program aimed at stabilizing employment on dairy, poultry and livestock farms is only a partial answer to the problem" Mr. Cardwell declares, then he sagely inquires: "What of the condition of producers of foods, fiber and oil producing crops, commodities equally as important as livestock products."

Mr. Cardwell calls attention to the November issue of the Southern Planter, which has a splendid editorial about the acute farm labor shortage in prospect for 1943. To avoid disaster it is stated that farmers must plan crop and livestock enterprises to utilize available labor, land and materials to the fullest extent every day of the year.

"There can be no lost motion, no duplication of effort, no surplus production of non-essential commodities. Production plans for another year must include abundant food for family living first and then provide for a maximum output essential to the war effort. Many of the modern methods of production preached by agricultural scientists and farm papers in the past must be adopted without delay to prevent another instance of "too little and too late."

A gag is something which radio comedians pull and something we'd like to stick down some of their throats.

When you say some men have polish, you really only mean the "2-In-One"

some fat guys are in really mean it—kinda

THE HOME FRONT

Our economic strategy on the Home Front is designed to advance the war at the least possible cost to civilians in discomforts and dislocations of their normal ways of living, but primarily it is designed to win the war—at whatever cost. In the process of adjustment to a strict wartime economy certain items of news which seem of minor importance become extremely significant when examined in the light of our larger strategy.

For example, between October 13 and November 17 the average family food bill rose by 1.2 percent. That may appear to be a small rise in retail food cost, but on November 17 every American family was paying \$1.31 for every dollar of average food expenditure for the period 1935-39. During this same month, prices of foods directly under price control rose by one-half of one percent, chiefly owing to reasonable price adjustments made on the basis of increased costs. But the prices of the uncontrolled foods—mostly fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and fresh fish—rose by an average of 6.6 percent, and these foods were 21 percent higher than in May of this year.

Individual percentages, however, do not begin to tell the whole story in the absence of price control over rents, a great number of services, and a very large number of items of every description, the entire cost of living would spiral rapidly upward, carrying with it wages, raw materials, and the cost of all war weapons and war equipment.

FAR-REACHING CHANGES COMING

The year 1943 will see far-reaching changes in our buying and budgeting habits. Before spring, the "point" method of rationing scarce products will be in full swing, and families then must decide whether to use up more points of Ration Book Two by purchasing scarcer articles, or use less points by buying more plentiful ones.

By next summer there'll be fewer kinds of canned goods in metal tins on store shelves than at present. Tin-can metals are needed for our war machines. The bulk of our canned food products, if they continue to be sold, will come in glass or other metal-substitute containers, many of the "fancy" canned goods and delicacies will be unobtainable, and the housewife will be cooking more products sold in bulk or brought in fresh from the farm without passing through a canner.

The wartime demand for labor of all kinds will be felt in almost every home in the country, partly in the absence of familiar articles for the manufacture of which neither labor nor materials can be spared. The greatest change, however, will be in the number of members of families at work. It is expected that by the end of 1943 about 70 percent of all persons in the United States between the ages of 15 and 65 will be employed or in military service, around 20 million of these will be in war industry. To secure millions of new workers and train them for skilled operators in war plants will be a stupendous undertaking—yet it must be done if we are to meet next year's production schedules.

TIRE INSPECTIONS UNDER WAY

To meet possible coal shortages, control has been extended to all vessels in the Atlantic coastwise coal traffic. In addition, coal and oil heating stoves have been rationed in the fuel oil rationing area, first choice on coal heater going to householders who will use the new stove to replace oil heating equipment.

But all these measures will still leave the main part of the fuel-saving program up to the consumer, who must employ every possible means of saving fuel and tightening up living quarters against the cold.

Tire inspection—and an essential part of rubber saving—is now in progress throughout the country. All motorists must complete the record of their first tire inspection by January 31, 1943, and owners of commercial vehicles must be ready for tire normal inspections by January 15.

Members of car-sharing groups will not be subject to insurance liability for carrying passengers, through agreement with more than 200 companies writing the bulk of automobile liability insurance—After January 15, 1943, some 27,000 items of builders hardware will be reduced to 3,500 types, sizes, weights, and standards, saving metals and production costs—Consumers of sugar and coffee who eat 14 or more meals a week at the same boarding house or restaurant must give up their ration book one to the proprietors, but they will get them back temporarily in order to secure Ration Book Two—Matches must be used sparingly, they use up vast quantities of wood, besides being needed by the armed forces—An instrument has been developed that will make it possible for blind persons to make precision inspections of certain machine products—And a high-power "X-ray eye" is used to test die castings used in making ammunition—New Year's Day will not be a holiday for war workers or government employees.

