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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1943

Help Prevent Fires!

This year more than ever before, the observance of National Fire Prevention Week from October 3 to 9 should command the united and zealous support of our entire citizenship.

It is a striking fact that last year 150,000 fires were started by careless people in forests and woodlands. The resultant damage was sufficient to build two Flying Fortresses a day!

The town of Brevard has not experienced a major fire during the past year. This we ascribe to the fact that our people are becoming more fire prevention conscious and the efficiency of Chief John Smith and his volunteer fire fighters.

All property owners in Brevard are urged to get ready for the inspection by the department next Monday. Buildings should be gone over beforehand with an idea of locating and correcting any condition that might cause a fire.

An Unbeatable Team

The slogan for National Newspaper Week, which will be observed throughout the nation October 1-8, has been chosen to emphasize the partnership that exists between a Free Press and a Free People.

The slogan, "A Free Press and a Free People—An Unbeatable Team," stresses the fact that freedom of the press belongs to the people and not just to newspaper people.

History reveals that people remain free so long as they have a free press and the history of America proves that a free press and free people have accomplished miracles . . . miracles in improving the general standard of living of all the people . . . and in this war we are proving to the world that we are "unbeatable."

In the dictator nations, the first thing that those in power did was to seize control of the press, and started to give the public propaganda instead of facts. Then they took away the right of free speech, of freedom of religion and freedom of assembly.

Freedom of the press is the very heart and soul of Democracy. It protects the American people by keeping them informed about what all elected officials are doing and what they plan to do. Since ours is a government "of the people, by the people and for the people", the public must be informed. In that way they can make an intelligent choice at the polls and may protest to Congress.

If there were no freedom of the press in

this nation, there would be no institutions of true education. When the newspapers are free to print the truth, ministers are free to speak the truth. As long as the press is free, the people are free to organize for protection and for furtherance of community interests.

A Free Press and a Free People work hand in hand in the promotion of progress. The newspaper and this one in particular, boosts the schools, the churches, civic clubs, chamber of commerce and all worthwhile movements that are for the common good and general welfare of the community and area that it serves.

It has been aptly said that wherever one finds a wide-awake, progressive town there he will find a live, alert and progressive newspaper and that wherever there is a dead newspaper, there's a dead town.

A newspaper is the mouthpiece of a community. Community service is one of its primary functions.

During National Newspaper Week we urge our readers to re-affirm their belief in the freedom of the press and their resolve to keep it that way. During this week we are re-dedicating ourselves to doing everything possible to merit its preservation and to pledging ourselves to render still greater service to the community.

Fighting On The Home Front

In commenting on the observance of National Newspaper Week, Chairman Donald Nelson, of the War Production Board, recently made this significant observation:

"My experience in the past two years has fully confirmed my belief that the American people will cheerfully do whatever is asked of them in this war effort, provided that it is fully explained to them, and they are convinced that every one is being treated fairly.

"It is obvious that a free and intelligent press is vital to the continuation of that kind of understanding. Because the channel is free to criticize wherever criticism is needed, it has been possible to organize this country for war production with a minimum of arbitrary controls and a maximum reliance on voluntary co-operation."

We are convinced that explanation is a true and accurate one and we believe that our own experience here in Brevard and Transylvania county will prove this to be correct.

In all homefront war programs, we have felt that it was our patriotic duty to devote every resource of this newspaper to giving a full explanation and to making an urgent appeal for voluntary co-operation.

A survey shows that since Pearl Harbor we have given a great deal of space in the ad, news and editorial columns to war activities, and that we have secured sponsorship for many pages of bond and other wartime advertising.

We have backed the rationing, bond, victory garden, scrap, conservation and other war effort programs one hundred per cent. We have and will continue to go "all-out" for Victory by encouraging local efforts to conform to the adjustment necessary to wartime living. We have tried to do a big job in educating the public to the importance of sharing, working, giving and co-ordinating all attempts with the final purpose of Victorious peace in mind. We have promoted Americanism. We have published and will continue to publish all of the news we can possibly get about our men and women in service.

It is a pleasure for us to fight on the home front for Victory and for a lasting peace.

Industry Gone To War

Despite wartime operation difficulties, the cigarette industry is really doing a magnificent job of production, and we are elated that our people are able to supply the manufacturers with adequate supplies of quality paper so that this production will not be thwarted because of a shortage of this essential material.

Because of the stress and strain of war, cigarettes are more essential today than ever before. Our armed forces must have them; civilians and other war-workers must have them; and all of them are looking to us and to other manufacturers in the industry to supply them.

Today production of cigarettes has broken all previous records, and on the other hand demand is still greater than supply.

All of which means that every person in the industry must continue to work just a little harder and a little more efficiently.

To the industry as a whole, we take off our hats! It has certainly gone to war.—The Echo.



WASHINGTON, Sept. 29— Mr. Robert L. M. Parks, Editor, Augusta Chronicle. Dear Mr. Parks; I liked you open letter criticizing my postwar views, and appreciate the statement that you consider my column "refreshingly frank and singularly free of shallow nonsense."

At any rate I can agree with you thoroughly in the final thought expressed in your letter;

"This is the time for straight speaking and straight thinking, no one needs pull his punches or hide his opinions in enforced silence."

In that spirit I would like to sift the position which you have taken. You hold that if we keep our armaments, we express distrust of the rest of the world and that we should go into the peace conference in an open hearted manner, and if we fail to, we will promote another war.

