

MARION PROGRESS

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
BY THE
MCDOWELL PUBLISHING CO.,
MARION, N. C.

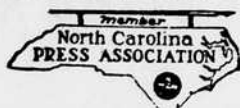
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Entered at the Postoffice at Marion,
N. C., as second class matter

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year ----- \$1.50
Six Months ----- .75



MARION, N. C., OCT. 1, 1942

YOUR NEWSPAPER

We who call this community "home" find our first interests here. We take pride in our community, we share the joys and sorrows of our neighbors in an intimate vein to be found only in the typical American town.

Service to our community and its people is the creed of our newspaper. It is upon that foundation that it has been built.

It brings to you an intimate, neighborly week-by-week history of our community that can be found in no other newspaper, for no other newspaper shares our interest and concern in and for our community.

It is because we bring you all the home news, of people and things which are your first interest, that our readers represent a great family circle. The merchant or the manufacturer who would gain the interest and attention of this great family can find no medium to equal the eager, friendly reception with which this newspaper is received into these many hundreds of homes.

That prestige which this newspaper enjoys has been achieved through the years it has dedicated its every effort to the best interests of our community and our people. In the year that lies ahead our ambition will be to improve and to grow, as we renew our labors for improvement and growth in all the community.

A SALUTE TO OUR SCHOOLS

A salute to the schools of America for the magnificent job they have done in mobilizing their students, their teachers and their communities for wartime service!

Their War Savings Programs—emphasizing reasoned, voluntary and regular purchase of War Stamps and Bonds—have diverted millions of dollars from unnecessary spending into vital production for our armed forces.

Their classrooms and shops have trained approximately 2,635,000 workers for war industries since July 1, 1940.

Their teachers, students and parent organizations have registered our manpower for war and have put the gigantic war rationing system into operation throughout the country.

They have become more than ever community centers for learning, for specialized training, for discussion, music, entertainment, and for service.

America's schools have gone to war—but they have not forsaken their main business; teaching and learning. They realize that the time has come to take action that insures the right of free education to exist.

TWO-THIRDS CASUALTIES

The Canadians, who made up five-sixths of the force that attacked Dieppe, paid a very high price for the information and experience obtained.

It is now revealed that 67 per cent of 5,000 Canadians were casualties in the heavy fighting that followed the large-scale raid. More than half of the attackers are recorded as missing, which means dead or captured.

In addition, there are 170 known dead and 633 wounded. This leaves 1,650, the total of those who escaped uninjured. The figures give us an indication of the difficulties and dangers connected with a "second front" in western Europe.

We know very little about the religion of Russia but the Reds evidently believe in defending Russia, which is more than some Russian leaders in the United States are willing to do for their own nation.

There will be no dictatorship in the United States so long as the newspapers maintain their freedom to report, inform, and to criticize.

SHORTAGE OF MATERIALS REPORTED CRITICAL

Commenting recently on the cancellation of the Higgins shipbuilding contract, Joseph W. Morrell, specialist assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, told a congressional committee that "there will be a good many other cancellations" because of shortages of critical materials. He listed shortages of brass, copper, rubber, nickel and added that every one of these critical materials "is so short it is hard to say one is more serious than the other."

This statement should be read with that of Captain N. L. Rawling, head of the Shipbuilding Division, in the Navy's Bureau of Ships, who says that the Navy has too many shipyards, or as many shipyards as it can use on the basis of the availability of critical materials and adds that "we are having considerable difficulty in maintaining our present yards at the present rate of production. They are not operating at maximum capacity."

In spite of these statements, there are Americans who look on the scrap collection campaign as something of a pastime. They apparently do not realize the enormous demand for critical materials and the necessity of securing all available scrap in order to make possible the production that is necessary to win the war.

"STEP BY STEP"

Secretary of State Cordell Hull recently called attention to the eleventh anniversary of the so-called Mukden Incident, which preceded the Japanese attack on Manchuria.

The first step in Japanese aggression occurred on September 18, 1931, and, as the Secretary of State says, "The course of aggression there embarked upon was followed by successive aggressions in Asia, Africa and Europe, and has led, step by step, to the present world conflict."

What the eminent Secretary of State says is now recognized by most Americans. Nevertheless, it took the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor to convince many of us that there was a connection between Japanese aggression in the Far East and Axis aggression in Europe.

