

THE Perquimans Weekly
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MAX CAMPBELL Editor
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1944
 TODAY ONLY BELONGS TO US: Wherefore as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear his voice.—Hebrews 3:7.

Future Progress For Farmers

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard has made public an agenda of subjects to be discussed in connection with the post-war needs and desires of agriculture.
 Mr. Wickard foresees an increased demand for food and fibre, with the need to reclaim and settle 40,000,000 acres of land to become available through drainage, irrigation and clearing.
 This is rather courageous in view of the huge surpluses that were piled up by our farmers in pre-war years. It apparently supposes an economic era of high income, which is necessary if the people are to purchase food and fibre on a larger basis than ever before.
 It is interesting to observe that Mr. Wickard is also favorable to a new and improved parity formula for farm prices. This is desirable if agriculture is to be given anything like a fair share of the nation's income on the basis of population.
 The new formula is a post-war enterprise. The Secretary does not propose that we attempt to correct inequalities by high pressure, in the midst of war. This is right in our opinion. The farmers of the nation are entitled to additional consideration but they can well afford to delay pressure tactics until the war is won.

Pulpwood For Victory

The War Production Board calls for 14,000,000 cords of pulpwood in 1944, which is 1,000,000 cords above production for 1943.
 Concerning the campaign last year James L. Madden, of the WPB, says that it received its greatest impetus through the newspaper pulpwood campaign, participated in by the daily press and more than 1,500 weekly newspapers in twenty-seven of the producing states.
 The extra million cords of pulpwood, this year, are required for packaging materials, especially waterproof paper and kraft board for shipping munitions, foods and medical supplies to battle fronts and containers for essential agricultural and civilian supplies.
 Government agencies are cooperating in an effort to get farmers to work in their timberlands cutting forest products, or to work temporarily in forest industries during slack winter months.
 We call this matter to the attention of all farmers in Perquimans County because it is necessary for every available man to get busy if the nation is to avoid a serious shortage of pulpwood products. This is not a job that can be left to others. Every man who possibly can supply a part of the 14,000,000 cords should make an effort to do so, realizing that it would be a direct contribution to the war effort.

Volumes Of Promise

There's a war to get on with, but we can find time for homework lessons in required reading. The mail-order catalogues appeared on schedule; the Old Farmer's Almanac gave its usual months-ahead weather predictions with comforting assurance and safe-margin leeway. Now the seed catalogues are appearing and the long evenings can be devoted to serious study. For Uncle Sam, while pleased with 1943's Victory Gardens, is asking for bigger and better ones this year.
 The pictures in a seed catalogue are a major part of its value. A man may smile as he looks at the gorgeous glory of symmetrical ears of golden corn, the cool deliciousness of long, green cucumbers, the royal red of smooth, tapering carrots, and the scarlet beauty of luscious, plump tomatoes. And the paintings of complete gardens! Never a weed, all rows perfectly spaced, the soil soft and brown with no rocks, and all plants bearing tremendous crops.
 But that's an integral—and expected—part of seed catalogues. The banner of perfection is a goal that

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

Childs Sees Nation Moving Toward Uniform Freight Rates

Bills now pending before Congress would amend the Interstate Commerce Act to establish uniform classification of freight and a uniform scale of second class rates, in accordance with recommendations of the Board of Research and Investigation—Transportation, appointed by the President in accord with the Transportation Act of 1940.
 Meanwhile, the Interstate Commerce Commission's long investigation of railroad class rate, prompted by complaints from the South and Southwest, is nearing an end. The report, now being prepared, will be followed by exceptions, arguments and, finally, a decision, unless the matter is taken out of the hands of the ICC by legislation.

The subject of freight rates is extremely complex and difficult of understanding by a layman. Generally, class rates apply to manufactured goods and ICC examiners have already recommended the establishment of uniform nation-wide class rates. This will avoid the condition where various articles take different classifications in each freight territory and, sometimes, another when moving from one territory to another.

One of the members of the board appointed by the President, Mr. C. E. Childs, says he has come to the conclusion that "the first essential of providing an adequate national transportation system is the readjustment of freight rates and rate relationships of the railroads and other carriers, so that each rate will be fairly compensatory for the service performed, so that every shipper and locality will receive equal treatment in relation to the service rendered by the carrier."
 Under the present rate-structure, cited by Mr. Childs, cut-throat competition gives the benefit of low rates to shippers and localities where competition for traffic is heaviest and penalizes those in the lighter-traffic areas, adds to the advantages of those already strong and deprives others of the opportunity to compete.

He advocates a rate policy which can give to each type of transportation a fair chance to develop, to the public the benefits of the inherent advantages of each type of carrier, and to every industry throughout all parts of the United States a fair economic chance to produce and market its products and maintain full employment. He wants a rate system which will provide uniform treatment for all sections by maintaining rates for every type of commodity and for every length of haul which bear their fair share of the cost incurred by the carrier.
 Mr. Childs thinks that a Congressional declaration of policy requiring the removal of rate inequities would be beneficial to carriers and shippers of all kinds, as well as to the general public in every part of the country. He believes this would help the South and West to develop their unused natural resources, providing greater employment and higher standards of living. This would help the East, which cannot be permanently prosperous if the development and prosperity of the rest of the country is retarded.

