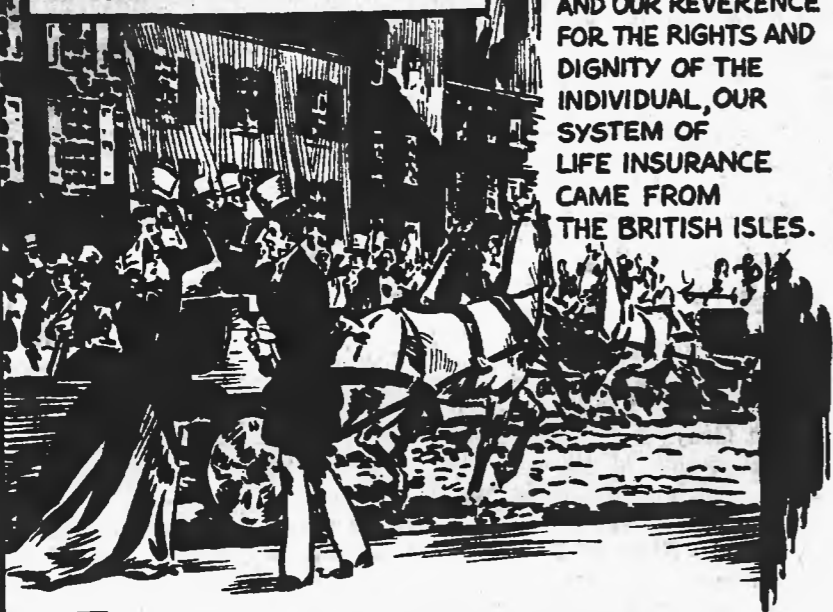


OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat

FORESIGHT AND WAR



LIKE OUR LANGUAGE, OUR COMMON LAW, AND OUR REVERENCE FOR THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL, OUR SYSTEM OF LIFE INSURANCE CAME FROM THE BRITISH ISLES.

OVER THERE, AS HERE, THE COMPANIES ARE PRUDENTLY GEARED TO WITHSTAND PANICS, EPIDEMICS, WAR.



IN BRITAIN, DESPITE THE WAR, THE COMPANIES SHOW AN ACTUAL 12 MONTHS INCREASE IN ASSETS, PREMIUM INCOME AND PAYMENT TO POLICY HOLDERS.

A TAR HEEL IN NEW YORK

By BOB COVINGTON

There were four of us sitting at the table in the restaurant and when you have to work all weekend, there's nothing like a good argument at lunch on Saturday to ease the tension. We had just seen the headlines about some unknown submarine letting slip a torpedo in the general direction of an American destroyer. Two of us were saying that it could have been a British torpedo calculated to get the U. S. into a shooting war. Two of us contended the British wouldn't do it.

Tom said, "You know, if the British wanted to do it, they could get us into the war that way. Why couldn't they take a Messerschmidt they'd brought down over England and some how it landed in fair condition, patch it up, get a couple of suicide minded R. A. F. pilots, fly over to Iceland and drop maybe twenty or thirty bombs? These pilots could be English boys who had lived or studied in Germany, they'd have German uniforms from the skin out, they'd have German papers, so if the plane landed they'd be taken for German pilots. Everything could be planned so that the Americans would think the Germans had bombed our men in Iceland, America would be in the war and everybody would be happy." "It couldn't be done" said Dick, "downing a large forkl of savory ham loaf with mushrooms in cream dressing. "Suppose the plane was brought down and not burned up. Don't you think they could tell that it was a German plane patched up in England. Experts could probably tell the original German metal and fabric from the English repair metals and fabric."

Tom was really warming up to an argument which is his favorite indoor or outdoor sport. "These English fighters, posing as Nazis could make sure the plane was burned or blown to bits. They could have dynamite or a bomb in the plane to be set off if they saw they were going to get caught they'd destroy the evidence."

"And themselves too?" "Sure. They could get a couple of boys to do it. After all, they say the actual fighting life of an R. A. F. pilot is an hour and forty-five minutes."

"Why couldn't the Americans examine the bomb fragments and see they were English?" "They'd use German bombs. They've got plenty of German duds that are duds on account of faulty fuses. They could put new fuses in 'em."