The clincher was the fact that when Japan attacked the United States, Germany and Italy immediately declared war upon this country. That the two powers had a full understanding to this effect is evidence enough of a conspiracy against the United States.

It proves, beyond the shadow of doubt, that our naval strategists were right when, in 1939, they made public tables showing the relative naval strength of the United States as contrasted with the combined naval strength of Germany, Italy and Japan.

THE RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN

The loss of Stalingrad, if the Nazis beat down the stubborn defenders, will result in some disarrangement to the Soviet defenses but nothing like a disaster will follow.

Two-thirds of the Russian front has been relatively inactive in 1942, with neither side apparently ready to assume the risks and losses of an offensive along the whole line.

The Russians are probably conserving their strength for what may lie ahead and the suspicion abounds that the Nazis do not desire to commit their entire armed forces to a gruelling campaign that will proceed deep in the heart of Russia.

Hitler's restraint in Russia is either the result of a man-power shortage, which seems a bit improbable just now, or the necessity of holding in reserve sufficient soldiers to meet any second front in western Europe.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The individual who postpones a good deed is not putting off a bad deed.

The nation that furnishes the Japs with scrap, ought to be able to provide scrap for itself.

All things, no matter how old, come to the end of their usefulness and should give away to new developments.

Young men who leave McDowell County for active service should not be forgotten; a good way to show that you remember them is to send them The Progress.

Newspaper advertising is the cheapest and most effective of all. It reaches everybody who is reached by every other kind of advertising and many who are reached by no other kind.

War Harvest



EVERY TOWN NEEDS A GOOD NEWSPAPER

"Let me read your newspaper and I'll tell you the kind of town you have."

This terse quotation, credited to a business executive failing to be impressed by claims on behalf of a far-removed community in which his company had indicated interest, evidences the degree in which the newspaper of today has come to be held as accurately reflecting the life which it serves.

Later, this figure of business and the institutions of the area in finance was asked to expand his statement. His reply is a matter of import to everyone who shares interest in his or her community and some important standards by which it is judged by those outside the sphere of local interest or sentiment.

"Show me a community that has a live, aggressive newspaper, made possible by well-filled advertising pages representative of local interests, and I'll show you the town that is headed for growth and development."

THANKS FOR HARVEST

The Pilgrims at Plymouth in 1621 set aside a day of thanksgiving for their first harvest on American soil—a small harvest, but one that promised to keep them alive, and for which they felt grateful.

Now in 1942 there has been grown in the United States the greatest harvest of all time, 13 per cent greater than the largest previous one, and we and our allies of the United Nations are assured of food while we fight off the fierce predatory foe.

Feeling like the Psalmist of old that "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord," a country-town editor in Mississippi, Lester Williams, suggested to the Secretary of Agriculture a thanksgiving harvest observance. Secretary Claude Wickard immediately agreed and accepted the invitation to initiate the nation-wide thanksgiving program with an address to be broadcast from little Tylertown, Missa, (pop. 1,400) on October 8.

This observance period is to extend throughout the harvest season, and each community is to work out its own program. Churches, newspapers and radio stations are expected to cooperate. "Somehow," wrote Editor Williams, "the traditional Thanksgiving day of no work and more food than a man can eat does not seem right during a death struggle like this war." So he reasoned that without loafing or stuffing we should give expression to our thankfulness at the very time of the abundant harvest Mr. Wickard agreed. And the rest of us cannot fail to do so, too, if we once stop to think of what might have been if this year's harvest had failed.—The Pathfinder.

TEN PER CENT FOR BOMBING

The bombing attacks upon Germany, which have been, so far, largely a British offensive, have accomplished considerable results, especially when one learns that the British have had only ten per cent of their air force available for bombing attacks.

When the war began, the British concentrated on fighter planes to win the Battle of Britain. When they turned to the construction of bombers, designed to strafe German places, one diversion after another caused a distribution of aircraft.

Africa, Russia, the Near East and the Far East have required British aircraft. Every plane sent to those sectors retarded the bombing attacks upon Germany. Luckily, with U. S. aircraft assisting, the air force available for bombing attacks is increasing at a fast rate.

Two things you can do to help win the war: Contribute scrap and Buy a Bond.

