

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

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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 table with columns for ONE YEAR, SIX MONTHS, and THREE MONTHS, and corresponding rates.



Wednesday, March 31, 1943

Buying Bonds

MAYBE you have been noticing the bi-monthly reports of War Savings Bonds made in our county. If you have, you have probably noted that our purchases run around the \$10,000.00 mark monthly.

Now, that is not all of the bonds in the world, and it probably isn't all of the bonds we ought to be buying. But it does indicate that there has been a regular, constant program of purchase followed.

Groundwork of this plan was laid last Spring by R. F. Plaxco, who secured the pledges of individuals and firms over the county for regular investment. He did a good job, and the persons who signed these pledges have stuck to their schedule with encouraging faithfulness.

Read The Ads

THE best advice we can give our readers in these days and times is: Read the advertisements.

Almost every client is spending more money talking about the war effort than he is in promoting the sale of his own particular product or service.

Recently we approached the manager of a wholesale firm who serves this area and asked him to sponsor the publication of some vital rationing information. He told us quite frankly that his advertising budget for the month was strained, and begged to be excused.

"Well, we'll have to run it at our expense," we told him, "because it is information that every reader should have."

Almost any magazine you pick up now furnishes better reading in the advertising section than in the fiction or feature department. We call attention to these facts merely to show the unselfish cooperation of the individuals and firms who have placed the good of the nation ahead of their own interests.

Start Saving

THERE is no longer any way of loading the tax bill "onto the other fellow." It is now in the lap of every family in the land. Taxes come ahead of all family bills. The American family will have to learn to economize as never before.

A single person with an income of \$100 a month will pay the Federal government approximately \$175 in 1943, and this does not include any state income tax, property tax or excise taxes. A single person earning \$15 a week, with no dependents, will pay some \$56 Federal taxes, not counting other taxes.

We will have to go without a lot of things hereafter to accumulate tax money. As we scrimp to meet our tax obligations, we will take increasing interest in seeing that city, county, state and Federal governments also economize; that frills and furbelows in government are eliminated for the duration, and for a long period thereafter.

Congress could ease the situation for the taxpayer by passage of the Ruml, pay-as-you-go tax collection plan.

Vigilance Necessary

SUCCESSFUL fire prevention means unflagging effort by communities as well as by individuals. Short lived campaigns on the heels of particularly disastrous fires are useless. Fire hazards multiply like rabbits. The battle against them must continue without cease.

Unless human nature has undergone a

miraculous change, it is a safe bet that another Boston night club conflagration is in the making at this moment—maybe not in Boston, but in some community. The horror of Boston has faded from the memories of many public officials and proprietors of places of public assembly. Flammable decorations again look on in grim silence at Saturday night festivities, awaiting only the breath of a match. Exits remain insufficient and poorly marked. Over-crowding is prevalent. Fire extinguishing equipment is generally wholly in adequate. Sooner or later deadly fire will strike again. A spark will bring death to scores, perhaps hundreds. And once again the country will be shocked. Once again we will have a ten-day campaign to correct all the fire hazards in the country.

Individual and community carelessness cost thousands of lives every year by preventable fire. The fire insurance industry is one agency that is not careless. It is trying to teach the public not to be careless. It is trying to awaken us to the fact that fire prevention is a continuous process. It is trying to drive the carelessness out of us by teaching us that fire hazards are ever recurring and must be constantly eliminated. The sooner we learn these lessons, the sooner we will be free of death by fire.

Shears And Paste

LEST WE FORGET

(New York World Telegram.) Once upon a time, following a word war, there was a League of Nations, prime purpose of which was to police the world and prevent any more wars of conquest.

EVEN WORSE

(Norfolk (Va.) Ledger-Dispatch.) Dorothy Dix says it is wrong for a husband to trade an old and ugly wife for a young cutie. It's worse'n that. Dorothy; it's impossible.

PLENTY OF WORK

(Arkansas Gazette.) Stalingrad is now almost far enough behind the battle lines for the Russians to put their thousands of war prisoners on the job of restoring the place.

WHO RUNS THE COUNTRY?

(The Charlotte Observer.) John L. Lewis has brought the American people and the American government face to face with the question of which is the superior in our democracy—these or his labor union tyrant.

His demand for a \$2 per day increase in wages for members of the miners union, on penalty of a general strike after April 1, is only one case in point.