I do not distrust the other peoples of the world. I know them as I see them expressing themselves in their actions, and I do not consider them much different from the Americans I see around me, as far as their human instincts are concerned. Everyone here and abroad wants to get ahead himself, advance his position, or at least make it secure to the utmost of his ability. So do all nations.

You say; "We should not like to go to the world bargain counter to engage in trade with a pistol protruding from our hip pocket," adding, "we would promote another war by

our very arrogance and pistol-toting proclivities."

No one in this country wants to go swaggering in quite that way, although if anyone else is going to have pistols there, or near, we would, of course, want the biggest, nearest.

But the presence of a pistol does not mean war. The Augusta citizen who has one in his home does not keep it there to start a war.

Laying pistols aside, where did you get the idea that the world peace table is going to be a bargain counter? Bargain for whom? I have not heard of anyone offering to give anything away. I have not heard of even any cut rates being offered.

The peace table will not be as you describe it. Statesmen don't carry either pistols or bargains to international conferences.

That peace table will actually be more like a business conference table in this country. Around it will be gathered highly competitive statesmen in charge of the governments of the world, dealing in the biggest business in the world, each trying to get ahead of the other.

No business man goes into such a competitive business conference in Augusta or Washington in an open-hearted, big-handed way, if he does, he knows he will soon lose his shirt and cease to be a business man. If he tried it, you would wonder how he ever got to the position he occupies.

The thing that gets me is that you never hear the Russians or British urging such an attitude on their statesmen. Generally, right now, you hear their people or statesmen complaining because they are not getting enough from us.

But let us blind ourselves to that and assume, as you erroneously might, that everyone came to the next conference as you want us to be, at least as far as armaments are concerned. Have you forgotten so soon what hap-

You're Telling Me

HIMMLER, rough-handed boss of the Gestapo, is made No. 3 Nazi. Doc Goebbels, the propaganda chief, who remains No. 4, by now ought to believe that old saw about actions speaking louder than words.

Grandpappy Jenkins was so busy scanning the war news that he let Sept. 1 come and go without ordering an oyster stew.

The kids still won't believe Dad's story that his after school snack was a piece of thickly buttered bread, generously sprinkled with sugar.

Shakespeare certainly was a dandy prophet. He reported al-

pened at Pearl Harbor? And to France?

The Japs came to our disarmament conferences all the while hiding pistols under the bed at home. Hitler had so many pistols buried so deep that neither France, Britain, nor America had the slightest idea of his massive superiority (and incidentally, he himself did not begin to know the size of the hidden Russian armaments, as his generals, and, in fact, our own, thought Russia could be conquered in 60 to 90 days.

Trust? This war started with secret armaments in a world which we thought was policed securely by the Democratic fleets. We nearly lost because we were caught flat-footed on that erroneous ground.

You say my ideas would "withdraw us into a sort of armed isolation, arming ourselves strongly, taking possession of a chain of outlying bases, and settling back behind our fortress to enjoy a long

most 400 years before the Nazis began shooting down helpless Danes that there was something rotten in Denmark.

New England school boys are doing their bit helping harvest crops. We'll wager, though, that they draw the line at lending a hand with the spinach patch.

When he has to travel to and from his office by bus or street-car the tired business man may also be a tireless one.

With some colleges reduced to building their football teams around kids in their mid 'teens, Junior now has hopes of becoming an Eagle Scout and an All-American the same season.

and definite era of peace and concord."

I do not want to withdraw anywhere. I merely want to profit by our mistakes which should be fresh in our minds.

The bases are absolutely essential for our protection. Everyone knows that. Therefore, we must have them.

We already have leases on a few of them. We cannot afford to lease our security from others any more than we can depend on a navy of battleships leased from others.

A nation can survive in this world only if it is strong morally, economically, and militarily. The stronger we are in all these ways, the better.

Lawns

Fall is the best season of the year for seeding lawns, says L. G. McLean, horticulturist with the Experiment Station at State College.



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A Personal Message To My Friends

I feel that my country needs my services in this crucial period and have, therefore, volunteered for the duration. I am entering the U. S. Navy as an Ensign, and reported for duty on Sept. 28th.

I wish to express to my friends and customers of Brevard and Transylvania County my sincere appreciation for the business they have given me in the past and to solicit a continuation of their business for my associates. During my absence, the business will be managed by my brother, Tom Varner. The prescription department will be in charge of a competent and experienced Pharmacist. I feel that Varner's Drug Store will continue the policies which with the patronage of our loyal customers has brought us a gratifying measure of success and increasing good will.

When we "get 'em licked" I hope to be able to "hurry back" to my business and continue to serve my loyal friends and customers.

Again assuring you of my appreciation of your patronage, I am,

Sincerely yours, S. E. VARNER, Jr.

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- 1. Only one package may be mailed in any one week by the same person to the same addressee.
2. Packages will be limited in weight to 5 pounds and may not be more than 15 inches in length and 36 inches in length and girth combined.
3. Do not send foodstuffs or other perishable commodities.
4. Do not send bulky goods such as clothing. Such articles are already adequately supplied by the government.
5. It is best to ask the addressee what type of gift is wanted.
6. Wherever possible mailing should be made in answer to request received from the soldier or sailor and the envelope bearing the APO cancellation mark should be presented at the time you mail your package.
7. Address packages plainly. Use ink, the serviceman's serial number and the APO or Navy address officially given you by the soldier or sailor. Also give your return address.

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