

The Chapel Hill Weekly

LOUIS GRAVES Editor
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The Tragedy of the Jobless

Most of us, when we see the word unemployment in the newspapers, think of it in connection with masses of industrial workers. In the last two years, because of the vast volume of production for war, the evil of unemployment, as far as wage earners in factories are concerned, has been just about ended. But unemployment in what is commonly called the middle class has brought tragedy into tens of thousands of homes.

The government's all-out war plans call for complete stoppage in the production of many commodities. Mechanics and other wage-earners engaged in such production can find jobs—nowadays at high wages—in plants that are producing materials for war or materials that the government has classified as essential for civilian use. But managers, clerks, salesmen, and other persons in the so-called "white collar" class find themselves all at once thrown out of their jobs.

The advertising columns of big city newspapers are now offering the services of well-educated, well-trained men whose jobs have suddenly been wiped out.

There is the case of a steel man, 42 years old, with 27 years of practical experience, a linguist who is familiar with trade conditions in many foreign countries. Another case is that of the assistant to the president of a large national manufacturer, "available soon due to war dislocation." Another is that of a "business man, forced by priorities to liquidate," who tells of the several kinds of managerial and executive work he has done. These are just three samples, picked at random from a metropolitan newspaper of advertisements that crowd the work-wanted columns.

"The earthquake," says an editorial in *Collier's*, "has hit what is called, for lack of a better name, our middle class—small businessmen, their managers and executives, jobbers, middlemen, contact men, salesmen. . . . The WPB the other day forbade the use of iron of steel in a batch of 400 types of articles manufactured in profusion before Pearl Harbor.

"Especially hard hit are the salesmen, male and female—a group comprising more than 3,000,000 men and women. Where do these people go from here? The radical theory is that these people are useless parasites, who should be allowed to die or be absorbed in great, streamlined distribution cartels operated by the politicians. . . . It is a little too much to expect these people to lie down and die quietly. The middle class was going to do that in Italy and in Germany between the two wars, according to the radicals' 'inexorable economic law,' or was going to be killed off. The Italian and German middle class rallied behind Mussolini and Hitler, and the two countries got Fascism. Very wicked perhaps, but it happened. The cure looks latterly worse than the disease; nevertheless, the cure was tried.

"The same thing can happen here if our middle class is forced to the wall and sees itself threatened with destruction. Political fakery can rise up, promising these people relief from their woes, and they can find followers. Already a lot of would-be Hitlers and Mussolinis

Work on New Road to Airport to Start Soon

(Continued from first page)
 150 feet "downstream" from the present narrow bridge. The most difficult and costly part of the construction inside the town will be the building of a fill across the upper end of the deep ravine that skirts the north side of Cobb Terrace.

From the creek the road will follow a practically straight course to the airport. This means that several sharp curves on the present road will be eliminated. The plan calls for the cutting away of the front of the high hill on the left of the present road a little way beyond the creek as you go out from town.

The right of way is to be 100 feet wide. The road proper is to have a width of 20 feet.

The surface will be of the tar-and-crushed-stone type, similar to the surfaces on No. 54 from

here to Nelson on the way to Raleigh and from here to the Alamance county line on the way to Greensboro.

The laying of the crushed stone is expected to be completed before the end of October, but it is unlikely that the tar can be applied until next spring. The road can be used, with the crushed stone as a surface, during the winter.

The cost of the road, including the arched culvert over the creek, will be about \$100,000.

The plan made two years ago called for the continuation of the new hard-surface road beyond the airport as far as Orange Church, but the construction now authorized will go only to the airport. That will leave the present dirt road as it is for about a mile in this direction from Orange Church.

Advisory Budget Commission Visits University

(Continued from first page)
 by salary slashes. In the thirty-seven years since he became a professor Dr. MacNider has seen the faculty built up in the face of great difficulties; he has seen scholars of high ability drawn away because of higher rewards and greater security offered them elsewhere; and he made a deep impression upon the commission by his emphasis upon the point that the University's standing in

the world of learning, as well as its usefulness to the state, depended upon the maintenance of a faculty of excellent quality.

The members of the commission who came Tuesday were James H. Clark, W. L. Lumpkin, and Ryan McBride, of the state senate; John Kerr, Jr., of the state house of representatives; and Sol Brower of Duke University. Victor Bryant was prevented from coming by duties in court.

A Report on the Red Cross Sewing Room

A report sent in this week by Mrs. Frank P. Graham, director of the Red Cross sewing room here, shows that the room exceeded by far the quota of work allotted to it by National Red Cross Headquarters for the year ending June 1, 1942. Below is a chart showing what the workers here did.