Mt. Pisgah Club Women Meet

The Mt. Pisgah Home Demonstration club held its December meeting at the home of Mrs. Dora Holden.

The home agent had charge of a short business session, after which the meeting was turned in to a Christmas party.

Many gifts were exchanged and games played by the members. Delicious home made candy was served to the following members: Mrs. Rosa Brown, Mrs. W. J. Sellers, Mrs. Sada Lancaster, Mrs. Lenell Hewett, Mrs. Velma Robinson, Mrs. Dora Holden, and Home Agent Miss Eakes.

The January meeting will be held with Mrs. Velma Robinson.



Now is the time when all of us are more fully conscious of the goodness that should pervade all mankind. Permit us, then, to thank you for your good will in 1942; we wish you all the merriest Christmas possible.

R. GALLOWAY General Merchandise SUPPLY, N. C.



W. RUSS STATION SHALLOTTE, N. C.

NOTICE! NOTICE!

See us for your Doors, Windows, Square-Deal Wall Board, Strong-Bilt Wall Panel, Paints, Insulation Board, Rock Wool, Certain-Teed Roofing, "Century" Asbestos Shingles and Siding, Brick, Lime, Cement, Plaster, Flue Lining, Lumber and other Building Materials.

SMITH BUILDERS SUPPLY, Inc. Castle Hayne Road WILMINGTON, N. C. PHONE 3339

Pepsi-Cola advertisement featuring a bottle and the slogan 'Twice the Treat' and 'Purity in the Big Big Bottle'.

NOT EXACTLY NEWS

One of the best stories we have heard about rationing occurred last week when a member of the rationing board, for the sake of practical information, asked a visiting farmer what amount of fuel oil would be necessary to operate a brooder per day. "I don't know," said the farmer, "but if you are going before the rationing board you'd better ask for plenty. They'll sure cut you."

Another rationing story that amused us took place several days ago at Elmore's Garage at Bolivia. Foster Mintz was waiting on a man for gasoline. The fellow had driven up in a stripped down job, and when he submitted a gasoline ration book for a one and one-half ton truck, Foster told him the outfit he drove up in certainly didn't look like one to him. "Don't worry," he was reassured, "it's all in the family. This here's a colt I raised off'n her."

Melvin Smith, Bolivia farmer, asked us the other day if we knew where he could get some shells

for his 10-gauge gun. We admitted that we did not, and told him that we didn't know anybody down here had a shotgun of that size. He told us that there are several in his community, and that this weapon, which is the nearest thing to a civilian's cannon, is really the thing to use for practically all of them gain weight.

If you haven't been listening this week to Fred Warin's programs, then you've been missing some of the best Christmas music on the air. Bing Crosby will make the Yuletide official when he sings "Silent Night" and "Adeste Fideles" tomorrow (Thursday) night... War conditions make it tough on bands, because most of the boys are just what Uncle Sam is looking for. Nevertheless, Don Grimes' outfit has weathered the past year in fine style, and he was even better Monday night than he was when he made such a hit here last year.

Cool Run Club Meeting Held

The Cool Run Home Demonstration club held its last meeting for 1942 with Mrs. Olive Stanley at her home on Friday, December 11th.

The president called the meeting to order, and nine members were present. Business was discussed after which all enjoyed a picnic lunch along with demonstration by Miss Eakes on preparing edible soy beans.

After lunch, all drew names and received Christmas presents. Miss Eakes held three contests and the winners received a prize. Mrs. Ethel Jennerette, Mrs. Arline Hughes and Mrs. Olive Stanley won the prize. The members present were: Mrs. Olive Stanley, Mrs. Ethel Jennerette, Mrs. Pauline Everette, Mrs. Estell Corlisse, Mrs. Ava Smith and Mrs. Mary