Lewis has also issued an ultimatum that all supervisory officials of the nation's coal mines be inducted at once into his organization. There are some 60,000 of these men who occupy positions as mine foremen, assistant mine foremen, tippie foremen, etc. They run the mines under the supervision of the mine management. The official announcement ordering these men to join the union by March 31, also orders them to pay \$10 initiation fee and \$18 a year dues.

If the United Mine Workers and its officers can take over the management of coal mines in this manner and, in effect, oust the owners and run the mines as they choose, the same thing will shortly happen to all industry. It is frightening to think of an organization so powerful that it can calmly tell 60,000 individuals to join that organization, pay a \$10 initiation fee and \$1.50 a month—\$1,680,000 the first year—or else. It is still more frightening to think that so far there is no government control sufficiently strong to protect an individual in his right to his job if he fails to join a pay dues as directed.

And this brings up the pertinent question—Who is the government? What has become of the guarantee of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, in our country?

With some men, they put their stomach ahead of everything else, and their figures show it.

Some guys will argue with a telephone pole—which is good enough for some of the arguments they put up.

We believe it was Winchell who said you'd expect your horse to come with a harness, not French-fried potatoes.

It's not surprising that people who walk around in a fog are very often all wet.

WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON, Mar. 31.—While folks in all walks of life are now confronted with the grim realities of a rationed food supply, our countrymen are enjoying the bitter battle waged in the Nation's Capital over inflation. Those who take the time to think through the broad implications of supply and demand, as well as the significance of the present tug-of-war between the blue and red political parties, will have brought these under-cover currents to a boiling point, has been delayed for further negotiations. Organized workers and farmers are exerting strong pressure upon the lawmakers for upward revisions of prices and wages which government experts claim will result in a vicious inflationary spiral taking living costs skyward. At present there is little hope for effective compromises.

The situation regarding food prices is grave because of the ramifications. A fair digest of the claims and counter-claims is as follows: The farm bloc in Congress wants to improve the farmer's economic status by two methods, first of which is to permit the inclusion of the cost of labor in determining parity prices and secondly, to prohibit the deduction of government benefit payments or bounties in calculating price ceilings for their crops. The Office of Price Administration and the Department of Agriculture are opposed to these plans on the theory it would break down necessary inflation control programs. Trade unions are demanding higher wages and want the National War Labor Board wage formula based on living costs thrown overboard.

Here are the wheels-within-wheels of living costs' issue. Debate in the Senate this week was to the effect that including labor costs, which represents 35 per cent of production expense applied to all farm commodities, would result in consumers paying at least 30 per cent more for foodstuffs. After a stormy session the Senate sent this bill back to committee for hearings on the charge it was "railroaded" through in 15 minutes without the public or government given a chance to explain its disastrous effects. Forecast is that a similar measure will be reported again to the Senate as a companion bill has already passed the House.

There is every reason to believe that the farm bills will be vetoed by the President and equal cause for doubt that his disapproval will be sustained. The House passed one bill by an overwhelming vote. O. P. A. Administrator Brown is the authority for the charge that raising parity prices for farm products would cost the public or the consumers nearly 11 per cent more for food in retail stores. He added that it would increase the government expense by one and one-quarter billion dollars each year. That a class war is brewing is hinted in the American Federation of Labor's claim, "From 1939 to 1942 per capita net farm income has increased 128 per cent while the factory workers' weekly income has risen only 49 per cent." The union points out, "Yet farmers have gone to Congress insisting on further general price increases while workers have accepted wage stabilization." The Administration is frankly concerned that its best efforts to stop inflation will flatten out under combined pressure for farm price and wage boosts.

This week is the deadline for thousands of persons listed in non-deferable occupations to transfer to work in necessary industries. The War Manpower Commission will start a check on the applications received at the various field offices. The 48-hour week program becomes effective at the same time. The enforcement policy is not clear although considerable authority has been delegated to regional officials to handle locally. The re-scheduling of war production programs in many areas may cause a slowdown and relieve the labor shortage.