	Quota	Made
Hospital bed shirts	96	117
Operating gowns	34	66
Men's hospital pajamas	50	67
Layette	50	50
Toddler packs	40	40
Women's cotton dresses	24	52
Women's woolen dresses	50	50

Women's woolen skirts	37	37
Girls' cotton dresses	64	102
Girls' woolen dresses	150	165
Girls' woolen skirts	100	180
Boys' heavy flannel shirts	60	129

(Each layette contained 29 garments; each toddler pack contained 20.)

The workers at the room also made the following garments that were not included in their quota: 70 children's outing night-gowns, 73 women's outing night-gowns; 80 children's hospital bed jackets, and 29 children's outing pajamas.

Mrs. Graham said that more than 150 women helped with the work.

Children's Library Hours

The Mary Bayley Pratt Children's Library, on the second floor of the elementary school, is open from 9:30 to 10:30 every morning except Saturday and Sunday. The use of the library is free to every child in the village, whether a resident or a visitor.

Webb Stacy Promoted

Webb Stacy has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant (jg) in the Navy. He is stationed at Washington, D. C.

are doing business in dark corners of our political and economic map."

We are not now attempting to discuss the deeper significance of the misfortunes of a large part of the middle-class, or to suggest any approach to a solution of this tremendously important problem. At the moment we are only commenting on the distress that has been brought upon such a great number of American families. And we are moved to remark that the man in the middle class who paid fifty dollars in income tax two years ago and is now paying two hundred, or three or four hundred, or whatever the sum may be, is not the man whose hard fate any of us need feel called upon to weep over. The reason he is paying the tax is that he has still got a job and is still drawing a salary. It is a reason for him to consider himself fortunate in such times as these. The man far more deserving of sympathy is the man whose job has been cut out from under him and who has no salary on which to pay a tax.

The Service Center Opens

Chapel Hill's new Service center for members of the armed forces opened last Saturday in the old Methodist church. About 100 service men, dropped in during the week-end, and many townspeople came to see how it looked. The hostesses were women of the Baptist church, with Mrs. H. D. Strowd directing. This week-end the hostesses will be women of the Episcopal church, with Mrs. Charles Snow directing. The center, which is sponsored by the Chapel Hill Defense Recreation Council, is open from 2 to 6 and from 7 to 10:30 P.M. on Saturday and from 1:30 to 6:30 on Sunday. David Sessions is in command.

Koch to Give Reading

Frederick H. Koch will read scenes from Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream" at 8 o'clock Monday evening in the Playmakers theatre. The program will include some of the music that Mendelssohn wrote for this play. Everybody is invited.

Scouts' Overnight Hike

The Boy Scouts will go on an overnight hike to the Scout hut tomorrow afternoon. They will make repairs on the hut and clean up its grounds. Tests for merit badges will also be held.

Notice to Girl Scouts

Application blanks for enrollment in the Girl Scout encampment to be held from July 14 to 28 at Camp Sycamore may now be obtained from Mrs. Robert J. Wherry.

Mild-Mannered Fitts Sinks a Jap Carrier

Many Chapel Hillians who remember Henry Fitts as a slender, soft-voiced, mild-mannered young man who worked at the Carolina Inn, first as a waiter in the cafeteria and then as a clerk at the front desk, were astonished this week when they read in the papers that he had discharged the bombs that hit and sank a Japanese aircraft carrier in the recent battle off Midway Island.

"It is hard to imagine Henry as a bombardier," one of his old acquaintances here said yesterday. "He was a quiet, grave-looking fellow, and not especially husky. But I remember that he was cool and collected under trying circumstances, and I reckon he had a lot of grit and determination that most of us didn't know about."

After his graduation from the University in 1939 with a B.S. in Commerce, Fitts went to work in a store in Durham and was the first person in that city to be drafted into the Army. Three months later he applied for and received an appointment as an aviation cadet. He was trained at Ellington Field, Texas.

"Lt. Henry Hunter Fitts, 25-year-old bombardier with the U. S. Army Air Corps, and a son of Mrs. Rosa Fitts of Macon, N. C., saw his bombs hit and sink a

Japanese aircraft carrier in the battle near Midway Island a few days ago," says an Associated Press despatch.

"All of his crew returned to their base safely, despite the fact that they had two bad engines, were short of gas, and had two soft tires. There were 14 men aboard the bomber."

"Lt. Fitts was serving as bombardier in the nose of a B-17. It was his accuracy and coolness in action that was responsible for the sinking of the Jap ship, since the bombardier is in command of a bombing plane from the time the objective is sighted until after the bombs are released."

