

PETTENGILL

The Gentleman from Indiana

The Appeal To Fear



who were of age at the time have also forgotten much. Twenty-two years is a long time.

Propaganda has reached new heights of effectiveness, but it is as old as war itself. In 1870 Bismarck deliberately altered a telegram so that the Prussians thought their King, and the French thought their ambassador, had been insulted.

In 1898 President William McKinley asked Congress to declare war on Spain. But he concealed from Congress and the country the text of the latest Spanish note which promised the independence of Cuba.

When that war was over a commission of naval and army officers investigated the blowing up of the Maine. Not a single officer was convinced that the Spanish government had had anything to do with the explosion.

The plain people who do the dying never hear the truth about war propaganda until the archives are opened to historians. And so, "in peace the sons bury their fathers; in war, the fathers bury their sons."

Then there is the propaganda of perfectly sincere people who believe what their own minds conjure. They fear their fears.

Although there is no case in history of a nation conquering across an ocean another nation of anywhere nearly equal strength, the fears of conquest of this country from overseas is as old as timid souls have been in our midst.

In 1807 Fisher Ames dipped his pen into the future and, far as human eye could see, wrote, "Great Britain is fighting our battles, and France is combating for the power to enslave and plunder us and all the world."

In 1808 United States Senator Pickens got the heebie-jeebies and rushed into print with, "Napoleon is the most ruthless tyrant that has scourged the European world since the Roman Empire fell. Since the British Navy were destroyed and France triumphed over Great Britain. To the other titles of Bonaparte would then be added that of Emperor of the Two Americas."

And these now familiar words, although first employed by Pickens 132 years ago, "For what legions of soldiers could he not send to the United States in the thousands of British ships, were they also at his command."

The fact that Britain with all her thousands of ships had not daunted the iron courage of George Washington was overlooked by the shaking Senator.

This same old scarecrow was dusted off very effectively in 1917. We had an official propaganda department then, called the "Committee on Public Information." The story of George Creel and his committee has just been published in a book "Words that Won the War."

On page 98 of that book is a reproduction of an advertisement issued by Creel's Committee in 1917. It is called "The German Idea." It shows a map of what was once a proud United States. It is now "New Prussia" with cities renamed "New Potsdam" (New York), "New Berlin" (Washington, D. C.), "Hyphenburg," etc.

Below the advertisement you read, "Shall this war make Germany's word the highest law in the world? The German idea must be so completely crushed that it will never again rear its venomous head. It's a fight, as the President said, 'to the last dollar, the last drop of blood.' Then appear the words, 'George Creel, Chairman, The Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy.'"

It was for stuff like this that our government spent taxpayers' money 23 years ago. This book and several others ought to be read.

So much as a sidelight on today's propaganda to get us in a second time. As propaganda to keep us out, I quote Winston Churchill's advice to his own people in 1934: We must be safe from undue foreign pressure. We

Our world...

Greatest Naval and Air Battle

London.—Three British warships, including the 9,100-ton cruiser Southampton and the 23,000-ton aircraft carrier Illustrious, were damaged off Sicily on January 10 in the war's greatest air-naval battle, an admiralty communique reveals. The admiralty said Italo-German forces lost 12 or more planes and one destroyer in the engagement in which the British 1,335-ton destroyer Gallant also was damaged by a mine or torpedo, but safely made port. The British claimed victory in the engagement, asserting that the Italo-German attack failed in its purpose, which was to destroy a large and important convoy of war materials for Greece. "The convoy... was carried out according to plan," the admiralty said. The four-day delay in the admiralty communique indicated that the Illustrious and Southampton as well as the Gallant reached port for repairs.

Home Brand of One-Man Power

Atlanta.—Shock-haired Eugene Talmadge returned to Georgia's governorship Tuesday and drove swiftly toward one-man domination of state affairs by invoking an obscure statute to nullify powers of hold-over officials.

Hot Words Over Lend-Lease

Washington.—Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.), leader of the Senate non-interventionists, in a radio discussion Sunday night, said that the New Deal's foreign policy as embraced in the lend-lease bill, is to "plow under every fourth American boy." President Roosevelt, at the Tuesday press conference, said two or three foes of the lend-lease bill had employed the expression and that he felt it was time to kill it. "I regard it as the most untruthful, as the most dastardly, most unpatriotic thing that has ever been said," he declared, his face grim and his eyes flashing. "That really is the rottenest thing that has been said in public life in my generation." He gave correspondents permission to quote him directly. Wheeler promptly countered that "apparently the President has lost his temper."

