

THE EAGLE

Published Every Thursday in the interest of Cherryville and surrounding Community.

Entered as Second Class Mail matter August 16th 1906 in the Post Office at Cherryville, N. C., under the Act of Congress March 3rd, 1879.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES Payable in Advance

One year	\$1.00
Six months	.60
Four months	.40
Three months	.30

National Advertising Representative
AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION
New York - Chicago - Detroit - Philadelphia

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1944

Editorial

A LETTER A DAY

Letters, according to an army officer who is in the thick of the fighting in Italy, do more to keep up the morale of our soldiers than do good food, victories in battle or any other one thing.

That's something everyone of us should think about when we postpone writing to a soldier because we want to go to a picture show, or because we want to listen to a radio program or because we don't happen to feel in the mood for writing a letter.

Writing letters to soldiers is something which everyone of us can do toward helping to win the war. It is a little thing to us—but it is so important to the men in the field that the army sees to it that mail is delivered even during the most heated battles.

The one thing every soldier wants most is to get this war over with and return home. But until that happy day arrives, the closest he can come to it is to get personal letters from the people who are at home letting him know that they are thinking of him and praying for him.

MODERNIZING FIRE PREVENTION

The National Board of Fire Underwriters has just issued a modernized Code of Suggested Ordinances for Small Municipalities. Included are recommendations for bringing up to date the building and fire prevention codes of small and medium sized communities. It has been working to make American communities safer through the establishment of uniform fire prevention measures, ever since it published A Suggested Building Ordinance for Small Towns and Villages, in 1914. Untold lives and countless millions of dollars have been saved from fire destruction by this continuing endeavor.

The building ordinance in the new code contains specific provisions not heretofore found in suggested legislation for small municipalities. Among them are the assignment of specific duties to a building official; regulations dealing with light and ventilation in structures of practically all types; adequate means of egress; requirements for the location and construction of garages; and specific regulations for such details as plumbing, sprinkler systems and outdoor display signs.

Many communities, as a result of the war, have been mushroomed into hives of industrial activity. Leaders of such communities bear a heavy responsibility in seeing that scientific fire prevention programs keep abreast of the community growth. It is the intent of the improved code to aid them, as well as civic leaders of every other community, in mobilizing every modern resource at their command against the common enemy, fire.

MAKE WORK AT ANY PRICE!

As the government goes forward with plans to increase draft of fishers and as American battle casualties in every part of the world mount into the hundreds of thousands, a late issue of "Oregon Voter" tells of some of the make-work rules still being enforced by the unions in the country's largest shipyards: "If a plank has to be laid across a couple of saw-up horses, for a crew of pipe fitters to make an adjustment high up on a partition, a crew of shipwrights has to be routed to the place, as work with wood is shipwright work. The management has to plan this routine in order to avoid too much delay. When the time comes for the plank to be lifted off the pair of saw-horses, to be moved a few feet to put in another length of pipe, the crew of shipwrights has to be routed to the spot again to move the wood. Any delay in this routine means a suspension of work by the crew of pipe fitters while they wait for the shipwrights."

If a gadget one man can carry is needed from the warehouses, the pipe fitter, or machinist, or shipwright, must not go for it, the teamsters union must fetch it."

And labor leaders wonder why public wrath is rising against union managements.