Post-War Pressure For "Economy" May Again Cause Unpreparedness
 There is much to be gained by the knowledge that the Japanese attack upon this country was part of a common course, planned by the Axis, and that it was delivered because the Japanese believed the United States

stirs men's minds. Who would thrill to a catalogue that prosaically and accurately portrayed one's garden last season? It wasn't a bad garden. It's merely that 1944 is another year. Gardening is a way of living. And he who gardens is entitled to his dreams. Seed catalogues are partly the stuff that dreams are made of; the other part, this year, is a determination to make the garden more fruitful than ever before.—Christian Science Monitor.

could be overwhelmed.
 The factors that persuaded the Japanese leaders were the steady and persistent pacifism that was apparent in our national policies, the scrapping of our Navy and the size of our Army. The relative unpreparedness of this country in the face of German, Italian and Japanese aggression indicated to Tokyo that we would not accept the full sacrifice of modern war.

It may be doubted whether the Japanese would have dared to launch their attack if, for example, the United States had possessed a much larger Navy. The Tokyo war lords acted in concert with the disturbances in Europe but they pursue an independent policy that is all-out for Japan.
 The existence of the war in Europe, occupying the energies of Great Britain and Russia, gave the Japanese an opportunity to attack the United States and to seize the possessions of the weaker nations in the Far East. Not only were the Japanese convinced that the United States would get no assistance but they were assured that Italy and Germany would also declare war upon us.

What is the lesson? It is suggested by Mrs. Lawrence Smith, president of the American Legion Auxiliary, who says that we must never again be so "uninformed and undefended." Because we did not comprehend the sweep of world forces, we were careless in matters of defense and permitted ourselves the luxury of disarmament in a re-arming world.
 It is vital for us to recognize that one of the potent pressures for our sacrifice of the Navy and Army was "economy" in the operation of government. The nation was apparently unwilling to spend the billions that were required or to pay the taxes that proper preparedness would cause. This fact should be recalled frequently in order that our people be not fooled again after the conclusion of the present wars.

We unhesitatingly predict that within five years of the conclusion of peace, there will be economy in governmental expenditures and a strong propaganda for lower taxes through less preparedness. It will be supported by the peace-at-any-price fringe which will tell us again that the way to peace is to be friendly and helpless.

1,000,000 Men And Women Already Demobilized In This World War
 More than a million men and women have already been demobilized during the present war, according to Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans Affairs who says that \$8,223,000 had been paid in pensions up to November 30 and an additional \$8,443,000 to dependents of those killed.
 With more than 222,000 claims filed, the work of adjudicating them has taken time, but action has been completed on 119,256. Steps are being taken to shorten the processes involved in order to facilitate decision upon pending claims.
 While the United States has been engaged in warfare for more than two years, the armed forces of the country have just begun to get into position for large scale operations. The claims will multiply many times. In fact, as we understand it, many of those now filed, relate to men who, for various reasons, were taken into service although unable to stand the rigorous experience.

President Roosevelt Proposes "A Just And Equitable Whole"
 The President proposes five measures as "a just and equitable whole" to concentrate the national energies and resources on winning the war and to maintain a fair and stable economy at home.
 Here is what he suggests: (1) a tax law to reach unreasonable profits; (2) renegotiation of war contracts to prevent exorbitant profits and assure fair prices to the government; (3) a floor under prices for farmers and a ceiling on prices to consumers, applicable to necessities only; (4) re-

enactment of the stabilization statute which was passed in 1942; (5) a national service law, making every able-bodied adult available for essential service.

stances, interfere with the needs of the armed forces.

More Suitable
 Wild Son—Father, I think I'll take up keeping fowls.
 Father—Try owls, my boy. Their hours will suit you better.

BUY WAR BONDS!

No Flood Of Civilian Goods
 Any idea that large scale production of civilian goods is just around the corner is removed by the recent action of the War Production Board in upholding its drastic steel conservation order which forbids the use of the metal in 646 common civilian goods items.
 The Army and Navy, through proper officials, opposed any let-up, taking the position that the bars should not be lowered until the military situation clarifies.
 There can be little argument with the decision taken. While there is no present shortage of steel the relaxation of the ban on its use in certain civilian goods would contribute indirectly to shortages of other war materials.
 Civilians should applaud every decision made by responsible officials to play the war safe. There is no justification whatever to ease any regulation or restriction until there is unanimous conviction that the move will not, under any circum-

TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C.
 "WE HAVE THE SHOWS"
 Friday, Jan. 28—
 Mary Martin, Franchot Tone, Dick Powell, Victor Moore in "TRUE TO LIFE"
 Saturday, Jan. 29—
 Charles Starrett in "HAIL TO THE RANGERS"
 Sunday, Jan. 30—
 Matinee 2:30, 4:15. Night 9:15
 Jimmy Lydon in "HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE"
 Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 31 - Feb. 1
 Cary Grant and John Garfield in "DESTINATION TOKYO"
 Wednesday, Feb. 2—
 Double Feature 11c and 25c
 Gale Storm and Robert Lowery in "CAMPUS RHYTHM"
 Nils Asther and Ruth Terry in "MYSTERY BROADCAST"
 Thursday and Friday, Feb. 3-4—
 Randolph Scott and Grace McDonald in "GUNG HO"
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 Back The Attack
 4th WAR LOAN DRIVE

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