WAR RATION BOOK NO. 2

War Ration Book No. 2 has gone to the printer and 150,000 books will be ready for the day when rationing to consumers covers a wider range of products than it does at the present time.

The new book of coupons, one of a series of four, will be ready about Christmas. It is designed to provide a ready means for rationing any article or commodity, almost at the instant the danger of a critical shortage appears. It will contain 192 coupons, eight pages, each page of different color and each coupon separately designated by number and letter.

At the present time, it is expected that the new books will be used for the meat-rationing plan which will allow consumers about two and one-half pounds of meat a week. The understanding is that every person will be given a book and if they dine out, in hotels or restaurants, they will be required to surrender their coupons if they order meat.

It is explained that consumers will retain their sugar ration books and their use will not be affected by the new coupons.

THE GLORIES OF THE HILLS

The invitation of a business friend to make a two-day motor trip through Western North Carolina is not to be lightly regarded in this lean year of gasoline and tire rationing, and so I had the most agreeable of all sight-seeing tours, the pleasure without the incidental responsibility of where to go, where to stay and when to return.

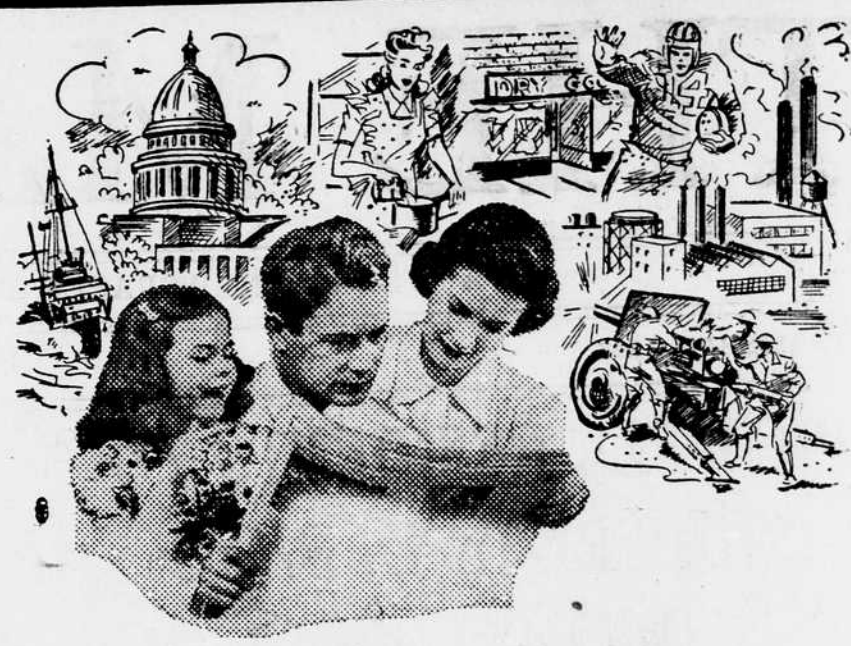
The mountains, always beautiful, are more so in this year of war than ever. Noble and awe-inspiring as they ever appear, there is a calm serenity, and an immeasurable strength in their quiet repose that is invaluable to worn spirits in this frenzied day of all our efforts! Nature has seemed to outdo herself in producing the lavish fruits of an abundant soil. Corn that would grace a Western prairie stands in fruitful promise, cattle fat enough to animate the rings of a prize beef show wade in grass knee deep. Apple trees stooping in gracious acknowledgement to a soil and climate that will not be denied, threaten to collapse under their fruitful burdens! And over all a sky too blue to impart a sense of reality to the floating clouds whose white argosies drift towards far off harbors.

Man has ever been knit to the soil in spiritual as well as physical kinship, and its fruitful beauty shall ever be an inspiration as well as a dedication to a full measure of love and devotion! With Europe torn and shattered by the colossal tread of a God of War whose horrible might has been mechanized and lifted to the highest degrees of frightfulness, we gain courage and fortitude, comfort and inspiration from the calm contemplation of the physical gifts and graces of this "Our Own Native Land"! With the song writer it is indeed ours to say—

"Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountains' majesties, above the fruited plain. America! America! God shed His grace on thee, And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea!" —John S. Taylor in Greenville Piedmont.

Trading at home will become popular as automobile tires wear out; smart merchants will seek methods to keep the habit going after the emergency expires.

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