



“Eternal Vigilance”

WITH SQUARED SHOULDERS, set chin and clear mind and heart, Americans are marching forward together into the new year of 1942. We are not happy about the present. Peace is more to be desired. But we are at War, and we are confident of the future. Grimly and wholeheartedly we have set our strength and our resources and our hope toward one great goal of VICTORY.

There is none in our country, no matter what his status, who cannot contribute to this total effort. If no more, each of us must strive to do his own, present job better than ever before. We cannot all be at the front lines. Behind these, there is work to be done. The life of our nation must forge ahead and be prepared for that which will come—VICTORY.

In wartime, as in peace, the press of our nation, from weekly news journals, such as THE PILOT, to the great metropolitan dailies, is an institution devoted largely to public information and public improvement. Indeed, the free press is one of our major freedoms which we are fighting to maintain. It exists only in VICTORY.

In wartime, the press has a peculiar duty. It becomes, more than ever, the focusing point of public opinion. It provides an encyclopedia of public information. It lays the foundation of public morale. It lends itself to propaganda, not of single or vested interests, but propaganda for and of the people and their movements. This is not less true of The Pilot, for its being a weekly paper, than of our more esteemed and larger dailies. In fact, it may be more essential that such a paper as The Pilot lend itself to the people. Often our larger papers are too concerned with national and international affairs to focus proper attention upon small communities. In these, no matter how small, are miniatures of the world's problems.

In considering how best The Pilot can contribute in full measure to our local efforts during this period, certain difficulties were confronted. These are not,

by any means, peculiar to The Pilot or the newspaper field in general. But what affects any other business, affects the newspaper. There are such things as shortages—of paper, for instance. Further, there are such things as loss of national advertising contracts. No more automobiles. That hurts automobile dealers—and the newspaper. No more tires. That hurts tire dealers — and the newspaper. Fewer refrigerators, stoves, radios and other consumer commodities—this hurts the dealers—and the newspaper. Advertising from national manufacturers did constitute an important source of revenue for The Pilot. This has been greatly decreased. The Pilot's revenue is now being constantly expended for essential expenses of publishing a paper and maintaining a first class printing establishment. Any excess was to be, and was being, turned back for further improvement

of The Pilot and our printing facilities.

These are facts. We place these facts before our readers in full frankness. We do not yet know their full import. They may mean that occasionally The Pilot will issue only four pages weekly instead of its usual eight or more. This will be only one manifestation. But they will not mean a lessening in effort on our part continuously to improve upon our year-in, year-out, season-in, season-out effort to give the best paper and the best printing possible.

Whatever the portent of these factors, we of The Pilot will endeavor to contribute our best to national defense through our own local efforts in Moore County, and to our eventual VICTORY by doing our job better than ever before. Throughout the year, from its beginning to its end, as in the past, The Pilot will be a factor, lending—giving—itself to community efforts. To this we pledge.

THE TASK OF THE FREE PRESS IS NEVER FULFILLED SO LONG AS FREE MEN MUST FIGHT FOR LIBERTY.

“Eternal Vigilance Is the Price of Liberty”

THE PILOT, Inc.

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