

THE DANBURY REPORTER

Established 1872

Volume 71

Danbury, N. C., Thursday, September 24, 1942

Published Thursdays

* * * * * Number 5,670

Timely Editorials

DIVIDE, THEN CONQUER

If Hitler could precipitate a bitter campaign between the two great political parties of the United States, it would be water on his wheel.

The Hitler strategy for the conquest of Europe worked well. His policy as expressed by the leaders of the Nazi party was, first divide, then conquer.

France fell easily after German sympathizers, traitors, spies, Fifth Columnists, disseminated Hitler lies among the armies and the people of France. When old Petain had been bribed with German gold and with promises of power, and many of his generals had swallowed the lies, the Hun armies had a walk-over. There was a stymied resistance for a while, then surrender.

The plan worked in Belgium, Norway and other countries of Europe. Their subjugation was a cinch for the panzer divisions.

A dangerous feud in the ranks of the American people over bitter issues in politics would seriously weaken the war effort. A half hearted nation might succumb in a conflict of the dimensions of this, where every ounce of energy is needed from every citizen if we would be successful in the battle for our freedom.

One of Hitler's most recent and damaging lies is that Roosevelt, "who manoevered us into this war, who is a warmonger himself, wants to get the 18-19 year boys into the army. But he is waiting until after the November election to show his hand, fearing an uprising of the people at the polls to destroy his Dictatorship."

This Hitler lie is now being widely circulated to induce the fathers and mothers of the teenage boys to rebel against the "Dictator Roosevelt," and to stay home on election day.

Many of the more ignorant will swallow this lie. The more intelligent know it is a lie—a choice Hitler lie. It is malicious and foul. It smells of the Hitler technique. It reeks with the Hitler rottenness and poison.

Intelligent people know that the President cannot draft boys, and that only Congress can pass a law to enlist the 18-19 boys, and that Congressmen and Senators almost without an exception oppose such a law except on a demand from the army that it needs the boys in defense of their country.

And in defense of our country if they are needed these boys will spring from a million homes. And no true American would oppose the law to defend the American firesides.

This has been the mildest political campaign in the nation's history. With most of the leaders of both parties, politics has been adjourned.

The best minds of the nation believe that in the most crucial hour of the country's existence a solid front should be offered the enemy, and that the Democratic and Republican parties both had better be effaced as political organizations and forgotten, rather than the people of America should be governed by the Nazi party of Berlin or the Black Dragon Society of Japan.

DO LEOPARDS CHANGE THEIR SPOTS?

On August 28, 1940, Congressman Fish, overwhelmingly re-nominated lately in New York, said:

"I believe Germany's claims are just. I favor liquidation of the Versailles treaty."

No wonder Willkie and Dewey want this fish harpooned.

THE LAST POSE OF SUMMER

"Tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean,
Tears from the depth of some divine despair
Rise in the heart and gather to the eyes
In looking o'er the happy autumn fields
And thinking of the days that are no more."

Dallying on the threshold of autumn with the saffron pallor of death on her cheek, beautiful, pensive Summer kissed her rose-scented fingertips and officially disappeared over the mountain.

Disappeared just as a swish of north wind whipped in, scattering poplar leaves.

The Dan moved away disconsolate through the willows, murmuring a dirge.

Crows cawed from the tops of tall trees in the woods where a somber stillness brooded through dim aisles.

The sunflower drooped, its sad eyes on the ground. The morning glory smiled through its tears left by the early dew.

Evening came on and doves cooed from the hill. Rabbits scampered through the thicket on velvet feet.

The big harvest moon rose and looked down solemnly on the landscape.

Good-bye lovely, blithe, lissome Summer, charming as Sappho, fresh as the rainbow, gracious as the smile of the perfect dawn, now gone with the robins and the whippoorwills, the honey-suckle and the bumble bees, the bluebirds and the watermelons.

INDISCREET TALKING

Lieut. Gen. Ben Lear is entirely too smart to belong to the American military regime and ought to be kicked downstairs by President Roosevelt.

At the American Legion's national convention at Kansas City Saturday Lear said in his address that U. S. losses in the present war will be many times as great as those "you legionnaires experienced in World War 1, and conceivably will be between two and three million men before this conflict ends."

In the first place this loquacious general does not know whether our losses will be heavy or not, as no one knows what turn the war will take in the next few months.

In the second place, even if he were in possession of vital information, he should not be so indiscreet as to divulge it in a gratuitous disclosure so calculated to discourage and alarm the fighting forces.

General Mitchell, the most brilliant and knowing chief of the air forces, a few years ago was dismissed in disgrace for uttering words far less damaging to morale than Lear has put out.

And Mitchell knew what he was talking about and his predictions have come true.

The Hitler subtle poison sometimes induces people occupying high places, especially military personages, to utter sentiments that may not be exactly treasonable or even seditious, but which contain insidious suggestions that dampen the war spirit of the soldiers or the people back home.

It appears quite possible that Lear has become infected with the virus. He certainly talks like a saboteur. It would not hurt to take his red American blood count.

AVOID MOTH AND RUST AND RUSTLERS

The Good Book says lay up your treasures in that place where neither moth nor rust can corrupt.

Those treasures are ethereal or spiritual treasures of the heart and soul, worth more than any other jewels known.

But if you have as much as 600 substantial bucks of the Federal Reserve system in your jeans, you had better put it in government bonds or stamps or in a good bank where the government (thanks to F D R) assures you it will be safe.

This advice we feel sure will be OK'd by our good friend Reid Flinchum, who thought his pants were safer than the bank or the Federal treasury, and so lost his cash to rustlers last Saturday evening.

Now the gold tide is rushing in and many people will have money to burn. If you will burn it, burn it up in powder.

THE TERRIBLE ACCIDENTS OF THE AIR

It is becoming nothing short of a national scandal—these frequent and appalling crashes of training planes in the United States air fields. Every few days a plane comes down with shocking loss of life, and this serious condition has been going on for a long time.

These distressing accidents evidently reveal a criminal lack of knowledge or precaution in the dangerous field of aeronautics, and should be investigated by a committee of congress.

We know that the percentage of these disasters is small if compared with the vast and constantly growing personnel now learning to fly. But even so, they are far too numerous to be treated with complacency.

TOLD YOU SO

If any one thing in the world pleases us more than another it is to be able to say: I told you so.

The Reporter said last spring that this crop of tobacco would bring more money than any since WW No. 1.

And now it's here. Ah, the delight of saying: We told you so.

Averages are skyrocketing, and farmers—bless their hearts—are happy.

They deserve to be happy, having worked hard in the hot and in the cold, and in many cases the women and children have helped faithfully.

And in cases where the women and children do not share equally in the happiness, the farmer man is not a true farmer.

THE CEILING IS ON

The ceiling on tobacco prices was put on Wednesday at Washington. It is very complicated to a layman's mind, and difficult to understand clearly.

But the fact is sure that the Old Belt averages will continue to be higher than any year since the big year—1919.

HOLDING HITLER AT STALINGRAD

The heart of the liberty-loving world is with the Russians holding back Hitler at Stalingrad. It is probably the greatest, bloodiest battle of history. The courage and heroism of the Russians is an epic for all time.