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Southport, N. C.

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Post-War Planning

The State and National Governments, cities, towns and communities are doing much praiseworthy planning for the benefit of the returning soldiers when the war ends. For the most part, the outline of these plans indicates a wholehearted effort to aid the returning men.

It appears to us that one good plan which would apply everywhere would be to let the boys return, find out what they personally wish to do, and then exercise every possible effort toward aiding them to attain their desires. Those boys will know far better when they return what they want to do than we can know for them.

Brunswick county has some wonderful farming opportunities. It has many thousands of acres of fine unused farm lands, a long growing season for crops and a wonderful climate to assist these crops and be beneficial to the workers while they are being grown.

Thousands of returning soldiers will be interested in farming. This county and this section of the state could plan for nothing better than to attract attention to and make available their farm lands to the boys returning from overseas.

General Patton—

The world was shocked last winter and thousands called for the scalp of General George S. Patton when he made the mistake, which he admitted, of slapping a soldier in his command.

The thousands were disappointed. The War Department deplored the action of General Patton. At the same time his superiors realized that he was a top-ranking soldier, that the country needed him. General Patton continued as a soldier, but undoubtedly and in the dog house. He disappeared from press releases and no one knew where he was.

Last week many Americans glowed with pride when it was revealed that the United States Third Army was under the command of Major-General George S. Patton. With the revealing of the name of the commander it was understood for the first time how the hard-driven 3rd Army had been able to make its immortal sweep across France. Old "Blood and Guts" was leading it.

Major-General Patton is out of the dog house.

Getting Their Reward

The marketing of the 1944 crop of tobacco is now in full swing. Farmers everywhere appear to be pleased with the size and quality of the crop they produced this year. They are likewise apparently satisfied with the prices the crop is bringing. This year there has been less dissatisfaction than ever before with the price that the farmer is paid for the weed.

Made under the enormous difficulty of labor and implement shortage, and the excessive rains that forced a late start, this year's crop called for the hardest labor that has ever been expended by the workers available in the production of a tobacco crop. We believe that few will dispute the claim that the average farmer has had to work twice as hard this year as ever before.

The tobacco growers deserve the good crop and the good price that it is now bringing on the markets. The farm folks have made good on the home front while their relatives and friends were overseas or engaged in defense work. They deserve the reward that they are now getting.

No Time For Incompetence

Another cut in the octane rating of gasoline has been made. This means that your car will knock a little louder on hills and hard pulls. The better gasoline has gone overseas to fight the

war. American oil companies are supplying the bulk of the oil for the Allies.

It is due to no fault of the oil industry that there is an oil shortage at home. It is a miracle that the shortage has not been greater. The industry could most certainly get more oil in this country with a little more steel and manpower, and if independent producers and wildcatters were not discouraged in their hunt for oil by arbitrarily low prices.

No one resents oil shortages and lower octane rating imposed by war necessity. But they do resent any national oil policy or price fixing that prevents or discourages companies from seeking new oil reserves which would increase production.

Wanted: High School Students

This coming year Uncle Sam will need boys and girls of high school age for the most important job in the world—important both for themselves and for their country. He will need them to prepare to serve in a thousand ways anywhere from a year or two to eight or ten years from now. He needs them to go to high school.

Just before the war the high-school population of the United States reached an all-time high of 7,244,000. Since then it has dropped by a round million. If this decline continues education in this country is going into a tailspin just when we need educated young people most.

All sorts of reasons, good, bad and middling, are given for the falling-off. Young folks want to feel their oats by earning money; they want to be of service; they are lured by thoughtless employers; they want to contribute to the family upkeep; they are afraid they can't get jobs later if they don't take them now; they aren't sure that education is what it is cracked up to be.

It's hard to blame them. Youth is experimental. It finds it hard to take the long view. But their elders ought to labor with them. They ought to be made to see that time invested in study now will pay the richest sort of dividends in usefulness to their country, in helpfulness to their families, in the happiness that comes from possessing knowledge and skill.

Maybe there are cases where the money a boy or girl can earn is really needed by parents. Even in such cases it is possible to keep a little study going, an evening course or two, anything to keep the eager young mind from stagnating at the very age when it learns most easily.

When the school bells ring this fall they ought to sound like bugles. We need these students just as truly as we need soldiers, sailors, and marines.

Security Talks

The four-power security conference opening today in Washington at which representatives of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and China will conduct preliminary conversations on the formation of a world security organization is all the more significant in the light of breath-taking events in Europe. Events on the battlefield are suggesting that the need for an early security organization of world powers is an imminent imperative. Collapsing German arms presage total victory in Europe before the leaves of autumn fall.

To have arrived at the broad outline of the type of world security organization desirable before victory will have paved the way for filling in the concrete details with relatively little loss of time after the war. It is important, too, that agreement be reached now regarding specific details of the Allied occupation of enemy territory after the war. President Roosevelt says that the fact of the occupation is settled between the Allies but that details such as what territory shall be occupied by each have not been worked out as yet. One of the first matters on the agenda of the conference beginning today might well have to do with just that.

Before the war the United States consumed \$100,000,000 worth of Scotch whiskey annually. Those are the kind of figures Scotsmen as well as the Americans got a kick out of.

Weeding the lawn, according to a physical culture teacher, is one of the healthiest of exercises. Zadok Dumpopf says he prefers to continue enjoying his ease and feeble muscles.