"English fuses? Suppose the plane came down with unexploded bombs, German bombs with English fuses? Aw, Tom you can't argue with me that the English would do a thing like that. There are too many ways it could be discovered and the English have too much to lose if it were discovered. Leaving out the principle of the thing. It's too crazy."

"Well, the English probably wouldn't do it, I grant you" said Tom. "But don't tell me anything is too crazy for this war. What about the Number Three Nazi flying to England? You haven't explained that yet."

Merit Examinations To Be Conducted By Merit System Council

Applications for merit examinations for clerical positions in the County Welfare Departments, Local Health Units, State Board of Health, the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, State Commission for The Blind, and Unemployment Compensation must be mailed by September 15th to Dr. Frank T. de Vyver, Merit System Supervisor, Durham, North Carolina.

The positions have been divided into the following series: General Clerical, Stenographic Clerical Stenotype, File Clerk, Calculating Machine, Bookkeeping Machine, Addressograph, and Tabulating Machine. Salaries range from \$600 to \$2,110. Applications may compete for positions in more than one series, but a separate application must be filed for each series. The time and place of the examination will be announced when applicants receive cards admitting them to the tests. Notices have been posted in Hoke County Office Building and Post Office.

WOOD

With the rising price of coal and fuel oil the market for more wood in Durham County is expected to be unusually good this year, says James L. Huff, assistant farm agent.

BURLEY

Charlie and Ralph Edwards, farm boys of Prices Creek in Yancey County, have an almost perfect stand of burley tobacco with plants that average more than six feet tall.

A Blitzkrieg!

Alcohol's plan of assault on mankind may easily have been the primer in which Hitler learned blitzkrieg methods!

It isn't far-fetched to compare Hitler's attacks on civilization with liquor's all-out fight against the individual or the nation, in the opinion of such social welfare groups as the W.C.T.U.

The Nazis' propaganda divides the ranks of opponents, the Fifth Column weakens them and wins them over, then the shock troops move in to smash resistance — and seize another nation.

Wine is liquor's propaganda army. With millions to spend and a mouthpiece it seduces with talk of moderation and enralls with promises of "sparkling" fun. Disclaiming any connections with liquor's other armies, it uses its high alcoholic content to enslave those it contacts. Wine is high on the list of causes for the high enrollment of alcoholics in mental hospitals.

Beer is the true Fifth Column. It's a hard core of alcohol camouflaged with suds—and fools a lot of people. "Why, I'm just a soft drink," it tells the boys and girls. "Drink beer and you can have fun without paying a price." Those who live near taverns, the records of juvenile, traffic, and criminal courts

all show that 3.2 beer will intoxicate but beer is so slick that even tongue-in-cheek lawmakers have ruled it officially non-intoxicating. Wine and beer do their work. They win the addicts, students of temperance declare, then come the dive bombers, the shock troops, the heavy tanks—such as whisky, gin, and rum. There's nothing secret about this army, it just moves in and takes over.

No matter what its disguise, any liquor is just another alcoholic beverage and a division of the liquor traffic, interested solely in profits and not national well-being, the W.C.T.U. points out.

The above article is printed without charge at the request of local persons who contributed the costs of plate manufacture.—Editor.

MILK

Frank Randolph of the Little Rock township in Mitchell County sold milk from five cows over a 15-day period ending August 1 for a net profit of \$52.09. The milk was produced entirely on pasture.

CONSTIPATED? PRUNOL TASTES GOOD ACTS EASILY

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Cotton Farmers To Get New U. S. Test Service

North Carolina cotton growers are getting "another good break" in the U. S. Department of Agriculture's cotton testing service, designed to improve the quality of Southern cotton, says Tom Cornwell, Cleveland County cotton farmer and member of the state AAA committee.

The Cotton Service Testing Act, passed by the 77th Congress last April, provides that the department shall begin immediately a program of testing the various qualities of fibers and yarns submitted by farmer grower and breeders of cotton. Fees for the tests, which will be conducted at Clemson College, S. C., Texas A and M, and in Washington, D. C., will range from 20 cents per sample for fiber length analyses to \$40 for a complete fiber-yarn spinning test of material submitted.

The service is scheduled to begin immediately but necessary preparations for the new work may cause some delay in full-schedule operations, Mr. Cornwell says. In the past cotton breeders have had little or no information of a technical nature relating to the quality of the cottons they have developed. Years of commercial use have been required in the past to show definitely whether the cottons had qualities asked for by manufacturers.