"Officers at Ellington Field remember Fitts as a taciturn, studious cadet and as a shrewd and cold-blooded poker player."

"He never went to Houston much," says Lt. H. E. Holst, who was at Ellington Field with Fitts. "He and I lived in the same barracks, and when he wasn't working he'd be reading or studying in his bunk. Everybody figured he must be a pretty clever fellow since he said so little and studied so much. And we knew it for sure when he got into a poker game."

Ellington Field has acclaimed Fitts as its first big-time hero of the war.

The Mebane-Elmore Marriage

Dr. John Gilmer Mebane, son of Mrs. Cummins Mebane, and Miss Harriet deBerniere Elmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Elmore, will be married tomorrow in Saint Francis' church, Rutherfordton. Dr. Gilmer Mebane, Mrs. Cummins Mebane and Mrs. John M. Booker left here Wednesday. Dr. William B. MacNider left yesterday, to attend the wedding.

Wadsworth at Annapolis

James Wadsworth of the high school faculty left day before yesterday for Annapolis to begin training for a commission as lieutenant in the Navy's pre-flight program. He expects to be made a physical education instructor in one of the Navy's four pre-flight schools, one of which is here.

Brownies Camp at Sycamore

Several members of Chapel Hill's Brownie Girl Scout troop attended the Brownie encampment held last week at Camp Sycamore between Durham and Raleigh. These little girls, most of whom had never been to camp before, reported that they had a good time and that there were no casualties during the encampment.

Bill Cochrane Departs

Bill Cochrane, director of the Graham Memorial for the last year, left this week to begin training in the Naval Reserve. He is succeeded at the Graham Memorial by Henry Moll, who was editor of the *Carolina Magazine* last year.

MOVING AND HAULING OAK AND PINE WOOD

For moving and hauling services, and for oak and pine wood, call West Franklin Woodyard, telephone 7756.

COTTAGE FOR RENT

For rent: Furnished 5-room cottage with sleeping porch; until mid-September. All modern conveniences. Call Mrs. Benjamin Swalin, 303 N. Columbia St. Phone 9246.

SALESMEN WANTED

Good route available of 800 Raleigh consumers. No experience needed to start. Large sales mean big profits. Permanent. Full time. Write Rawleigh's, Dept. NCF-37-104, Richmond, Va.

FARM FOR SALE

For sale: Excellent stock and poultry farm, well fenced, 180-odd acres, fruit trees, raspberry patch. Nice house on hill surrounded by 100 oak trees; good well of water. Eight miles from Chapel Hill. Price \$3,750. Terms: \$750 cash, balance very easy terms. Write Dr. R. B. Davis, Greensboro, N.C.

APPRAISALS AND SALES OF REAL ESTATE

If you would like to have your property appraised, or if you have property for sale, consult us. Our organization is prepared to render expert service to anybody with a problem about real estate. Service Insurance and Realty Co., Henderson St., opposite Post Office. Telephone 5721.

Charles Valentine
 Cabinet Work
 F. W. BRAWLEY, Upholstering
 Pittsboro Road, 1 Mile from Strowd's Garage. Telephone 9367

Creel's Service Station
 SHELL PRODUCTS
 Opposite Andrews' Funeral Home

Don't Tell..

Bob's ship is—
IT MAY COST A LIFE!
DURHAM Merchants Association

A Fire on a Truck

Gurney Riggsbee of Bennett & Blocksidge, Inc., discovered a fire in a truckload of trash in the company's warehouse at the back of the Franklin street store about 12:30 last Sunday night. He drove the truck out into the street and turned in a fire alarm. The siren sounded, and firemen came and extinguished the fire. The cause of the fire was not determined.

Gayanne Best

A daughter was born to Dr. and Mrs. Glenn Best of Clinton, N. C., Thursday, June 11, in Clinton. Her name is Gayanne Best. Dr. Best is a son of Mrs. T. E. Best of Chapel Hill.

TYPEWRITER FOR SALE

For sale: Remington-Rand portable typewriter. Excellent condition. \$35. Call 3971 or write P. O. Box 564, Chapel Hill.

SEWING; CHILDREN CARED FOR

Sewing and alterations. Children cared for in evenings. Mrs. Brown, 211 Pittsboro Street. Phone F-2071.

HOUSE FOR SALE

For sale: An ideal home. Close in. Full-size basement. Hardwood floors. Heat. Some cash, and terms. Bargain if sold immediately. See or call Paul H. Robertson, 6576 or 9311.

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