War needs have forced Uncle Sam into the real estate business on a big scale. In many instances, condemnation proceedings have been necessary to acquire property for the Army and the Navy. Direct purchases of lands have resulted in an expenditure of 240 million dollars since July 1, 1940. It is estimated that about 95 per cent of the cases are settled on valuation. Considerable time and expense is required to validate the titles. In a surprisingly high number of land condemnation cases the Federal government has been obliged to name John Doe when public notice and other means failed to disclose the identity of the real owner. The Lands Division at the Department of Justice has been under the necessity of handling 66,484 tracts of land in condemnation and 10,614 tracts in direct purchase in the last few months, which was an increase of 296 per cent over 1941. Many hardship cases have been reported by property owners because of the lag between the date of purchase and the payment for the land. The main obstacle is title evidence as private property owners cannot be paid

until their rights to the property are established.

Nation Becoming Food Conscious

By GUY A. CARDWELL

Gen. Ag. Agent A. C. L. R. E. Co. War conditions are rapidly causing the food buyers for every family to become food conscious. Heretofore, if one had money in pocket or purse, it was not difficult to find and buy preferred articles for the family table; but for weeks past, the buyers have walked from store to store, stood in line, and competed with others for whatever kind of meat, butter, canned goods, vegetables, fruits, cereals and other foods as had been received since the visit of the day before to stores of the food merchants.

There seems to be little that can be done to improve this situation, due to actual shortages caused by heavy buying for the Army, Navy and Lend-Lease, and possibly to faulty distribution; and if the prospective buyer hesitates to grab the food in sight, clerks have been known to say: "If you do not want these bananas (green), or these tomatoes, (expensive and not so good), you do not have to buy." In other words, "a take it or leave it" sales policy prevails in some establishments. This indifference to the wishes of the customer fortunately seems to be the exception and not the rule.

There is a lot to be said about "Victory Gardens" and some good people would like to see a vegetable garden on every vacant lot and on every patch of ground, in every yard, but "vegetables do not come from the garden without effort and care and risk of not getting them and also they may be very cheap at market." Reasonable effort may well be directed toward promotion of garden efforts among people and in situations where the gardeners are likely to succeed, and equally toward curbing of effort where it is likely to fail.

While we know that the farmers of our section will continue to make cotton and tobacco their main cash crops this year, we know also that they must produce food not only for their own families, but for those of us residing in nearby cities and towns.

There is a great need for oil crops such as peanuts, soybeans, and cottonseed. Cottonseed carries the means of producing more meat and milk through the utilization of meal and hulls. In connection with the demand for food, farmers are urged to produce all of the pork, beef, mutton, milk, eggs and poultry that can be produced and assembled in marketable quantities. Cheap roughage, such as comes from kudzu, lespedeza, peavine and other types of quality hay, are needed on every farm; and there is more reason than ever for producing home supplies of such crops as corn, oats, wheat, and rice. Sweets may be supplied through the growing of sorghum, sugar cane, and the production of honey.

In view of the shortage of foods of various kinds, it is of unusual importance that farm families should have home gardens, embracing the usual vegetables therein, and in addition thereto provision should be made for a substantial acreage in both sweet and Irish potatoes.

FARMERS MAY EXCEED COTTON ALLOTMENTS

North Carolina cotton producers may exceed 1943 acreage allotments by as much as 10 percent this year and not be subject to marketing quotas penalties, according to H. A. Patten, State AAA Executive Assistant. Marketing quotas, however, will be maintained and cotton sold in excess of 10 percent above the acreage allotment will be subject to penalties.

The move, Patten said, is designed to insure plantings of full cotton allotments in the cotton-producing area. Farmers of the Cotton Belt normally underplant the total cotton acreage allotment by 10 to 15 percent. North Carolina farmers last year planted 861,000 acres of a total allotment of 912,000 acres.

"Planting of not more than 110 percent of the allotment will not result in deductions from 1943 Agricultural Conservation Program payments," Patten said. "No payment, however, will be computed an acreage planted between 100 and 110 percent of the allotment, and deductions will result if the producer exceeds his 1943 allotment by more than 10 percent."

"The step recognizes that there are some areas of the Cotton Belt that are better adapted to production of cotton than to other oil crops which we need so badly in the war effort. All cotton farmers, however, should make every effort to meet their goals for soybeans, and peanuts, and increase production of feed grains," he added.

He declared farmers planting up to 110 percent of their cotton acreage allotment will be eligible for 1943 cotton loans at the full rate.