The new testing service will be set up to give growers and breeders the desired information quickly through the use of small samples of lint. The service also is expected to be open to cotton mills for testing yarns in the future. Several mills already have asked permission to submit cotton samples, the AAA committee adds.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

According to a number of responsible authorities, there is a definite morale problem in the American Army. Such magazines as Life have sent qualified reporters into Army camps and they have returned to write that a substantial percentage of the conscripts now under arms don't like the Army and are eager to get out of it.

It is inevitable that when hundreds of thousands of men are drafted, a portion of them will remain permanently dissatisfied. However, the reporters state that at the present time there is a comparatively low state of morale among many men who entered the service in the expectation of benefiting from it and enjoying it. The principal causes of unrest are these:

1. There is a lack of martial spirit, due to the fact that we are not at war, and our emotions have not been stirred to the boiling point. As Ernest Lindley puts it, "It is like trying to infuse morale into a football team that has no games scheduled." Unless we actually go to war, this phase of the morale problem will probably remain unsolved.

2. Many conscript soldiers lack confidence in their officers. The Army has on its roles many officers who have no concept of modern warfare, and who have little capacity for leadership or for instilling respect and admiration in the men they command. The General Staff, headed by energetic General Marshall, is said to recognize this, and is gradually weeding out incompetents in the commissioned personnel.

3. Lack of adequate weapons and other materials has been a sore point. Conscripts couldn't make sense out of maneuver in which broomsticks were used for cannons, cans for shells, and in which ancient trucks were painted, "Tank." Now, however, this deficiency is being

corrected as arms output increases. Troops are getting more and better equipment and by next year many divisions should possess everything that is needed for modern battle.

4. Most general cause of complaint, say many, is the pay given the soldiers. Conscripts get \$21 a month for the first three months, and \$30 thereafter. Under a new congressional bill, pay at the end of year's service will advance to \$40. That amounts to next to nothing. The soldiers must pay for haircuts, razor blades, clothes pressing, etc. By the time necessary expenses are met, there is little left for recreation or even the simplest luxuries of life. As a result, soldiers have an extremely difficult time finding amusement. The cost of giving the privates a fair wage—\$50 to \$75 a month—would amount to relatively little, in the light of the gigantic costs the defense program involves. It is probable that laws to substantially raise the Army's wages will be introduced in Congress.

5. Tied in with inadequate pay is the lack of organized recreational facilities. Many major Army camps are located in areas where there are few communities. The United Service Organizations (USO) has raised considerable money through public subscription, but the total produced is far from being sufficient to provide amusement on anything near the desired scale. All the reporters who have investigated Army conditions, tell of finding groups of soldiers loitering on street corners on their evenings off, broke, and with nothing to do.

It should be emphasized, in the interest of fairness, that a high proportion of the Army's enlisted personnel has excellent morale. Further, in the Navy, air corps and marine corps there is no morale problem

whatsoever, as these branches of the fighting forces have no conscripts. Most of the conscripts have gone into the infantry, and it is there that the morale problem exists. Progress is being made in bettering the lot of the men, but it looks as if a good deal more must be done if the largest peace-time American Army in our history is to have the morale that is essential to an A-1 fighting force.

A short time ago, in the beautiful, historic French town of Fontainebleau, squads of workmen went to work on a wrecking job. That job involved the tearing down of two huge statues. One statue was of a great Frenchman who had fought for democracy—Marshal Lafayette. The other statue was of a great American who led a victorious democratic army—General John J. Pershing.

There is a tragic symbolism in this. For it indicates how completely France has deserted the democratic way of life, and embraced the doctrines of the total state as laid down and enforced by Hitler.

It is generally felt that the great bulk of the French people hate Hitler, and pray for allied victory. But, so long as the present Vichy government exists, there seems no other course than to regard modern France as an ally of Germany.

The hope that General Weygand would eventually refuse to use his great African army to help the Germans is, in the view of most experts, futile. The recent appointment of Admiral Darlan as head of French defense shows the way the wind blows. Darlan is anti-democratic, and pro-Nazi. It will not come as any great surprise if the French fleet is in time placed at Hitler's disposal.

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