YOUR GASOLINE SUPPLY

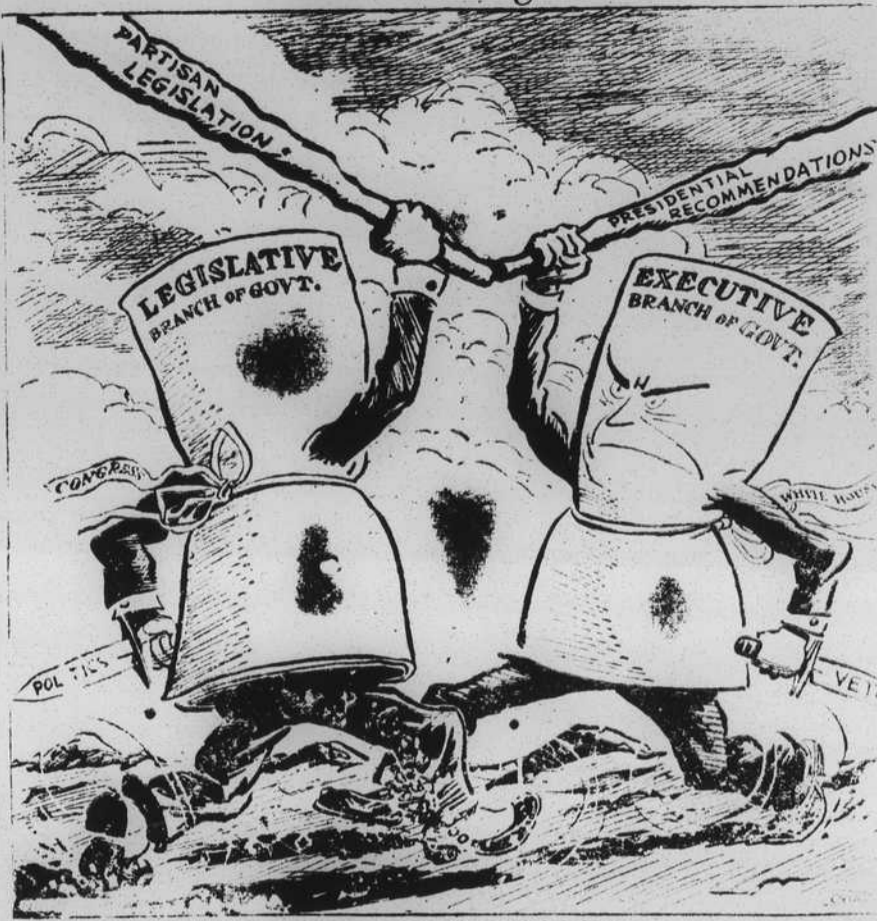
If it wasn't for the sale of gasoline through black markets, "A" ration book holders would get considerably more gasoline than they do today.

That fact was recently confirmed by Chester Bowles, head of the Office of Price Administration, who estimated that at least five per cent of the total available gasoline supply was being sold through black markets.

This admission by the head of the OPA should act as a challenge to the millions of people who have to get along on the meagre supply of gasoline to which "A" books entitle them. For it should make everyone of us realize—when we hear someone bragging about being able to get extra gasoline on the side—that whoever is doing that is actually helping himself to gasoline which could be in our own tanks.

As long as the majority of us let the black market customers continue to think they are doing something smart when they buy bootleg gas, these markets will flourish.

Never Ending War



This Week in WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D.C. (NWNS)—Scandal mongers here are licking their lips in anticipation of some juicy revelations in the near future as Congress looks into such mysteries as our Arabian oil projects, the government's 36,000,000-pound hoard of butter, and the background of the large black market operations in the sale of gasoline.

It may be that none of these situations, which have recently been the subject of wide discussions, will have any startling repercussions. But all are smoldering actively now any one of them might erupt at any time.

Wild charges of all kinds regarding these situations are being heard here, but sources close to the government agencies involved refuse to get excited until investigations have been made. Some predict that inefficiency and poor management may be uncovered, but nothing more serious.

The Arabian oil project is a complicated situation which only those who have made a thorough study of it are in a position to judge. It was brought into the limelight when James A. Moffet, formerly federal housing administrator and more recently chairman of the Texas Oil Company, said that the Arabian pipeline planned by our government was "the biggest scandal I've ever seen," that it would be of no value in the war, that it was an unjustified venture by bureaucracy and that he had quit his job to devote his entire attention to fighting the methods of Secretary Ickes in handling the oil situation. He asked for a congressional investigation and consideration of removing Mr. Ickes from office.

The major oil companies have joined Mr. Moffet in objecting to the pipeline, which the government intended to build at a cost of \$165,000,000 and which would use hundreds of thousands of tons of steel. They not only say this oil is not needed but they also object on the grounds that this project would definitely put the government into the oil business.

The butter problem has probably resulted from lack of careful planning on the part of the government in estimating the needs of the armed forces. But there is more behind it than merely excess buying. For informed sources point out that farmers may have difficulty in disposing of butter unless rationing is relaxed and that to release the government hoard to civilians would make the situation worse. The outcome probably will be that the excess supply owned by the government will be shipped overseas under lend-lease and that the point value for butter will be decreased here to assure distribution of all butter that is available.

