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EDITORIALS

Not Defense, But Victory

STOKES DRAFT BOARD CRACKS DOWN ON SUBVERSIVE TALKERS

To talk against the government in time of war is a serious thing. It is considered as giving aid and comfort to the enemy.

Disloyal and incendiary utterance is sedition. Seditious is half brother to treason. Only the overt act is lacking to put the offense in that category of crimes punishable by the firing squad.

Words spoken in derogation or disparagement of the efforts of the government are damaging to the morale of the army, or of the boys entering the service. Civilian morale is also discouraged.

The war cannot be won unless backed by the whole people, including those in the army and those at home.

Sedition is largely the result of enemy propaganda. Many lies and misunderstandings and rumors repeated innocently by the people come from the secret system which Hitler keeps constantly at work in the nations he means to conquer.

The local draft board of Stokes county recently summoned before it a number of citizens who have been talking too much.

Federal investigations usually follow the reports to government headquarters sent in by the local draft boards.

PLEASING ANTICIPATIONS ABOUT OUR STAPLE CROP

The Reporter has been predicting for some time back that tobacco would be high this fall.

We notice that our view is supported by W. P. Hedrick, tobacco marketing specialist of the State Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Hedrick says:

"The price paid this year will be better than the \$29.31 per hundred pounds average paid in North Carolina during 1941.

"Reasons for the unexpected price increase are:

"1. An increase in domestic consumption of 18 per cent. last year and an expected increase of 10 per cent. this year due to better economic conditions and war tension.

"2. American cigarette manufacturers are producing larger quantities of cigarettes for England.

"3. Leaf growers have been guaranteed 100 per cent. of parity—or \$27 a hundred pounds—for 1942, compared with 87 per cent. of parity in 1941.

"Growers have been allowed a 10 per cent. average increase over last year's allotment.

"Not all the farmers will be able to take advantage of it, however, because of the labor shortage."

BETTER WAR NEWS

The war news is much better today. What the American, British and Dutch flyers are doing for the yellow Nips is too bad.

American bombers are leading the day.

In Russia the Germans are being overwhelmed everywhere along the whole vast front. Latest, 100 thousand Huns in a trap with the Russians smashing them by the thousands.

FIGHTING AT THE FOX HOLES

"Then conquer we must, when our cause
it is just;

And this be our motto: "In God
is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner
in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and
the home of the brave."

Standing out on the dark horizon of the Pacific, brilliant as the morning star, is the record of Douglas McArthur and his men.

Leonidas and his Spartans at the Pass of Thermopylae; the last stand of Napoleon's old guard at Waterloo; Washington at Valley Forge; Stonewall Jackson at Harper's Ferry; Custer at the Little Big Horn—

These are incidents of the sublime courage and devotion of the world's brave and unselfish men.

None can eclipse the valor, the dogged tenacity, the sacrifice, the unparalleled steadfastness of the defenders of Luzon—a small army of less than 20,000 Americans and Filipinos holding back and smashing consistently and continuously the invasion of 200,000 bloodthirsty and fanatical Japanese.

Such is the spirit of America. Such is the answer of America to the Axis in its efforts to enslave free peoples.

America cannot be enslaved. Americans can die but they will not be enslaved.

Conquer we must and conquer we will.

The stand of McArthur and his men at the fox holes of Luzon is the call to the power and justice of this free nation.

The call is heard. It will be answered in kind.

THE GOAL WILL BE REACHED

In his address two months ago to the people of America, President Roosevelt proclaimed certain goals of preparedness—goals that amazed and electrified the nation.

Many of us wondered if such a colossal program could be in the realm of possibility.

It was very gratifying to hear the President in his Monday night's talk reiterate the program, and to assure the nation that the GOALS WILL BE REACHED.

Such a program almost takes one's breath—the production of planes, tanks and ships. Sixty thousand planes, for instance, this year; next year; 125,000.

That means that off the assembly lines of our vast plants, 400 planes will roll out every day—and planes are what, above everything else, we need.

Haste the day when the elements may be black with the machines to give us control of the air on every battle front.



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

ON SALE AT YOUR POST OFFICE OR BANK

THE BEAUTIFUL SNOW

The biggest snowfall of the winter came Tuesday and Tuesday night. About 3 inches here. In other sections of the State, much heavier.

It was a beautiful snow, fully up to specifications of beautiful snows. It was also a very white snow, making the holly trees in their dark green gowns and plenty of red, look like oomph girls.

But snow is not always beautiful. In its pristine state it is, and is emblematic of chastity and purity. Sometimes it is red, as on the vast fields of Russia. Then it is a symbol of man's inhumanity to man.

In America the snows are white and beautiful.

God grant that they may ever be.

POLITICS AIN'T DEAD YET

A Danbury F. C. after listening to the President's address, said:

"Now just wait till Wheeler replies to him. Wheeler will fix him."

This is the same fellow who says:

"Roosevelt got us into this war. Now let him get out of it the best way he can."

The F. C. forgot that only Congress can get the country into war, and did by a vote of 100 per cent. in both branches.

As to Wheeler, the Senator has kept his neak in close here of late. Nobody endorses his former disloyal attitude except our alien Japs and those synthetic Americans who would out-yellow the Japs.

HOT DAWGS

Reports of maddogs and their depredations are coming in. Biting people and cattle, and causing Pasteur expense and pain.

It is said that dawgs go mad worst in the early spring months. Makes no difference whether he has been bitten by another dawg or not. He just goes mad on general principles and wants to bite something.

In communities where the dawg population outnumbers the folks, dawg news is very interesting.

Dawgs should be treated not later than the first of March. The most efficacious remedy is Bitamin B, 38 c (calibre).

MIRACLE OF RESURRECTION

In spite of the snap back of the grouchy groundhog, Senorita Springtime approaches through the waking woods.

Lingering, dallying somewhere near, this alluring, elusive sprite will be welcomed by everybody. Pausing by the vine-clad rock she plays with the clinging arbutus, flirts with the fleur-de-lis and whispers soothing words to the peeping violets.

Soon we may listen for the first chatter of the whippoorwill in the hedgerow. Soon we will hear the opening note of the bullfrog in the meadow.

Soon the beauteous sleeping things all about us will awake, and we will revel again in the new reign of sunshine and roses.

It is the miracle of resurrection.