Returned Prisoner Describes Conditions In German Camp

Conditions in American and British officers' prison camps in Germany are quite good from the standpoint of comfort, educational and recreational facilities and health and morale-sustaining activities, according to a firsthand report received from a repatriated United States Army Air Forces officer.

The officer, Lieutenant Robert M. Janson, 28-year-old Flying Fortress navigator, parachuted out over Northern Germany, fracturing his back and paralyzing his right leg, and came back to the United States on the S. S. Gripsholm after spending seven months in four hospitals throughout Germany and staying some time at the main Air Force Officer's Camp, Stalag Luft 3, located near Sagan, Germany.

In an interview given the National War Fund and the United War Fund of North Carolina, Lt. Janson described prison camp life in detail. Officers are imprisoned in special camps, and after roll call at 10 a. m. they are left to their own devices, and the Germans do not bother anyone within the enclosures, he said.

Morale among the men, some of whom have been prisoners for more than a year and must remain until the end of the war, is unusually good, and the officers are taking advantage of all opportunities to keep themselves in perfect health, indulging in all forms of outdoor sport. Lt. Janson reported. Many of the men plan to stay in the Army after the war, and are hard at work preparing for stiff examinations they must take in order to qualify for the regular Army. Classes in mathematics, history and languages have been organized, and some of the men are taking prescribed courses from London University.

There is a small reference library and a good reading library where books may be checked out, the officer said. The majority of the reading matter was supplied through the War Prisoners Aid. He reported that the men's clothing is adequate. The Germans, he declared, are adhering fairly well to the Geneva Convention prohibition of the confiscating of uniforms, and adequate supplies of regular clothing are on hand and are issued by American supply officers. Besides the German issue of two blankets, each man gets either a Red Cross blanket or an Army blanket.

The camp, which consists of four compounds—barbed wire enclosures with barracks—two British and two American, each containing about 800 men, is organized internally on a military basis. The prisoners have their own commanding officers, and everything is run along much the same lines as an American Army camp. Complaints, questions and requests are routed to the German commanding officer through the camp's own officers. A Swiss medical board visits the camp two or three times a year to see any prisoner who wishes to apply for repatriation because of wounds, sickness or the necessity of special medical care.

Mail from home comes through quite regularly once a prisoner arrives at his permanent camp. The Germans have a staff of 60 censors working daily on mail and parcels. Packages are opened before the recipient in camp, and a receipt is given him for anything that is confiscated.

Through the War Prisoners Aid, Lt. Janson said, equipment for softball, basketball and football has been provided. In addition to the football field, baseball diamond and basketball court, there is a half-mile perimeter track. A large skating rink has been constructed, but when Lt. Janson left it had not been cold enough to freeze it.

Besides sports and library facilities, there are several phonographs in camp and a supply of records sent through the War Prisoners Aid. One compound boasts a 14-piece band, with the men making their own musical arrangements. There is a theatre, where shows are produced.

HINTS TO HOME-MAKERS

By RUTH CURRENT
N. C. STATE COLLEGE
As a vitamin C rich food, tomatoes are among the best. One good-sized, vine-ripened tomato will give you about half your day's quota of vitamin C, as well as a generous amount of vitamin A.

To get the most good from tomatoes, eat them raw and fresh. But remember, they hold a large share of their vitamins even when cooked or canned.

Greens from fall gardens can do much to help the family build up a vitamin A supply for winter health. Eating plentifully of green and yellow vegetables this fall is good winter health insurance for everyone.

By BREEDING
Calves of beef cattle should be dropped in the Spring, not all through the year.

Thinning Wooded Land Profitable Forester Avers

Thinning and selective cutting of woodlands can provide farmers with extra cash income, spread labor requirements on the farm, and improve future timber crops, says Extension Farm Forester Donald F. Traylor of the State College Extension Service.

"Growers can profitably follow a program carried out by Brady Rogers of Wadesboro, Rt. 1, who cut 11,600 board feet of saw logs and 100 cords of pulpwood, with the help of two neighbors, from his 12-acre loblolly pine woodland," notes Traylor.

The logging, sawing, and hauling of the sawlogs was contracted for at \$15 per thousand board feet. Rogers reserved 3,600 board feet of lumber to build a garage and got ten cords of slab material for fuel wood. The cutting operation on the 12 acres was completed in 19 days. After paying himself and his neighbors \$3.60 a day, Rogers' net return from the lumber and pulpwood was \$38.24 per acre. The pulpwood was sold in the woods, uncracked, for \$4.88 per cord.

ALLIED FORCES MOVE FARTHER INTO FRANCE

(Continued From Page One)
The week's war news from the Pacific has ranked proportionately encouraging with that which has come out of Europe. The Japanese have been steadily pushed back and apparently know that they face ultimate destruction or unconditional surrender. The Allied forces in the Pacific are steadily carrying the war to the Japs. The fall of the already tottering Germany will hasten the overwhelming of Japan.

CHICKENS
North Carolina hatcheries produced 23 per cent less chickens from December through June than last year.

ELECTRICITY
Be sure the hands and feet are dry when handling electrical equipment, and don't stand on a damp spot.

Captain Bowmer Buys Two Boats

Capt. H. T. Bowmer, who sold his small sport fishing boat some time ago, has bought a 40 foot craft from Ed Willis of Beaufort. He will be ready to handle fishing parties with this boat in a few days.

In addition to the above boat, Captain Bowmer, with an eye to increased sport fishing next year, has purchased another boat from J. A. Arnold of Southport. This boat will not be available until early spring.

Selective logging presents the growing stock for post-war opportunity of supplying war needs for wood and maintaining requirements.

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