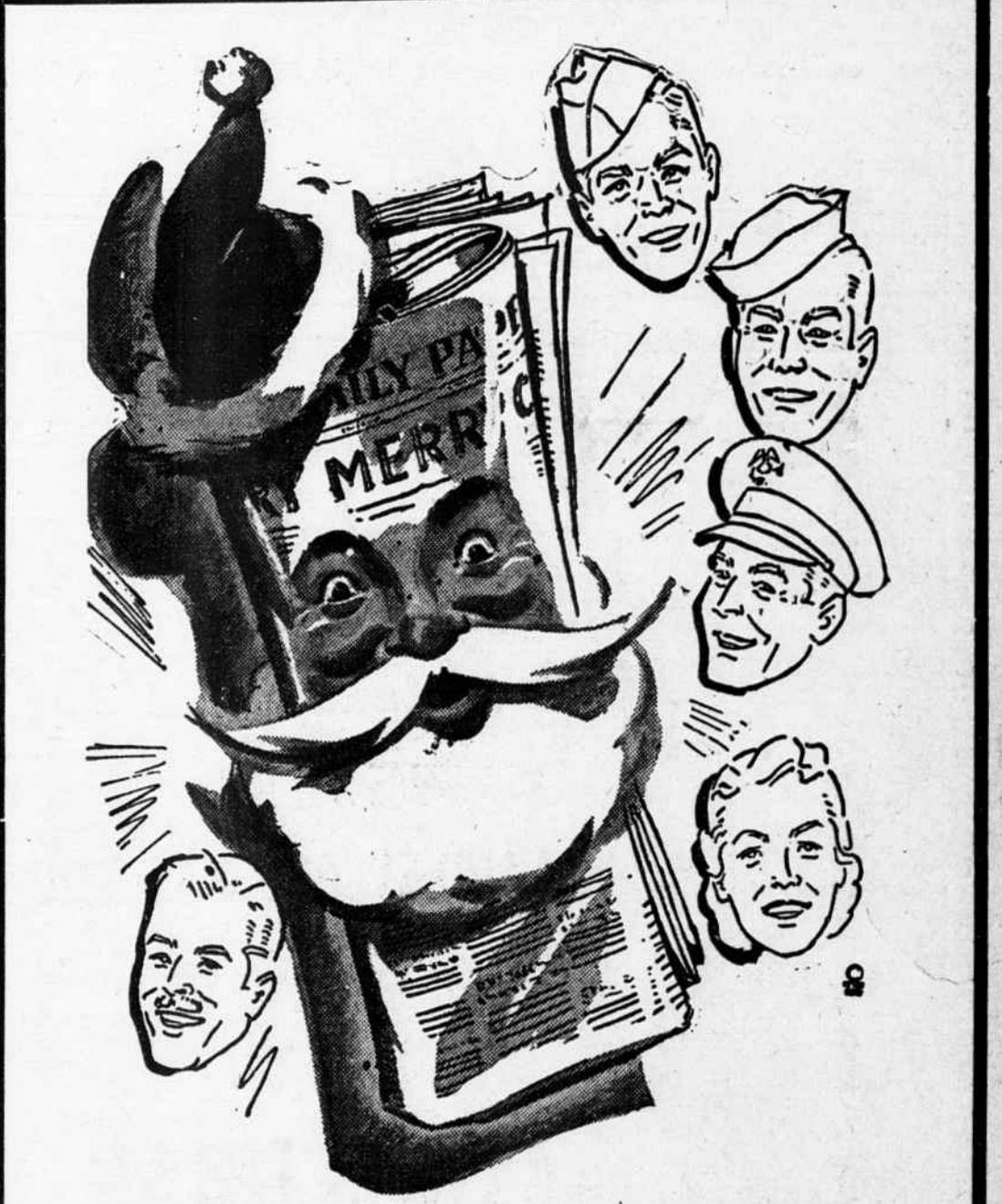
Elizabeth Smith. Visitors present were: Miss Jeraldene Jennerette, and four little boys David Hughes, Glen Jennerette, and Bobby Everetts and J. E. Carlisle.

FLU PATIENT Leonardo Reeding, of Holden's Beach, is an influenza patient at Doshier Memorial Hospital.

HOSPITAL INMATE W. C. Williams, of Holden's Beach, entered Doshier Memorial Hospital Thursday for treatment.

ILL IN HOSPITAL Winfred Swift, of Charleston, S. C., was patient at Doshier Memorial Hospital Thursday through Tuesday.

SERVICE MAN PATIENT Charlie G. Robinson, member of the station crew at Oak Island, entered Doshier Memorial Hospital as a patient Thursday.



MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERY WEEK -AT HOME AND OVERSEAS!

It's going to be a jolly 1943 for everyone on your list—if you make your gift a subscription to THE STATE PORT PILOT. Send it to friends and relatives—and especially to men and women who are serving their country far from home! There's no more thoughtful gift than the home town paper to greet them with news of folks they know and love....

Only \$1.50 a year—or three subscriptions (including your own) for \$3.00!

Form for sending a gift subscription to The State Port Pilot, including fields for name, address, and phone number.

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.