British Hopes and Courage Rise

London.—An air ministry statement that R. A. F. night fighters are "beginning to show results" against nocturnal raiders and the admiralty's announcement of one of the smallest week's shipping losses of the war bolstered hopes of Britons last night of overcoming eventually the two chief menaces to their embattled island. Monday night's massive fire-bomb raid on the southwest port of Plymouth, the target of 10,000 incendiaries and "many tons" of high explosives, showed, however, that Britain has far to go in coping with the night raiders—and the air ministry admitted as much.

Grand Roundup Without Horses

Cairo, Egypt.—The crew of a British motorboat, directed by patrolling aircraft, has snatched the Italian Blackshirt General Francesco Argentino from a hiding place by "the water's edge" in north Africa near Tobruk, Libya, British middle eastern headquarters announce. The number of Italian general declared to have been seized in the fighting in Egypt and the British counter-offensive in Libya thus was increased to eleven. A twelfth and the most picturesque of all, General Annibale "Electric Whiskers" Bergonzoli, is reported still hunted through the desert and along the Mediterranean coast. A hurricane pilot sighted "a small party of Italian officers hiding by the water's edge" two days ago, the statement said, and advised a naval unit, which captured the party, including Argentino. A single British pilot also was declared to have spotted 150 armed Italians near the coast, fired warning bursts and "ushered the captives to a British military unit" much in the manner of a cow pony rounding up steers.

Keep Those Plants Running

Washington.—The government stepped into a labor dispute involving a defense industry yesterday and demanded that strike-closed plants in Ohio and Michigan be re-opened. The government's position in the Ohio and Michigan strikes, involving five units and about 3,500 employees of the Eaton Manufacturing Company, was stated by James F. Dewey, a Labor Department conciliator, who said that he would insist as a "defense measure" that the plants be re-opened and that differences be adjusted after the plants were running.

"Billy's Goat," This Saturday Night at 7:30

The Sparta school faculty play this coming Saturday night promises to be something of what you'd guess from the title, with some surprises added that you wouldn't guess. So the school auditorium should be well filled to witness a sparkling performance.

She Kisses Them Off to the Army

From Knoxville, Tenn., comes the story of a pert brunette who strode into the railroad station on the arm of a draftee leaving for Fort Oglethorpe.

There was a long embrace and a farewell kiss. The train pulled away. The girl patted her curls in place and remarked:

"Well, that's the second man I've sent to the army in less than two weeks."

Better draft her for a recruiting sergeant.

cannot afford to confide the safety of our country to the passions or the panic of any foreign nation which may be facing some desperate crisis. All history has proven the peril of being dependent upon a foreign state for home

Another New Business Block For Sparta

At long last a part of that space between Governor Doughton's office and Sparta Garage is to have a new business building. The ground has been broken and is being prepared for the foundations of a building sponsored by Ben Reeves and his father, it is reported.

In the building line the new sandwich shop and eating place at the Shell Station down near the Prison Camp road is completed and in full operation.

Also, not so spectacular but very important, are four additional new work benches in Castevens Motor Company's shop, as well as a mezzanine floor storage room that will greatly increase their capacity for stocking parts and for caring for service jobs.

Sparta sees considerable building month by month, and it all helps in many ways.

The grading around the new County Office building helps the appearance greatly, and the Woman's Club plans their next meeting in the new building next week.

defense instead of upon one's right arm." SAMUEL B. PETTENGILL

ALLEGHANY STAR-TIMES

OVER HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY

52nd Year. No. 21.

Sparta, N. C.

Thursday, January 16, 1941.

Gov. Broughton Inaugurated in Colorful Ceremony

Last Thursday North Carolina greeted a new Governor when J. Melville Broughton was inaugurated in a colorful ceremony at Raleigh. Police estimated that 125,000 persons gathered in the state capital to witness the mammoth parade which followed the administering of the oath of office. The new chief executive, a red carnation in the buttonhole of his morning coat, took his oath of office before more than 4,000 persons who filled every available inch of floor space in Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium.

Then, in deliberate, careful terms, he outlined a legislative program for his four-year administration, pledging his support to President Roosevelt's social program and urging the legislature to adopt a resolution praising Mr. Roosevelt's stand on aid to Britain and for national defense.

The 52-year-old attorney, first Raleigh native to become Governor, took over the leadership of state at 1:04 p. m., when he answered "I do" to an oath administered by Chief Justice Walter P. Stacy.

Immediately following the ceremony, the new Governor and his party left the auditorium with a 19-gun salute booming and he took his place on a reviewing stand to review the inaugural parade.

