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EDITORIALS

The Passing Show of 1942

BE CAREFUL HOW YOU START A FIRE

It is a violation of the law for any person to start a fire in the field or forest or grass lot on his own or other premises in North Carolina without first giving due notice to adjoining land owners, so that they may protect themselves.

Moreover, any person who causes damage to the property of another by a fire set out either intentionally or accidentally, is subject to a civil action for damages.

And the scamp who deliberately tosses his lighted cigarette into the inflammable material along the highway, field or forest is subject to a long term on the roads if the evidence can be secured.

Owing to the widespread damage by forest fires every year, the laws should be strictly enforced against those who are too careless.

AMBITIOUS PROGRAM

The Jap program for world conquest is quite ambitious. One clause in the agenda calls for the crushing of England and the United States, and the Jap chief admiral boasts that he will dictate peace terms in the White House at Washington.

When the steadily growing power of America and Britain has burned the rat nests of Nippon, then we want to see the fanged bastard who made his boast about peace terms, brought to Washington and allowed a look at the object of his ambition.

And then let him feel the teeth of that retributive justice which comes after Pearl Harbor.

SHADOWS ON THE UNRESTING SEA

Edgar Allen Poe in one of his lurid tantrums, wrote the "Raven," his greatest poem.

Its theme was the croak of the evil bird that flew in from the night and perched above the poet's chamber door—"perched above a pallid bust of Pallas just above his chamber door."

When Poe asked the raven whence it came and what its meaning it quoth: "Nevermore."

And then the poet in his drunken delirium wrote that "out of its shadow that lay floating on the floor, his soul should be lifted—Nevermore."

A striking analogy to Poe's dream is the shadow of the American Eagle that lies floating—ever floating—on the ceaseless tides that lap the Jap Empire, and from which shadow the Nippon destiny shall be lifted—nevermore.

And the evil forces that dared to strike at democracy and freedom have already seen the outlines of the feathered Nemesis from whose talons they shall escape—nevermore.

PREPARE FOR BAD NEWS

The Associated Press war editor today says that the American public may as well prepare for sad news from Luzon where the enemy in overwhelming force is steadily pushing back the Wainwright army.

The American public has long been prepared to hear sad news from the defenders of the Bataan peninsula. The miracle of it is that our forces have lasted so long. There has never been a rabbit's chance for them. They are situated so far away that help is practically impossible.

But the account of themselves which they have rendered to the world will for all time to come be a brilliant page in history.

MAINE REPUBLICANS

This pronouncement is given out:

"The Republican party of Maine pledges its wholehearted support to the president in a vigorous and efficient prosecution of the war."

The Republican party of Maine in going on record as above not only displays an exalted degree of patriotism, but shows its HORSE SENSE.

The Maine Republicans know that if America loses this war, there will be no more Republican or Democratic parties in this nation, but there will be a Nazi party and the men and women who now compose the Republican and Democratic parties of America will be slaves under Hitler and the Japanese empire.

The Maine Republicans know that the strategy of Hitler is to "divide and conquer." Nothing would contribute so much to Hitler's plans as a bitter political campaign between the Republican and Democratic parties of this nation.

In France there were great political parties. Hitler's propaganda machine kept them both at white heat. So Hitler divided and easily conquered.

The Republicans of Maine realize that a great majority of the American people chose Roosevelt as their President, and that the President is the commander-in-chief of all our armed forces, and that unless the commander-in-chief is respected and supported, we cannot win the war.

And so Maine, as the embodiment of Republican principles and the head and front of the Republican party of the United States, sets the example of support of the powers that be in our greatest national crisis.

BETTER LET THE FORTY-HOUR WEEK ALONE

Anything that slows the tempo of our gigantic war production—now swinging into high gear—will be a serious mistake.

Repeal the 40-hour week, and you slow it.

The psychological effect on labor, will certainly be bad.

Time and a half for overtime beyond 40 hours costs big money—no doubt about that, but big money is what it will take to win this war.

If we win it, the resources of this great nation will in time absorb the cost.

If we lose it, our money will be no account.

So what t'ell.

FIRE IN THE MOUNTAIN

The reports in a daily newspaper of the forest fires around Danbury, read like an emanation of Orson Welles. Hundreds of people fighting back the raging flames, thousands of acres of valuable timber being destroyed, volunteers rushing in from Madison, Walnut Cove, Stuart and other neighboring towns to help save the capital of Stokes, and so on.

The reporter must have been war minded.

Old citizens recall that few Easters have passed that fire didn't break out in the woods and hills of this section.

This time it was about the average. A hundred or two cords of wood were destroyed, and several hundred acres of woodland—often burned over before were burned again. One old abandoned log house half a mile from town was consumed.

But little excitement in Danbury and but little danger.

THE LAST LAUGH

When the Jap sneaked in on Pearl Harbor and stabbed America in the back, the Jap laughed long and loud.

But he who laughs last, laughs best.

The day is coming when the Jap laugh will sound like the despairing wail of a choked whangdoodle.

TELLING THE WORLD

People who shout loud enough to be heard two blocks away, when speaking of commonplace things, mean no particular harm.

They were raised in a sawmill and are only reverting to type.

A gentle, well modulated voice, enunciating the vowels, is much more effective than hog calling.

When two or more people are conversing over unimportant matters, and each blaring like a tin horn, the din disturbs the neighborhood which suspects a fire. But soon the tempest in the tin pan subsides until it starts again. Then the thing to do is to shut the front door.

HEROES OF BATAAN

The new general at the head of the American fighters on Bataan peninsula, seems to be brilliant and able, too, as the Japs are still being held back.

But Wainwright has not yet been acclaimed by our loudest local McArthur fans. Possibly they are waiting to find out the new general's politics.

ROAD TO HANGING ROCK PARK

It will be learned by the public with much interest and agreeable anticipation that the long-promised good road to Hanging Rock is to be built at once. The highway authorities say work will begin inside of two weeks.

Hanging Rock Park is one of the most attractive scenic points in the state, and it has been said to be the favorite park in the state in the estimation of the park authorities.

Hanging Rock Park will soon be reached over a good road that will branch off from No. 89 state highway at a point near Piedmont Springs.

It will be nearer the center of population than any other resort in the state, and will be within an hour's drive of Winston-Salem, Greensboro, and Mt. Airy.

Now when the tire proposition is acute, many persons accustomed to take long trips to mountain and seaside resorts will very conveniently and pleasurably turn to resorts nearer home. This fact should make Hanging Rock the most popular resort. It will when the good road is completed doubtless be visited on week ends by many hundreds of people.

RAISE PLENTY OF FOOD

It is said that food wins wars. While the subjugated nations of Europe are starving, and Hitler is taking most of the suffering peoples' foods for his armies, the American soldier is the best fed warrior in the world.

This country's capacity for growing things to eat is unlimited, and our boys will be well fed, while the people at home will have an ample supply of food.