NOT EXACTLY NEWS

We have a new candidate for the title of "Meanest Man." This one is the person who stole the Red Cross bank from the W.B.S. bus Saturday night after riders had contributed at least \$10.00 to this cause. The bank was kept in the bus by the drivers, Willie Johnson and Homer McKeithan, and both were boiling mad when they discovered the theft. We never fully appreciate the Southport Volunteer Fire Department until we see it in action. Good work Sunday morning saved a serious loss at Trinity Methodist church. Strictly local efforts were aided Sunday by Dick Rankin, formerly of the Washington, D. C., department and Wilbur Tharpe, who has helped put out fire started by bombs since this war began.

You seldom hear of a carnival playing a town and getting away with as many nice things said about them as the R. & S. Amusements, which showed here last week. Operator of this unit be-

lieve that good, clean amusement pays better in the long run. Top show of the current week at the Amuzu is "A Yank At Eton," starring Mickey Rooney.

Ensign Don Elser, former football great at Notre Dame, left Monday for New York for special training. His friends here hope the big guy returns to the section base for duty. Chicken projects and victory gardens are springing up on every vacant lot in town.

Horse Notes: Queenie, one of the first saddle horses imported from Wilmington during the Southport horse fad of four years ago, has returned to the Sutton stables. Prince, Dr. Roy Daniels' latest addition to his stable, is out on the farm, having his qualities as a work horse investigated. We are looking forward to an early visit to one of the Coast Guard Mounted Patrol units.

TREATING PEANUT SEED REDUCES SEED DECAY

Reports from various sections of eastern North Carolina indicate that the germination of many peanuts will be exceptionally poor this year. Howard R. Garriss, Extension plant pathologist, N. C. State College, says that farmers should not only be careful in the selection of their planting seed but that they should also treat them.

Tests show that peanut seed treatment reduces seed decay and results in greatly improved stands and much larger yields.

According to Garriss, arasan is one of the most practical materials for treating peanut seed. The rotary barrel-type machine, commonly used for treating cotton seed, can be used with good results. He suggests that the barrel be about half full of seed when the recommended amount of material is applied. Close the barrel and rotate slowly for 5 minutes.

If this type of machine is not available, any tight barrel or drum may be used, by rolling it over and over for several min-

utes. The seed can be treated at any time before planting but after they are treated, they should be stored in a cool, dry place until planted.

Garriss warns that treated seed should not be eaten by humans or farm animals, and they should not be sold to the oil mills, because of the toxic materials used in treating.

NEW LESPEDEZA USED FOR WILDLIFE FEED

More than 450 farmers in North Carolina are seeding a new lespedeza called "bicolor" this spring for wildlife and soil conservation, says Verne E. Davidson of the Soil Conservation Service in a report to the Extension Service at N. C. State College.

The lespedeza is a perennial and grows from 6 to 10 feet high. Tests in the Soil Conservation Service nursery at Chapel Hill and observations in surrounding states prove that bicolor seed is an excellent food for bobwhites and that rabbits eat the bark of the plants readily.

A total of 2,438 pounds of seed have been distributed in 63 counties in North Carolina for use as woodland borders, hedges and on

rough and odd shaped areas. Growers are willing to leave wildlife cover and food. Davidson points out.

Shrubby lespedeza can be established by direct seed, live many years without re-establishment, are not harmed by burning, cutting, or rabbit damage in winter, and are very attractive in August and September with the masses of purple flowers. Davidson says. They answer a long search for a perennial lespedeza to replace annual plants for bird food patches.

GROWING TIMBER

A. J. Eubanks, of Kooletown, Greene County, is delighted with his 4 acres of Loblolly pines, a two years ago. He has 95 per cent of a stand and the trees average three feet in height.

WHEAT FOR STOCK

Three thousand bushels of Government feed wheat has been distributed to Cabarrus County stock and poultry growers. Most of this wheat will be ordered soon as it is available.

Taxi drivers in Santiago, Chile are permitted to maintain one taxi.

More Than Ever Before YOU NEED THE STATE PORT PILOT IN YOUR HOME

You don't want to lose contact with friends in other sections of the county simply because of travel restrictions.

You can't afford not to know what is going on in your county government.

The welfare of every member of your family depends upon your understanding of the Rationing program.

SEND IN YOUR CHECK FOR \$1.50 THIS WEEK... FOR—

The State Port Pilot

"Your County Newspaper" SOUTHPORT, N. C.