A squadron of booming observation planes and a blimp flew overhead. A police estimate placed the crowd at 125,000—perhaps the largest throng ever to gather in Raleigh.

At the conclusion of the parade, Broughton received the state's great seal and the keys to the chief executive's office from the retiring Governor, Clyde R. Hoey. The ceremony in the Capital building was Hoey's swan song. He was described by Broughton as one of North Carolina's most popular and capable governors, and a few moments later left Raleigh as a private citizen to resume the practice of law in his home-town of Shelby.

Broughton's inaugural speech was optimistic, but contained many sober references to the world crisis. It left no doubt that the new Governor will co-operate with Mr. Roosevelt's internal and foreign policies.

The 31st North Carolina chief executive elected by the people made 46 specific recommendations to the General Assembly.

He asked that the sales tax be removed from food bought for home consumption; urged that slot machines be banned and fortified wines restricted; advocated a retirement plan for school teachers and all other state employees; said he favored the addition of a 12th grade and a ninth month to the school system; and expressed his opposition to the diversion of money from the highway fund to the general fund.

Some highlights of his speech: "I have no panaceas to offer, no magic formulas to propose. Sound government is the truest liberalism; sane progress the best conservatism."

"I believe wholeheartedly in the constructive work of government given the people of North Carolina by the Democratic party."

"I am free from any obligation of commitments that can hinder me... I shall be actuated by no partisan or factional spirit."

"If there are feuds, factions or blocks that will hinder or thwart the work of the General Assembly, I have not heard of them and do not believe that they exist."

"I... urge you gentlemen... to conclude your session as early as may be, expedient in keeping with the interest of the state."

"North Carolina operates on a balanced budget. We do not propose to deviate in the slightest degree from this sound policy."

"I do not recommend that there be any material or substantial changes in the levies fixed by the 1939 assembly."

"Much of our primary road system must be entirely revamped or rebuilt if we would meet the expanding business and traffic conditions of our state."

"Above all, we should adhere strictly to the principle of a state highway system."

"The relationship between capital and labor in North Carolina

THE NEW HOUSEKEEPER



Fire Destroys Three Blocks In Avery Town

Most of the business district of Newland, the county seat of Avery, was destroyed by fire last Thursday night.

The blaze started about 8:30 o'clock in a cafe and quickly spread to other buildings. The structures along three blocks of one side of Tittle street, the main thoroughfare, were destroyed. No casualties were reported.

Damage will run into many thousands of dollars, town officials said. The fire raged for about an hour before a fire truck arrived. An engine, with firemen, arrived about 9:30 o'clock from Spruce Pine, about 20 miles away. About 10 o'clock a truck arrived from Boone, 25 miles away, and about 10:30 o'clock one arrived from Elizabethton, Tenn., 40 miles away.

Newland, the Avery county seat, has practically no fire department. A volunteer fire department has no truck but has been using a hose that is kept at the jail.

By 10:30 o'clock the blaze was under control. Completely destroyed were Craven's Store, C. L. Hughes' Store, the Daniels Cafe, the Caloway Store, the Hughes' Funeral Home, the Skyland Chevrolet Company, the Yates Barber Shop, the local Masonic hall and the Sanitary Cafe.

Much of the contents and equipment of the business structures burned were saved.

Although no residences burned, the contents of numerous ones located on Tittle street were taken out for fear fire would spread from the business district.

is remarkably harmonious. Increasing growth of our industrial establishments makes it important that such relationship shall continue."

"I am of the opinion that the highway patrol should be relieved of any tax-collecting duty and should devote its attention exclusively to patrolling the highways... I shall also urge that the highway patrol... be removed wholly from the realm of politics."

"I urge upon the General Assembly and upon all the agencies of the state the fullest co-operation with the federal government in those undertakings which effect the welfare and progress of our state."

"North Carolina believes in... that great humanitarian and brilliant exponent of social reform, the President of the United States."

"Strikes affecting essential war or defense industries are properly under condemnation... I pledge my fullest co-operation to capital and labor in helping to preserve fair and harmonious relationships."

The governor-elect and the retiring governor rode in an open car to the auditorium. Behind them, in another car, came Mrs.

Some Highlights Of the President's Bill in Congress

Following are some highlights of the bill introduced in Congress last Friday to carry out the President's plan of lending or leasing military equipment to the democracies:

"Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, the President may, from time to time, when he deems it in the interest of national defense, authorize the Secretary of War, the Secretary of Navy or the head of any other department or agency of the Government:

"1. To manufacture in arsenals, factories and shipyards under their jurisdiction, or otherwise procure any defense article for the Government of any country whose defense the President deems vital to the defense of the United States.