As for the gasoline black market, this became a major topic of discussion when Chester Bowles, OPA administrator, stated that at least 5 per cent of all gasoline sold to civilians is going through black markets and that "A" ration book holders could get 25 per cent more gasoline if the black market could be stopped. Mr. Bowles told of a plan to help fight this black market by penalizing motorists who do not endorse coupons, but these seem to be few who believe that will effectively help the situation. The Automobile Club of New York,

for example, says that the major problem of black markets is sales to motorists without requiring coupons by dealers who obtain their supply with stolen or counterfeit coupons. This group believes OPA has not made a careful enough analysis of the black market schemes and is trying to shift the responsibility for black markets to the shoulders of the motorists.

There also seems to be some question as to how much of a shortage of gasoline there actually is—and it is expected that a congressional investigation may soon be launched to get the facts on the whole problem of distribution of gasoline to civilians.

Golf Tournament To Be Held 17-19th

The Charlotte open golf tournament will be held over the Myers Park Golf course March 17, 18 and 19 with all the big game golfers competing for the \$10,000 in war bonds to be given as prize money.

Harold "Jug" McSpadeh, riding on the wings of a winning streak that started eleven tournaments ago, Byron Nelson, close on Jug's heels for top place among money winners, and Sammy Byrd, making his final play before going into service, will be the Big Three of the meet. McSpadeh and Nelson have been dueling east on the winter circuit, neck and neck most of the way, and taking for themselves most of the money. Byrd walked into top spot at New Orleans, however, and has signified his intention of finishing his civilian golfing career with a bang in Charlotte.

Clayton Heafner, "Dutch" Harrison, Horton Smith, Johnny Palmer, all in nearby service camps, are planning to play but first must obtain official sanction by means of furloughs. They plus Gene Sarazen and Bobby Cruickshank from Pinehurst field will add a sparkle and punch of gallery appeal to the roster of stars who have been making the swing of events that started in Miami last December.

Johnny Reelfo, Jimmy Hone, Harry Cooper, Ed Dudley and Craig Wood are the only other early official entries. The other big time players will send in their entries as the day nears. Char Woodlotte, Ed Dudley, F. G. A. tournament chairman, has sent word that all the players on the circuit are certain of entering.

Funny Orr, host pro at Myers the par 72 lay-out that will add Park, has made a few changes in strokes to the course. But the consensus is that the pros will make par sizzle with a barrage of birdies. Heafner and Harrison are the only big-timers ever to play the course. Heafner holds the course record, a 60 made in 1940, which is in no danger of being beaten, even by the 100-odd golfers who probably will beat par on every hole excepting two. Orr and Heafner have predicted it will take a score of at least 275 for first place.

Amateur entries are expected from the Carolinas with a few players from nearby states. Many of the amateurs probably will be soldier-golfers stationed in nearby camps.

The Charlotte Junior Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the tournament with Bill Parker, president of the Jaycees, acting as general manager.

DO YOU WANT A JOB LIKE THIS?

WANT a job where every hour you work is an hour that helps win the war? Want a job that gives you a chance to increase your skill or learn a new one? A job that gives you new experiences, new friends?

Then join the Woman's Army Corps and take over a vital job in the Army.

For full details about the WAC, apply to any U. S. Army Recruiting Station. Or write: The Adjutant General, 4415 Munitions Bldg., Washington, 25, D. C. (Women in essential war industry must have release from their employer of the U. S. Employment Service.)

SOYBEANS

Vegetable soybeans rank top in protein, fat, iron and calcium, according to Extension nutritionists at N. C. State College.

MULCHING

A three-inch layer of straw or pine needles in the Victory Garden will help save water and keep down grass and weeds.

BOLL WEEVIL

Prepare for the boll weevil fight by the purchase of calcium arsenate now. With transportation tight and labor short, orders for dust should be placed early, say Extension entomologists at State College.

That Nagging Backache

May Warm of Disordered Kidney Action

Modern life with its hurry and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking, the rush of the war and later the stress of the home front, the work of the kidney, they are all factors which wear and tear the kidney and lead to the backache and the loss of vitality.

You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, getting up in the morning, feeling tired or weak, or you may find that you are unable to sleep at night. Doan's Pills are the only pills that will cure these troubles.

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