"2. To sell, transfer, exchange, lease, lend or otherwise dispose of to any such Government any defense article.

"3. To test, inspect, prove, repair, outfit, recondition or otherwise to place in good working order any defense article for any such Government.

"4. To communicate to any such Government any defense information pertaining to any defense article furnished to such Government.

"5. To release for export any defense article to any such Government."

"The terms and conditions upon which any such foreign Government receives any aid authorized...

shall be those which the President deems satisfactory, and the benefit to the United States may be payment or repayment in kind or property, or any other direct or indirect benefit which the President deems satisfactory."

"All contracts or agreements made for the disposition of any defense article... shall contain a clause by which the foreign Government undertakes that it will not, without the consent of the President, transfer title to or possession of such defense article... by gift, sale or otherwise, or permit its use by anyone not an officer, employe or agent of such foreign Government."

The Secretaries of War and Navy are hereby authorized to purchase or otherwise acquire arms, ammunition and implements of war produced within the jurisdiction of any country... whenever the President deems such purchase or acquisition to be necessary in the interests of the defense of the United States."

Broughton, Mrs. Hoey and Miss Isabel Hoey. The big guns and troops from Fort Bragg, and some 2,000 other marchers, preceded members of the legislature and state officials in the parade.

A clean windshield is as necessary for driving as a clear head.

Fire Tragedies Take Three Alleghany Lives

Last Friday, January 10, two lives perished in flames which destroyed Emory Edwards' home, and Sunday night another life was claimed by the ravage of fire, all three in Edwards Cross Roads section north of Sparta.

Friday, around two o'clock Emory Edwards went to visit his son James, three-fourths of a mile away, and was gone about half an hour. On his return he found his home in flames, and in the flames there perished his invalid wife, Betty, 66, and an invalid daughter, Mattie, 33. The house was a two-story frame structure and the wife and daughter were in their beds on the lower floor, but unable to leave them. No furniture or clothing was saved from the burning house. One neighbor saw the fire, but too late to save anything.

Funeral services for the mother and daughter were held by Revs. Handy, Shaw, and Moxley at the old Nichols home Sunday morning, and interment was in the Nichols family graveyard near Baywood.

On Sunday night in another Edwards home, (though no kin to the former) right at Edwards Cross Roads Mrs. Lena Gentry noticed smoke coming from her brother's room on the second floor of the home where she and her brother, Charlie Edwards, lived. She rushed upstairs but was unable to gain entrance to the rooms. She then called to the neighbors for help, and they succeeded in entering and extinguishing the flames, but not before Charlie Edwards had been burned badly about his legs and body. He was taken at once to a North Wilkesboro hospital but passed away in spite of all that was done, at the age of 50.

It is supposed that the fire started from a burning cigarette falling on the bed or possibly from coals from an open fireplace. The room Mr. Edwards occupied was the only part of the house damaged. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Lena Gentry of Edwards Cross Roads and Mrs. Zollie Carson of Raleigh and Sparta, and one brother, Eldridge Edwards of Galax.

Funeral service was held at Zion Primitive Baptist Church on Tuesday afternoon by Rev. L. F. Strader and Rev. Charlie Kilby. Burial was in the Edwards family graveyard.

Alleghany Men To Armed Services

Of the five men from Alleghany to be inducted into the U. S. Army on January 20 it seems that three will be volunteers and two will come from the registration list.

Registrants who have expressed a desire to volunteer for the army include William Claude Farrington of Glade Valley; Ray Columbus Greene of Ennice; Rex Lee Parsons of Piney Creek; Joseph Mack Andrews and John Solomon Choate of Sparta.

This makes a total of five prospective soldiers, but it is reported that Andrews has already enlisted in the army for a period of three years, and Choate, who is a Negro, will not be eligible to go along in this second group.

The following men have volunteered for service in the navy: James Maynard Landreth of Piney Creek; Connie J. Wright and Troy Wagoner of Ennice, and Charles Shepherd of Scottville.

Lucille Ford Circle Met Tuesday Night

The Lucille Ford Circle of the Baptist W. M. U. met Tuesday night at the home of Mrs. T. Roy Burgess. Mrs. Ben Reeves was program leader and those taking part on the program were Mrs. J. G. Mitchell, Mrs. J. C. Reihan, Mrs. R. L. Hickerson, Mrs. W. Clennel Richardson, Mrs. V. W. Sears and Mrs. Hugh Choate. After the program a short social period was held and refreshments were served by the hostess. The February meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. V. W. Sears, with Mrs. T. Roy Burgess in charge of the program.